

Ohio ESSA state plan submitted to USDOE

On Sept. 15, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) submitted the state Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) implementation plan to the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) as approved by the State Board of Education and Gov. John Kasich (R-Westerville).

ESSA, which replaced the No Child Left Behind Act, requires states to clearly articulate their plans for using federal funds to ensure accountability for all students, create safe and supportive learning environments, encourage innovation and extended learning opportunities, and more.

“The development of the state’s Every Student Succeeds Act application has presented Ohio with an opportunity to review and refine basic aspects of education policy and identify key elements of a road map for student success,” said Paolo DeMaria, state superintendent of public instruction.

Ohio’s ESSA plan addresses several key areas:

Academic content standards and assessments – The plan reflects Ohio’s current academic content standards, including a thorough and ongoing review of the standards by Ohio teachers for Ohio students. The plan will accommodate any assessment changes that may be adopted as long as federal requirements are met;

Accountability – The plan reflects the current A-F report card, as required by state law, with changes that more appropriately recognize improvement and gap closing and providing additional accountability and support for English learners;

School improvement – The plan includes strategies that support districts and schools in planning and goal setting and assists struggling schools with implementing evidence-based strategies; and,

Educator effectiveness – Ohio will support local schools’ and districts’ efforts to ensure access by all students to effective teachers and school leaders.

The plan places special focus on vulnerable student populations by helping schools identify barriers to achievement and strategies to promote improvement.

Access the full report online at:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA>

