

Ohio delays submission of federal ESSA plan

Against the backdrop of stakeholders calling for revisions, the Ohio Department of Education will delay until September the submission of a state plan to comply with the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

In making the announcement, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria defended the process for gathering stakeholder input and offered assurance that Ohio's ESSA plan is only a piece of a broader comprehensive strategic approach to improving Ohio's public schools.

In a message to key stakeholders, DeMaria said: The submission of the state's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) response should be an event that unites us. In recent weeks, we've heard from stakeholders who feel their input was not reflected in the ESSA template. In reality, however, stakeholder sentiments were heard loud and clear, and we have stated our commitment to identifying solutions to the challenges raised. Much of this work can be done outside the narrow focus of the ESSA specifications."

The delay reduces preparation time for districts and schools, which must implement plan provisions in the 2017-2018 school year.

