House Finance Committee Testimony
H.B. 49 - Appropriation Item 200465 Educational Technology Resources

Roger W. Minier, Ph.D.
NWOET EdTech Agency
Past Chair Ohio EdTech Centers

Chairman Smith and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me opportunity to speak today.

I am a former science teacher, computer programing instructor, and now the director of Northwest Ohio EdTech Center, a non-profit serving over 100 mostly rural school districts.

I am here today asking for your support to restore funding to Educational Technology Resources GRF 200465 that was reduced 42% in the previous biennium, to the 'flat funded' level requested by the Ohio Department of Education.

If you look at the large chart, you can see the impact of the reduction.

In 2014 my agency alone provided over 16,000 hours of teacher professional development.

This has dropped to just over 6,000 hours per year as a result of the reduction in funding.

Every dollar of state funding helps us generate $2 in additional revenue from grants, and through working with other non-profit organizations. Code.org is one example that helps support our work with teachers so those teachers can in turn prepare students for jobs.

And, almost half our trainings rely on resources provided by INFOhio, which also lost 42% of its funding through this line.

Teachers need professional development so they can learn to better use technology in the classroom

Teachers must to show students technology for learning,

But even more importantly, students need to learn skills needed for 21st century jobs.

Broadband Internet is just now reaching many of the rural families that live in northwest and southeast Ohio.

We expect to see continued growth in the availability of Internet at home, most especially in the smaller rural NW and SE Ohio communities.

This gives us an opportunity to expand learning both in and beyond the classroom walls.

Teachers need to know how to use technology daily, not just for state testing.

Teachers need to create online tests themselves.

Yes, so students are ready for state testing, but more importantly for the ACT, College Entrance Writing exams, and on-the-job skills students will use every day of their lives.

In just two hours we can teach teachers how to create tests online

In just one hour we can help teachers improve learning for every student – and get parents more involved - by putting homework online

We need this funding to help students move through the world of learning, and into the world of work.

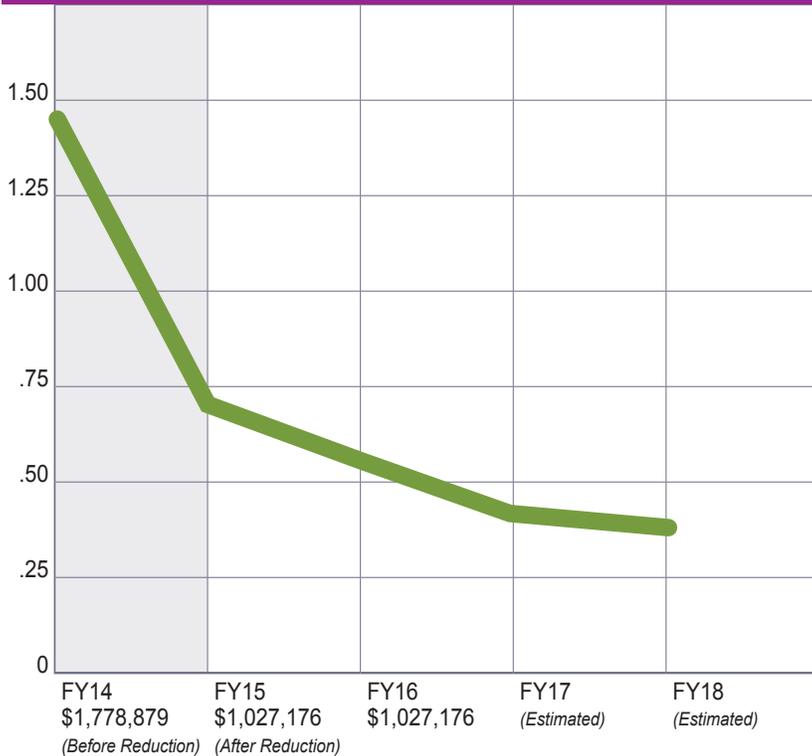I sincerely thank you for your time, and will be happy to answer any questions.

EdTech Centers – Your Technology & Curriculum Professional Development Specialists
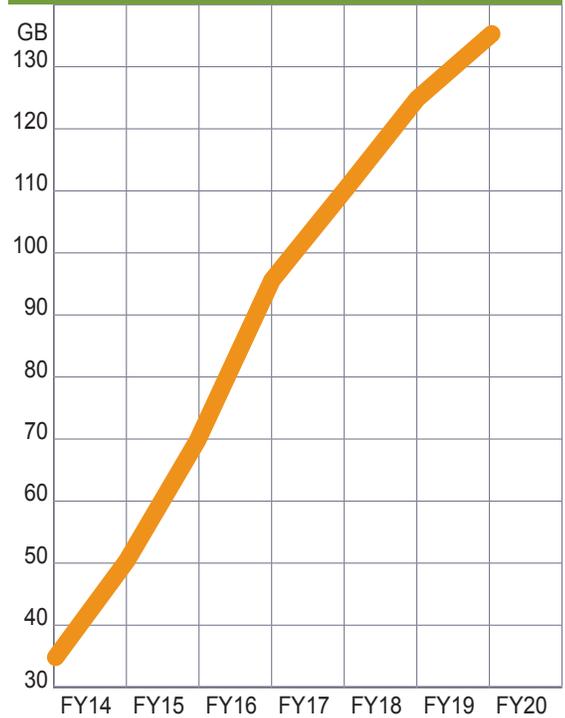
In partnership with INFOhio

Teacher Professional Development

FY15-FY18

Hours of Professional Development per Teacher*

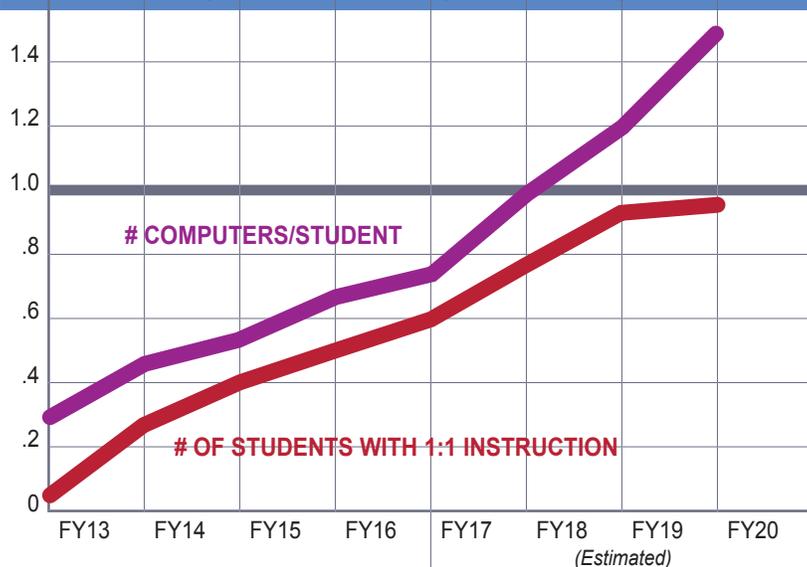|	FY14 $1,778,879 (Before Reduction)	FY15 $1,027,176 (After Reduction)	FY16 $1,027,176	FY17 (Estimated)	FY18 (Estimated)

FY14 State-wide data shows over 120,000 teachers were provided professional development by Ohio EdTech Centers as reported to the Ohio Department of Education. This chart represents the number of hours of professional development based on NWOET data through March 2017.

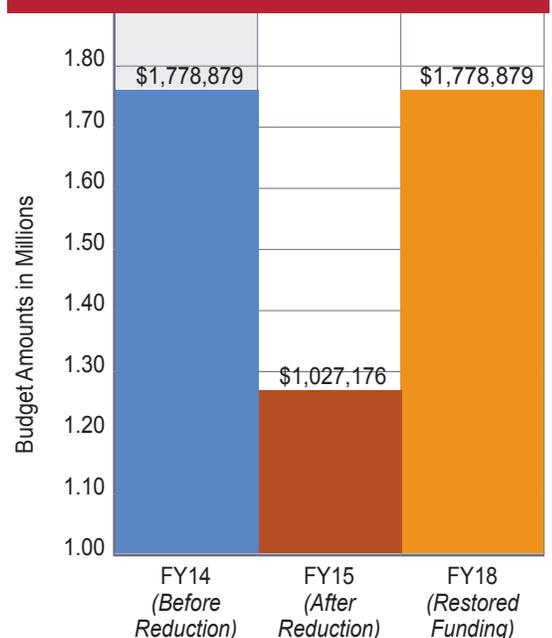### Internet Use by Ohio Schools

FY16/17 use verified 3/17 on ODE data; projection based on national and best available state estimates.

Growth of Computers in Schools (FY14 - FY20**)

COMPUTERS/STUDENT

OF STUDENTS WITH 1:1 INSTRUCTION

(Estimated)

**Includes both district and student owned devices. EdWeek 2016; U of Michigan 2016, reporting modified based on projected growth from available Ohio national data, anecdotal and observational evidence. Roger Minier, NWOET, is responsible for this data representation.*

GRF 200465 EdTech Centers

Budget Amounts in Millions

FY14 (Before Reduction)	FY15 (After Reduction)	FY18 (Restored Funding)
$1,778,879	$1,027,176	$1,778,879

EdTech Agencies Prepare Teachers and Children with College-Ready Tech Skills for the Jobs of Today and Tomorrow!

Computers are NOT JUST FOR state testing! Devices can be used DAILY!

Ohio EdTechs help teachers learn to create online tests and quizzes - in just TWO HOURS.

State testing...

... becomes daily tool for learning

... can be used at home

Restore EdTechs Funding To Help Our Students

In FY 16/17 funding for Ohio EdTechs and INFOhio was cut 42%.
ODE proposal for FY 18/19 funding restores the 42%.

HB 49 as introduced
AMENDMENT REQUESTED

- **For the appropriation GRF 200465 Educational Technology Resources, restore funding to the level ODE requested.**

- **In line 96633, for the appropriation item GRF 200465, delete "$3,370,976" and insert "$5,179,170"**

- **And with that amount, restore INFOhio in line 97286, delete "$1,443,572" and insert "$2,500,000"**

- **And restore EdTech Centers in line 97296, delete "$1,027,176" and insert "$1,778,879"**

Ohio Educational Technology Agencies

The Ohio Educational Technology Agencies (EdTech) provide professional development that optimize the use of classroom technologies to improve student and school staff performance.

CET, Cincinnati, OH
ETSEO, Athens, OH
ITSCO, Columbus, OH
NWOET, Bowling Green, OH
SOITA, Dayton, OH
Western Reserve Public
    Media, Kent, OH
WGTE, Toledo, OH
WVIZ, Cleveland, OH

For more information please contact:

Roger Minier
Volunteer Past Chair
Ohio EdTechs

NWOET EdTech
Executive Director
419-260-2147
minier@nwoet.org

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