

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and committee members, my name is Christina Collins. I have been elected to the State Board of Education since January 1, 2021. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to express my views through written testimony today.

Enacting SB 1 now will disenfranchise the 225,871 voters who voted for me. In addition, it will silence the input of stakeholders and give special interest more influence over our education policy.

During last week's testimonies, Chairman Brenner asked Board Member Tom Jackson, who has only been on the Board for a few weeks, "What are you doing as a Board member to improve the lives of the schools and the students in that district?"

Yours is a great question, and it is one I believe everyone involved with policy in education should be asking. Therefore, to inform myself, this committee, and the public, I combed through the last two year's Board meeting minutes to better understand what the Board has done.

Since January 2021, the Board has acted on hundreds of personnel items, appointments to various boards, territory transfer cases, and payment-in-lieu of transportation disputes. The actions of the Board rest in power vested to it through Ohio Revised Code (3301.07) and involve the overall leadership of Ohio's education system. Although many rules and resolutions have been passed, I will highlight those most pertinent to answering Senator Brenner's question.

These can generally be categorized into five areas:

1. Raising Student Achievement
2. Responding to COVID
3. Weighing in on Legislation
4. Implementing Legislation
5. Overseeing the Ohio Department of Education

Below are the titles of associated resolutions and their vote count, passage date, and essential language or notes.

Raising Student Achievement

Resolution to...

- Approve the Revised Standards-Based Framework for the Evaluation of Principals (13-4-1, 7/21)
- Adopt the Performance Standards for the Alternate Assessment for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities (17-1, 7/21)
- Adopt Recommended Changes to Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards (16-0, 6/22)
- Adopt Revisions to Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-11 / Preschool Children Eligible for Special Education (16-0, 6/22): Note – Developed in response to district needs and issues raised by constituents.
- Adopt the Promotion Score for the Third Grade English Language Arts Assessment (12-4-1, 7/22)
- Rescind Ohio Administrative Code 3301-33-01 / Rule for Phonics in its Current Form and Adopt the Replacement Rule in the Form Attached Hereto (11-6, 9/22)

Responding to COVID

Resolution to...

- Reaffirm the Irreplaceable Role of In-Person Learning for K-12 Education in Ohio (17-1, 2/21): *“the Board calls on local schools boards, working in collaboration with their local superintendent and health department, to provide where feasible a fully in-person, non-hybrid learning option for children of families who desire it.”*
- Adopt Ohio Administrative Code 3301-32-06.1 / Pandemic Requirements for a Licensed School Child Program and 3301-37-03.1 / Pandemic Requirements for a Licensed Child Day-Care Program (18-0, 3/21)
- Adopt Changes to Ohio Administrative Rule 3301-23-41 / Twelve Hour or Forty Hour Temporary Teaching Permit for Qualified Nonlicensed Individuals (13-2, 6/21)

Weighing in on Legislation

Resolution to...

- Encourage Legislative Changes to Graduation for the Class of 2021 (17-1, 3/21): *“the State Board of Education...strongly urges the 134th General Assembly to quickly pass legislation...the State Board of Education recommends the use of final course grades from this year in lieu of end-of-course exams, workplace readiness criteria already in place in the current Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal and the recommendation of the student’s principal in consultation with teachers and counselors.”*
- Recommend Approval of a Recommendation to the General Assembly Regarding Revisions to the State Report Card (10-7, 4/21)
- Recommend Approval of a Recommendation to the General Assembly Regarding School Funding (11-4, 6/21)
- Approving Recommendation to the General Assembly to Wave Certain Sanctions of Report Card Ratings for the 2021-2022 Report Cards Issued Under Sections 3302.03 and 3314.017 of the Revised Code (17-0, 5/22): *“The Board believes the following sanctions in law derived from performance ratings under the report cards for the 2021-2022 school year should not apply to schools and school districts: Creation of academic distress commission for a district under ORC 3302.10; Permanent closure of community school for poor performance under ORC 3314.25 and 3314.351; and Prohibition against a community school obtaining a new sponsor under ORC 3314.034”*
- Support Repealing the Retention Provision of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee (18-1, 11/22)

Implementing Legislation

Resolution to...

- Adopt Ohio Administrative Code 3301-83-25 / Transportation Collaboration Grant (17-0, 1/22)
- Adopt Ohio Administrative Code 3301-107-01 / Afterschool Child Enrichment Educational Savings Accounts (13-4, 2/22)

- Adopt Changes to Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3301-28 / Report Card Rules (16-0, 3/22)
- Approve a Nomination Process for Appointments of School District Teachers to the Educator Standards Board (13-4, 4/22)
- Approve the Dyslexia Guidebook Developed by the Ohio Dyslexia Committee (12-7, 5/22)
- Adopt the Revised Ohio Learning Standards: Computer Science (9-8, 7/22)
- Adopt Career-Technical Planning District Report Card Updates (16-1, 7/22)
- Approve Updates to the Dyslexia Guidebook (10-7, 7/22)