

### ***ODE releases draft statewide ESSA plan***

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recently released its draft statewide plan to comply with the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which must be finalized and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by April 3, 2017.

The draft plan is based on input offered by more than 15,000 stakeholders who participated in meetings, webinars and online surveys. It includes proficiency, graduation and attendance goals – a Performance Index score of 100 out of a possible 120, a four-year graduation rate of at least 93 percent, and chronic absenteeism of five percent or less by 2027 -- and ways to identify and support struggling schools and vulnerable students.

The plan calls for updates to Ohio's report cards, which will continue to use the new A-F grading system. The number of students who must be part of a subgroup requiring accountability reporting will be reduced from 30 to 15.

Ohio currently administers more state testing than is required under the ESSA, and many stakeholders have called for reduced testing time.

“The department will work in partnership with Governor Kasich and the General Assembly to re-examine any state assessment not required under ESSA – an area in which Ohio has already made significant progress,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria.

ODE will seek stakeholder feedback on the plan through March 6, providing time to tweak the plan and meet the April 3 submission deadline. If approved, the plan will be implemented in the 2017-2018 school year.

Review and comment on the plan online at:

[http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student\\_Succeeds-Act-ESSA](http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student_Succeeds-Act-ESSA) .

