## Senate Primary & Secondary Education Committee

Thursday, April 22, 2021



#### **Interested Party Testimony: House Bills 110**

Craig Burford, Executive Director, Ohio Educational Service Center Association

#### Introduction

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chairman Blessing, Ranking Minority Member Fedor, and members of the Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today on Am. Sub. H.B. 110, the FY 2022-2023 state operating budget.

#### **Overview**

ESCs are the largest component of the state's Educational Regional Service System (ERSS), which has the statutory mandate to support state and regional education initiatives and efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement. The primary ESC service areas are centered around: 1) curriculum and instruction, 2) school improvement, 3) professional development, 4) special education and related services, 5) early childhood education, 6) facilitation, networking, and coordination, and 7) implementation of statewide initiatives charged to the ESCs by the Ohio General Assembly or department of education.

ESCs provide direct students services to over 256,000 students annually including but not limited to early childhood education, preschool special education, special education related services, SBH and Multi-Disability classrooms, transition services to adult programs, alternative schools, attendance recovery, court-involved youth, STEM initiatives, digital academies and more.

ESCs also host nearly 8,000 different professional development activities attended by more than 270,000 teachers and administrators each year.

#### **ESC Response to COVID-19**

For over 100 years ESCs have played a critical role as convener, facilitator, broker and provider of education and educational support services. This experience was on full display over the past year as ESCs supported schools and districts, in partnership with the state, in the following ways:

Coordinator, Convener, & Facilitator. Building on existing relationships, professional networks, and meetings, ESCs have convened and facilitated meetings between schools, county departments of health and other local and regional agencies to ensure coordinated communication, technical assistance, and support in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and related issues.

*Instructional Delivery Models.* ESCs currently report weekly to the department of education and Administration on school district instructional delivery models to assist policy makers in understanding where and how Ohio's students are being educated.

*Mask Distribution.* ESCs delivered nearly 12 million masks on behalf of the State of Ohio, to students and teachers in public, charter, STEM, JVS/CTC, and chartered nonpublic schools.

*Vaccination Coordination.* ESCs worked with the state of Ohio and providers to coordinated vaccinations for approximately 300,000 educators and essential employees in traditional public schools, community schools, STEM schools, career technical centers and JVSD, and chartered nonpublic schools.

*Rapid Test Kit Distribution.* ESCs delivered approximately 250,000 COVID-19 rapid test kits on behalf of the State of Ohio, to students and teachers in public, charter, STEM, JVS/CTC, and chartered nonpublic schools.

Reframing Education Initiative. Nearly 100 curriculum and instruction and school improvement staff, content area specialists and other personnel from ESCs collaborated around a Reframing Education Initiative and workgroup support districts to make plans to reset, restart and recover high-quality educational opportunities for all students and schools. This effort leveraged the statewide network of ESCs to create three key deliverables: the Reframing Education Decision Making Framework (May 2020), Remote Learning Plan Template (June 2020), and Extended Learning Plan Template (February 2021) – <a href="https://reframingeducation.org">https://reframingeducation.org</a>.

**Remote Learning Alliance.** Other innovative ESC networks include the Remote Learning Alliance (RLA), which is a group of educational organizations committed to the collective impact of helping districts make a smooth and impactful transition to remote learning and continued support for personalized learning. To learn more about the remote learning alliance, visit: <a href="https://www.escco.org/RemoteLearningAlliance.aspx">https://www.escco.org/RemoteLearningAlliance.aspx</a>.

**RemoteEDx.** The expertise and capacity of ESCs is further leveraged throughout a new statewide remote learning initiative, RemotEDx, that leverages existing ESC experts to provide high-quality job-embedded professional development for remote, hybrid and blended education approaches.

Family and Community Partnership Liaisons. In partnership with ODE, 51 ESC Family and Community Partnership Liaisons will manage a regional process to 1) identify gaps in services and connect schools, families, and youth to community resources and local systems of care, and 2) provide professional development to boost local school district capacity to deliver effective family engagement.

#### Challenges with the current funding system.

ESCs currently receive \$26 per student. The per pupil subsidy is not based on actual operating costs nor reflective of the statutorily required services. Rather it is a product of residual budgeting and repeated funding reductions.

In fact, since 2008, the ESC operating subsidy has been reduced \$12 million or 23%. Over that same period, ESCs were directed to work with 34 additional school districts and approximately 175,000 more students. If one includes both the reduction in the subsidy and the loss of the statutorily required supervisory unit funding (\$23.7 million) previously deducted from district foundation aid the reduction in total mandated funding support dropped by 47%.

Additionally, many state and federal grants prohibit ESCs from covering indirect or administrative costs. As a result, ESCs must frequently pass operating costs along to client districts through "cost-plus" pricing.

#### The "Fair School Funding Plan" and ESCs

H.B. 1 sought to address these challenges through the following ESC-specific provisions:

- Prioritizes ESC funding;
- Provides a "placeholder" formula for FY 2022;
  - o base funding amount of \$356,250 for each ESC beginning in FY 2022;
  - tiered funding model based on \$36.80 per student in which funding is reduced on a per pupil basis the larger an ESC becomes beginning in FY 2022:
  - o Fully funds new ESC model in FY 2022; and
- Requires ODE and the AOS to collaborate with the ESC association to conduct a study of ESCs and recommend a new funding model to be implemented in FY 2023.

These provisions are a substantial improvement over the current funding of ESCs. However, they are not fully consistent with the recommendations of the Ohio ESC Association. And, to further complicate matters, they were not fully integrated into HB 110 as passed by the House. Rather ESC funding is no longer prioritized nor is it fully funded in the first year. And, while there is a modest increase for ESCs, that is a difference of approximately \$10.5 Million in the first year alone and still \$9.5 million below what ESCs were funded more than a decade ago.

#### **Funding Recommendations**

The Ohio ESC Association recommends the following changes be made in the budget related to ESC funding:

- Fund ESCs using a base amount of \$559,795 and \$42.67 per pupil amount
- Replace the study of ESCs included in SB 310 (133rd GA) with language directing the Ohio Department of Education in partnership with the Auditor of State and the Ohio ESC Association to develop a uniform, consistent and standard methodology for reporting ESC expenditures.
- Require the Ohio Department of Education in consultation with the Ohio ESC Association to review and recalibrate ESC funding every two years starting in 2024.

#### Why is this funding support important?

A stable, quality regional system of support is necessary to assist with:

- Equitable access to high quality educational opportunities for all students;
- Coordination of county & regional support services related to public health and safety in schools;
- Implementation of business advisory councils and coordination of education and workforce related initiatives between schools and business & industry; and

• Operation of the ESC and providing statutorily required services on behalf of the state – particularly those focused on equity of access to high quality educational opportunities for vulnerable populations.

#### **Policy Recommendations**

The Association also respectfully requests the following policy changes:

- Eliminate the study of ESCs mandated in SB 310 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> GA (a 3-year study of ESCs was finalized in March 2020).
- Corrective language in 3312.01(D) to clarify "An educational service center shall be considered a school district or local education agency for the purposes of eligibility in applying for any state or federal competitive grant."
- Amend 3317.064(C) to include ESCs so that "School districts <u>and educational</u> <u>service centers</u> may apply to the department for moneys from the auxiliary services reimbursement fund for payment of incentives for early retirement and severance for school district personnel assigned to provide services authorized by section 3317.06 of the Revised Code at chartered nonpublic schools."
- Remove the moratorium on a district over 16,000 ADM to opt into alignment with an ESC
- Expand voluntary alignment to ESCs by amending 3313.843, 3313.844 and others as appropriate to allow community schools and chartered non-public schools to voluntarily align to an ESC similar to the process for traditional public school districts over 16,000 ADM.
- Allow any excess funds remaining in the earmark after funding the state reimbursement of educational services centers to be utilized by the department of education in consultation with the Ohio ESC Association to provide statewide professional development opportunities to improve the network of ESCs.
- Study how to best leverage federal education dollars to drive improvement.
- Ensure ESCs are eligible for facilities funding with a focus on capital improvements to ESC facilities that provide direct student services.

Thank you for your time and positive consideration and I would be happy to address any questions at this time.

#### **Supporting Materials**

- Comparison of H.B. 1 (As Introduced to OESCA Proposal)
- Overview of Ohio's ESCs

|                                  | H.B. 1 Sub. H.B.  |  | OESCA   |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|                                  |   | 110  | Recommendations   |  |  |
| Base Funding                     | \$356,250 (Every ESC receives the base funding amount)  | Same but phased in over 6 years.                         | \$559,795  (An ESC receives the greater of the base amount or the per pupil amount whichever is greater)  |  |  |
| Base Funding<br>Components       | \$115,000 – superintendent salary \$88,000 – treasurer salary \$50,000 – central office administrative assistant \$63,250 – benefits for three positions \$40,000 – facility costs  | Same but phased in over 6 years.                         | \$111,647 – superintendent salary \$94,049 – treasurer salary \$47,571 – central office administrative assistant \$85,122 – special education supervisor \$130.750 – benefits for four positions \$11,441 – Governing Board Expenses \$20,933 – ITC Connectivity Fees \$58,200 – facility costs (excluding maintenance) |  |  |
| Per Pupil Funding                | Based on \$36.80 (Tiered model creates varying per pupil amounts by ESC depending on size)  | Same but phased in over 6 years.                         | \$42.67 (Flat per pupil amount. An ESC receives the greater of the base amount or the per pupil amount whichever is greater)  |  |  |
| Per Pupil Funding<br>Components  | 2300 Support Services  - Board of Education 2400 Support Services  - Administration 2500 Fiscal Services 2700 Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services 5000 Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services 6000 Debt Service | Same.  | 2300 Support Services – Board of Education 2400 Support Services – Administration 2500 Fiscal Services 2600 Support Services – Business (2610, 2620, 2630, 2640, 2690) 2700 Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services 5000 Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services 6000 Debt Service                         |  |  |
| Prioritization of ESC<br>Funding | Prioritized DPIA and<br>ESC Funding   | Eliminated.  | No Provision.   |  |  |
| Full Funding of ESCs             |   | Phased-in Over<br>6 Years                                | Fully Funds ESCs in First Year.   |  |  |
| Study of ESCs                    | Included.   | Not Included<br>(But in SB 310,<br>133 <sup>rd</sup> GA) | No Provision.   |  |  |

| Working group to develop a uniform, consistent and standardized methodology for ESC funding. | No Provision. | No Provision. | Included.<br>(Based on recommendations<br>included in AOS 3-year<br>operational study of ESCs<br>released in March 2020) |
|--|---------------|---------------|--|
| Require review and recalibrate funding every 2 years consistent with state budget process.   | No Provision. | No Provision. | Included.  |

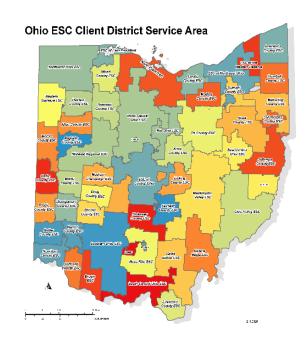


Innovate. Educate. Advocate.



## ESCs DEFINED

- Educational Service Agencies (ESAs) known as Educational Service Centers (ESCs) in Ohio – are considered local education agencies or LEAs under federal law.
- ESCs are local political subdivisions and school districts under state law.
- Ohio law includes a provision that states that "school district" should be construed to include ESCs unless otherwise noted. Likewise, Ohio law states, "An educational service center shall be considered a school district for the purposes of eligibility in applying for any state or federal grant." Ohio does not otherwise define "local education agency." OH ST § 3311.055, § 3312.01(D)
- All public school districts under 16,000 ADM are required to align to an ESC as a "client" school district. All public school districts over 16,000 ADM may opt into aligning to an ESC. OH ST § 3313.843(A)(B)



## FUNDING PROBLEM STATEMENT

- ESCs do not have taxing authority.
- Many state and federal grants prohibit ESCs from covering indirect or administrative costs.
- ESCs must frequently pass operating costs along to client districts through "cost-plus" pricing.
- There is no rational basis for the current ESC Funding Methodology in state law.
- There is a growing imbalance in State/Local funding sources.
- Funding model lacks uniformity and consistency in implementation.
- ESCs are required to approve all special education cooperative agreements, operate BACs, assist in the implementation of standards and model curriculum, provide technical assistance related to the value added and the report card, and carry out any other services charged to them by the Ohio General Assembly and the Ohio Department of Education.

## WHY A NEW SYSTEM OF FUNDING?

A stable, quality regional system of support is necessary to assist with:

- Equitable access to high quality educational opportunities for all students;
- Implementation of the statewide education system strategic plan;
- Cost-effective, efficient roll-out and ongoing support in the implementation of direct technical assistance to school districts on state and federal mandates;
- Coordination of county & regional support services related to public health and safety in schools;
- Implementation of business advisory councils and coordination of education and workforce related initiatives between schools and business & industry;
- The statewide system of support for school improvement;
- A proactive system of support to assist districts in meeting the 21<sup>st</sup> century needs of Ohio's students and communities; and
- Operation of the ESC and providing statutorily required services

# WHAT IS THE SIZE AND SCOPE OF THE ESC SECTOR?

- ESCs serve 610 public schools, 107 charter schools, and 166 nonpublic schools.
- ESCs employ approximately 14,000 personnel.
  - 2,097 teachers and 2,230 teaching aides among other highly-skilled personnel.
  - 653 staff that provide social emotional, behavioral and mental health supports.
- ESCs provide \$1.47 billion in services to Ohio's schools each year.
- Over 17% of all K-12 expenditures go through ESCs.

## WHAT IS THE ESC RESPONSE TO COVID-19?

- Coordinator, Convener, & Facilitator.
- Reporting on Instructional Delivery Models.
- Mask Distribution
- Vaccination Coordination
- Reframing Education Initiative:
  - Reframing Education Decision Making Framework (May 2020),
  - Remote Learning Plan Template (June 2020), and
  - Extended Learning Plan Template (February 2021)
- Remote Learning Alliance.
- RemoteEDx
- Family and Community Partnership Liaisons

## THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19

- Respond, Reset, Restart, Re-engage and Revitalize
  - Public Health & Education Response
  - Transition to Remote Learning
  - Return to Face-to-Face
  - Assess where students are
  - Plan for extended learning opportunities
- Challenges
  - Attendance Recovery
  - Early Literacy
  - Learning Recovery & Extended Learning
  - Behavioral Health of Students and Staff
  - Ongoing Professional Development and Teacher Support
- Opportunity
  - Reframing Education

## ESC Led Initiatives (OESCA ESC Network Example)

- ESCs as conveners, facilitators, brokers
- Remote Learning Alliance
- Reframing Education
   Workgroup
- Specific ESC-led Planning

#### **Reframing Education Guidance and Support**



Project Summary:

A statewide network of ESC personnel will work collaboratively to create a decision-making framework to support districts as they consider best practices that have emerged as a result of school closures, have authentic conversations about instructional expectations and make plans to reframe education moving forward.

Contributing participants will work collaboratively with other team members to create guiding questions, supporting documents and related resources aligned to each of the following areas:

- Preplanning Work and Data Collection
- District Team Work Establish Expectations and Purpose Setting
- Instructional Decision Making district and building level
- Exceptional and At-Risk Populations
- Resources / Platform / Application Identification & Preparation
- Technology Needs
- Instructional Considerations and Planning teacher level
- · Communications Planning
- Professional Development Needs
- Culture & Climate
- Mental Health of Students and Staff

The OESCA Reframing Education Guidance and Support will be available via digital platform / dashboard. Each area will have a landing page, with related sub topics, guiding questions, planning worksheets and support tools, documents and resources as created or compiled by the collaborative team working on that area. Our goal is to go live in mid-June!

All participants working on the project will have access to a Shared Drive in order to submit tools, docs, resources, etc. to folders for each task area. After all resources have been finalized, the content will be loaded into the digital platform / dashboard and will be publicly accessible.

When working on any of these collaborative teams, members will be asked to address or create the following framework pieces:

- Guiding guestions
- Support documents and resources such as sample surveys or tools, points of consideration, template plans, etc.
- Other appropriate guidance tools, videos, documents, etc.
- Considerations for ESC staff support to client districts

We ask that teams do not simply create a list of linked resources that districts would have to wade through - this Toolkit is meant to provide districts with high-quality tools that they can easily adapt to meet their needs. Ideally, team members will take several previously-created resources or tools, combine the best portions of each, do some refining and come up with user-friendly, impactful pieces.

Please note that all content included in this project will be branded as a part of this OESCA initiative - creators and contributors will not be cited on individual content pieces. We encourage contributors to share resources and ideas freely, but only share what you're comfortable with contributing to the cause.



#### **Reframing Education Guidance and Support**

Look to the network of ESCs to support districts in the decision-making and planning related to educational considerations and innovative approaches to education for 2020 and beyond.

- CHING SOON

In conjunction with OESCA, a statewide ESC network team is working on the creation of a digital platform with guiding questions and supports for districts to use in effective instructional planning.

Our work will support districts as they identify best practices that have emerged, have authentic conversations about what didn't work, and reframe education moving forward.

Guidance and support will address the following topics:

- Date Use: Gathering Stakeholder Input
- Determination of Student Needs
- Educational Considerations
- Remote/Blended Instruction
- Communications Planning

and much more!

Look for this digital platform to be released in June, 2020!



## ESC Led Initiatives (ESCCO, Montgomery County ESC, Hamilton County

ESC, ESC of Northeast Ohio Example)

 The Remote Learning Alliance is a group of educational organizations committed to helping make the transition to remote learning as easy and robust as possible for Ohio school leaders, teachers, and support personnel.

For more information go to:

https://www.escco.org/RemoteLearningAlliance.as px



#### Supporting Ohio Educators and Schools in the Transition to Remote Learning

The Remote Learning Alliance is a group of educational organizations committed to helping make the transition to remote learning as easy and robust as possible for Ohio school leaders, teachers, and support personnel.

To achieve its mission, the alliance leverages all available resources, including:

- New and existing technology
- Local and national expertise
- · Current and future public funds and grants

#### Remote Learning Alliance Goals



Support school leaders, teachers and support personnel as they operationalize their continuity of education plans



Serve as a hub for Dayton and Columbus area school districts to scale learning opportunities, resource sharing, and support



Engage other regions of Ohio who wish to participate in the Remote Learning Alliance



Partner with the best remote learning experts in the nation who can help us support our schools

#### **Remote Learning Alliance Partners**

Founding Partners

**Contributing Partners** 























#### **Help Us Support Remote Learning**

The alliance is currently welcoming new organizations and Ohio school districts to join.

Email Shannon Cox or Tom Goodney for more information.



#### RemotEDx Coordinating Council

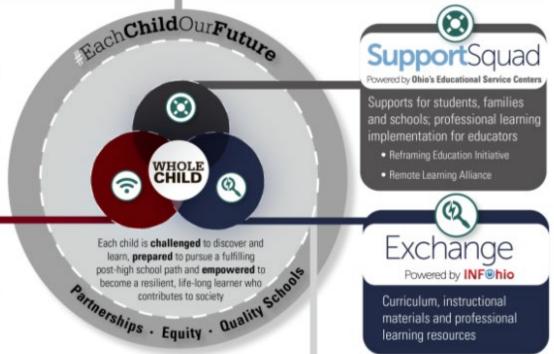
Public-private thought leaders and educators who collectively inform direction and focus of RemotEDx and its component parts.

Members include representatives from schools, districts, State Board of Education, Governor's Office, BroadbandOhio, Educational Service Centers, Management Council, Informational Technology Centers, philanthropy, business, higher education, PBS stations, libraries and others



Ohio Collaborative Fund for Educating Remotely







#### **Networked Learning Community**

Connected professional learning community aiming to transform education opportunities for students by harnessing the power of its partners to innovate and apply best practices

## ESC Supported Initiatives

(Statewide Example)

# HOW DO ESCs PARTNER WITH THE STATE OF OHIO?

- ESCs delivered 11.6 million masks for students and teachers in public, charter, STEM, JVS/CTC, and chartered nonpublic schools across Ohio in 2020.
- ESCs currently report weekly to ODE on school district instructional delivery models.
- 16 ESCs hold contracts to serve as State Support Teams (SSTs)
- 510 ESC personnel have been trained in the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) to provide a network of school improvement services for school districts and charter schools.

# HOW DO ESCs PARTNER WITH THE STATE OF OHIO?

- Over 100 ESC personnel have been trained to support implementation of the state standards, Student Growth Measures (SGMs) and Student Learning Objectives (SLOs).
- 185 ESC and SST personnel certified as Ohio Leadership Advisory Council trainers.
- 86 staff from 40 ESCs trained as Regional Data Leads (RDLs) to use student performance data to strengthen professional practice and improve learning for all students.
- 100 staff from 51 ESCs trained to support districts with the new high school graduation requirements and development of graduation seals.
- 32 ESCs and 16 SSTs within ESCs partner to promote Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement.

# DO ESCs PROVIDE DIRECT STUDENT SERVICES?

ESCs provide DIRECT services to over **253,000 students** through various means including:

- 43 ESCs operate 106 general education preschools and 456 integrated special education preschool classrooms;
- 43 ESCs operate emotionally disturbed/severe behavioral handicap classrooms;
- 41 ESCs operate classrooms serving students with multiple disabilities;
- 37 ESCs operate alternative schools (in lieu of suspension or expulsion, court appointed);
- 18 ESCs operate dropout recovery schools;
- 8 ESCs operate residential day programs;
- 13 ESCs run after school programs; and
- 23 ESCs offer summer enrichment programs.

ESCs hosted **7,954 different professional development activities** attended by **273,356 teachers and administrators** last year.

## HOW ARE ESCs HELD ACCOUNTABLE?

- Locally-elected Governing Boards (3311.05, 3311.053, 3311.054, 3311.055, 3311.056, 3311.057, 3311.058)
- District Choice of ESCs (3313.843(B)(1),(B)(2), D(1))
- Termination of service center agreements; abolishment of educational service center governing board (3311.0510)
- Posting of Services and Service Costs Online (3313.843(F))
- Performance Audit of ESCs (3311.0510)
- Fiscal Agent Performance Agreements (3312.09(A)(1)-(7))
- Limits on Fiscal Agent Fees (7%, Controlling Board Approval above 4%) (3312.09(7))
- Program Audits (ODE) & Fiscal Audits (Ohio AOS)
- Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) (3319.112, 3319.114)
- Ohio Principal Evaluation System (OPES) (Ohio State Board of Education)
- Fiscal Transparency: Reporting and Disposition of unexpended funds under service agreement (3313.848)
- Step Up to Quality Early Learning Star Ranking

## **ESC IMPACT:** Return on Investment





|                                      | FY 2016      | FY 2017             | <u>FY 2018</u>            | <u>FY 2019</u> | FY 2020                   | 5-year<br>Annual<br>Average |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Avg. % Cost                          |              |                     |                           |                |                           | _                           |
| Savings                              | 32.57%       | 35.14%              | 33.74%                    | 36.96%         | 33.74%                    | 34.43%                      |
| Total Cost Savings<br>(5 areas only) | \$54,146,789 | \$64,907,480        | \$63,901,047              | \$81,913,080   | \$78,940,115              | \$68,761,752                |
| (5 areas offig)                      | \$34,140,763 | <b>\$04,907,400</b> | \$65,901,0 <del>4</del> 7 | \$61,913,060   | \$70,9 <del>4</del> 0,113 | <b>\$00,701,732</b>         |

TOTAL 5-YEAR SAVINGS \$343,808,511

## CURRENT ESC OPERATING SUBSIDY

### **Purpose of the ESC Operating Subsidy**

3313.843 (G)(1)"... for the operation of that service center and any services required under Title XXXIII of the Revised Code to be provided by the service center to a school district..."

- The ESC Operating Subsidy is \$40 million each year of the biennium.
- Funding approximates \$26 per student for high performing ESCs and \$24 per student for all other ESCs. Funding is prorated to fit within the appropriation.
- A moratorium is placed on additional districts joining ESCs since FY 2018.
- The ESC Operating Subsidy (\$40 million) is 0.503% of the foundation aid funding, or 0.356% of all funds education spending.

## HB 1 (134<sup>th</sup> GA)

## H.B. 1 (as introduced) contains the following provisions related to ESC funding:

- Provides a base funding amount of \$356,250 for each ESC beginning in FY 2022.
- Creates a tiered funding model in which funding is reduced on a per pupil basis the larger an ESC becomes beginning in FY 2022.
- Requires ODE and the AOS to collaborate with ESC association to conduct a study of ESCs and recommend a new funding model to be implemented in FY 2023.
- Prioritizes ESC funding

# UPDATED ESC OPERATING SUBSIDY: ESC Association Plan

#### Recommended Revised ESC Funding Model

- ESCs would receive the greater of \$559,795 or \$42.67 per pupil.
  - This assures that Ohio's smaller ESCs receive at least the minimum amount of funding required to meet their statutory obligations.
  - Used 3 years of operational expenditure data.

#### **Other Funding Policy Recommendations**

- Review and recalibrate every four years.
- Develop uniform, consistent and standard methodology for report expenditures.
- Provide targeted funding support for state priorities with a focus on equity.
- Study how to best leverage federal education dollars to drive improvement.
- Ensure ESCs are eligible for facilities funding with a focus on capital improvements to ESC facilities that provide direct student services.

# UPDATED ESC OPERATING SUBSIDY: ESC Association Plan

#### **How the Model was created:**

- Uses an approach consistent with the development of the base cost funding model for districts contained within HB 1 by looking at statewide average salary and benefits for key personnel and other expenses related to meeting statutory mandates.
- Data collected over 3 years from 31 ESCs from 6 different typologies.

### **Benefits of new model:**

- Provides a base amount to ensure all ESCs have the basic level of funding necessary to operate and provide statutorily required services to address equity concerns.
- Provides a rational, uniform per pupil funding amount for each ESC based on actual expenditure data.
- Improves upon current HB 1 proposal that is based on limited data, does not include all costs, and treats students within client districts differently.

### ACCESSING ESC SERVICES

- For more information about Ohio's ESCs go to: <a href="https://www.oesca.org">https://www.oesca.org</a>
- To locate an ESC, go to: <a href="https://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/ESCs">https://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/ESCs</a>
- For information on ESC services during the COVID-19 related school closures go to: <a href="https://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/ESC%20Services%20%26%20School%20Closure">https://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/ESC%20Services%20%26%20School%20Closure</a>.
- To learn more about the Remote Learning Alliance, visit: <a href="https://www.escco.org/RemoteLearningAlliance.aspx">https://www.escco.org/RemoteLearningAlliance.aspx</a>.
- To participate in the Reframing Education Initiative, go to: <a href="http://reframingeducation.org/">http://reframingeducation.org/</a>
- Access RemotEDx Support Squad information here: https://remotedx.infohio.org/professional-learning/support-squad

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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