

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 327**

**Representatives Brownlee, Brewer**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Somani, Synenberg, Lett, Brent, McNally, Rader, Grim, Isaacsohn, Jarrells, Piccolantonio, Upchurch, Robinson, Miller, J., Russo, Sims, Tims, Lawson-Rowe, Cockley, Abdullahi, Sigrist**

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|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| To amend sections 3314.03 and 3326.11; to enact | 1  |
| section 3131.01; and to repeal sections         | 2  |
| 3109.054, 3129.01, 3129.02, 3129.03, 3129.04,   | 3  |
| 3129.05, 3129.06, 3313.473, 3313.5320, 3319.90, | 4  |
| 3345.562, and 3345.90 of the Revised Code to    | 5  |
| protect parents' rights to equitable access to  | 6  |
| medical care, behavioral health care, hygiene   | 7  |
| care, and educational opportunities for their   | 8  |
| children and to name this act the Parents'      | 9  |
| Rights to Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity      | 10 |
| (P.R.I.D.E.) Act.                               | 11 |

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

|                                                                |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Section 1.</b> That sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 be amended | 12 |
| and section 3131.01 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as  | 13 |
| follows:                                                       | 14 |

|                                                                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <u><b>Sec. 3131.01.</b> Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of</u> | 15 |
| <u>the Revised Code, a parent has the right to all of the</u>            | 16 |
| <u>following:</u>                                                        | 17 |

|                                                               |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <u>(A) Equitable access to a full range of evidence-based</u> | 18 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----|

|                                                                         |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <u>medical care for the parent's child;</u>                             | 19 |
| <u>(B) Equitable access to a full range of behavioral health</u>        | 20 |
| <u>care for the parent's child;</u>                                     | 21 |
| <u>(C) Equitable access to hygiene care for the parent's</u>            | 22 |
| <u>child, including public bathrooms, school bathrooms, and</u>         | 23 |
| <u>menstrual care products;</u>                                         | 24 |
| <u>(D) Equitable access to educational opportunities that are</u>       | 25 |
| <u>reflective of and inclusive of all students;</u>                     | 26 |
| <u>(E) Be inclusive, respectful, and accepting of the</u>               | 27 |
| <u>parent's child's rights to the freedom of speech and expression;</u> | 28 |
| <u>(F) Accept and respect the parent's child's right to</u>             | 29 |
| <u>behavioral health confidentiality in support of the health and</u>   | 30 |
| <u>safety of the child.</u>                                             | 31 |
| <b>Sec. 3314.03.</b> A copy of every contract entered into under        | 32 |
| this section shall be filed with the director of education and          | 33 |
| workforce. The department of education and workforce shall make         | 34 |
| available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed            | 35 |
| contract filed with the director under this section.                    | 36 |
| (A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the                | 37 |
| governing authority of a community school shall specify the             | 38 |
| following:                                                              | 39 |
| (1) That the school shall be established as either of the               | 40 |
| following:                                                              | 41 |
| (a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter                   | 42 |
| 1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8,             | 43 |
| 2003;                                                                   | 44 |
| (b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter              | 45 |

1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003. 46

(2) The education program of the school, including the 47  
school's mission, the characteristics of the students the school 48  
is expected to attract, the ages and grades of students, and the 49  
focus of the curriculum; 50

(3) The academic goals to be achieved and the method of 51  
measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those 52  
goals, which shall include the statewide achievement 53  
assessments; 54

(4) Performance standards, including but not limited to 55  
all applicable report card measures set forth in section 3302.03 56  
or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the 57  
school will be evaluated by the sponsor; 58

(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the 59  
Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised 60  
Code; 61

(6) (a) Dismissal procedures; 62

(b) A requirement that the governing authority adopt an 63  
attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically 64  
withdrawing a student from the school if the student without a 65  
legitimate excuse fails to participate in seventy-two 66  
consecutive hours of the learning opportunities offered to the 67  
student. 68

(7) The ways by which the school will achieve racial and 69  
ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves; 70

(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of 71  
state. The contract shall require financial records of the 72  
school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial 73

records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the auditor of 74  
state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 75  
117.10 of the Revised Code. 76

(9) An addendum to the contract outlining the facilities 77  
to be used that contains at least the following information: 78

(a) A detailed description of each facility used for 79  
instructional purposes; 80

(b) The annual costs associated with leasing each facility 81  
that are paid by or on behalf of the school; 82

(c) The annual mortgage principal and interest payments 83  
that are paid by the school; 84

(d) The name of the lender or landlord, identified as 85  
such, and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the 86  
operator, if any. 87

(10) Qualifications of employees, including both of the 88  
following: 89

(a) A requirement that the school's classroom teachers be 90  
licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the 91  
Revised Code, except that a community school may engage 92  
noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours or forty 93  
hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code; 94

(b) A prohibition against the school employing an 95  
individual described in section 3314.104 of the Revised Code in 96  
any position. 97

(11) That the school will comply with the following 98  
requirements: 99

(a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a 100

minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred 101  
twenty hours per school year. 102

(b) The governing authority will purchase liability 103  
insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of 104  
the school. 105

(c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, 106  
admission policies, employment practices, and all other 107  
operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or 108  
religious institution. 109

(d) The school will comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 110  
109.65, 121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 3301.0710, 111  
3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 112  
3313.472, ~~3313.473~~, 3313.474, 3313.50, 3313.539, 3313.5310, 113  
3313.5318, 3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.609, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 114  
3313.6014, 3313.6020, 3313.6024, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 115  
3313.6029, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 116  
3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 117  
3313.6610, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69, 118  
3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 119  
3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 120  
3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 3319.073, 121  
3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.238, 3319.318, 3319.321, 122  
3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.46, 123  
~~3319.90~~, 3319.614, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3320.04, 3321.01, 124  
3321.041, 3321.13, 3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 125  
3322.20, 3322.24, 3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 5502.262, 126  
5502.703, and 5705.391 and Chapters 117., 1347., 2744., 3365., 127  
3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 4167. of the Revised Code as if 128  
it were a school district and will comply with section 3301.0714 129  
of the Revised Code in the manner specified in section 3314.17 130

of the Revised Code. 131

(e) The school shall comply with Chapter 102. and section 132  
2921.42 of the Revised Code. 133

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 134  
3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.617, 3313.618, and 3313.6114 of the 135  
Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for 136  
the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 137  
3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must 138  
successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to 139  
receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the 140  
curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community 141  
school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of 142  
the Revised Code or any rules of the department. Beginning with 143  
students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after 144  
July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 145  
of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the 146  
curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school 147  
diploma shall be met by completing the requirements prescribed 148  
in section 3313.6027 and division (C) of section 3313.603 of the 149  
Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or 150  
(F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for 151  
awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject 152  
area competency, and beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, 153  
with the updated plan that permits students enrolled in seventh 154  
and eighth grade to meet curriculum requirements based on 155  
subject area competency adopted by the department under 156  
divisions (J) (1) and (2) of section 3313.603 of the Revised 157  
Code. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school shall 158  
comply with the framework for granting units of high school 159  
credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency 160  
through work-based learning experiences, internships, or 161

cooperative education developed by the department under division 162  
(J) (3) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 163

(g) The school governing authority will submit within four 164  
months after the end of each school year a report of its 165  
activities and progress in meeting the goals and standards of 166  
divisions (A) (3) and (4) of this section and its financial 167  
status to the sponsor and the parents of all students enrolled 168  
in the school. 169

(h) The school, unless it is an internet- or computer- 170  
based community school, will comply with section 3313.801 of the 171  
Revised Code as if it were a school district. 172

(i) If the school is the recipient of moneys from a grant 173  
awarded under the federal race to the top program, Division (A), 174  
Title XIV, Sections 14005 and 14006 of the "American Recovery 175  
and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115, 176  
the school will pay teachers based upon performance in 177  
accordance with section 3317.141 and will comply with section 178  
3319.111 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 179

(j) If the school operates a preschool program that is 180  
licensed by the department under sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of 181  
the Revised Code, the school shall comply with sections 3301.50 182  
to 3301.59 of the Revised Code and the minimum standards for 183  
preschool programs prescribed in rules adopted by the department 184  
of children and youth under section 3301.53 of the Revised Code. 185

(k) The school will comply with sections 3313.6021 and 186  
3313.6023 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district 187  
unless it is either of the following: 188

(i) An internet- or computer-based community school; 189

(ii) A community school in which a majority of the 190

enrolled students are children with disabilities as described in 191  
division (B) (2) of section 3314.35 of the Revised Code. 192

(1) The school will comply with section 3321.191 of the 193  
Revised Code, unless it is an internet- or computer-based 194  
community school that is subject to section 3314.261 of the 195  
Revised Code. 196

(12) Arrangements for providing health and other benefits 197  
to employees; 198

(13) The length of the contract, which shall begin at the 199  
beginning of an academic year. No contract shall exceed five 200  
years unless such contract has been renewed pursuant to division 201  
(E) of this section. 202

(14) The governing authority of the school, which shall be 203  
responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract; 204

(15) A financial plan detailing an estimated school budget 205  
for each year of the period of the contract and specifying the 206  
total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for each such year. 207

(16) Requirements and procedures regarding the disposition 208  
of employees of the school in the event the contract is 209  
terminated or not renewed pursuant to section 3314.07 of the 210  
Revised Code; 211

(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all 212  
or part of an existing public school or educational service 213  
center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is 214  
a converted public school or service center building, 215  
specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer 216  
that the board of education or service center governing board 217  
that operated the school or building before conversion is 218  
delegating to the governing authority of the community school 219

with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided 220  
the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining 221  
agreement applicable to such employees; 222

(18) Provisions establishing procedures for resolving 223  
disputes or differences of opinion between the sponsor and the 224  
governing authority of the community school; 225

(19) A provision requiring the governing authority to 226  
adopt a policy regarding the admission of students who reside 227  
outside the district in which the school is located. That policy 228  
shall comply with the admissions procedures specified in 229  
sections 3314.06 and 3314.061 of the Revised Code and, at the 230  
sole discretion of the authority, shall do one of the following: 231

(a) Prohibit the enrollment of students who reside outside 232  
the district in which the school is located; 233

(b) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in 234  
districts adjacent to the district in which the school is 235  
located; 236

(c) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in any 237  
other district in the state. 238

(20) A provision recognizing the authority of the 239  
department to take over the sponsorship of the school in 240  
accordance with the provisions of division (C) of section 241  
3314.015 of the Revised Code; 242

(21) A provision recognizing the sponsor's authority to 243  
assume the operation of a school under the conditions specified 244  
in division (B) of section 3314.073 of the Revised Code; 245

(22) A provision recognizing both of the following: 246

(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to 247

inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities 248  
closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in 249  
compliance with health and safety laws and regulations; 250

(b) The authority of the department as the community 251  
school oversight body to suspend the operation of the school 252  
under section 3314.072 of the Revised Code if the department has 253  
evidence of conditions or violations of law at the school that 254  
pose an imminent danger to the health and safety of the school's 255  
students and employees and the sponsor refuses to take such 256  
action. 257

(23) A description of the learning opportunities that will 258  
be offered to students including both classroom-based and non- 259  
classroom-based learning opportunities that is in compliance 260  
with criteria for student participation established by the 261  
department under division (H) (2) of section 3314.08 of the 262  
Revised Code; 263

(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 264  
3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to 265  
be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall 266  
be taken by the sponsor of the school. 267

(25) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the school 268  
will open for operation not later than the thirtieth day of 269  
September each school year, unless the mission of the school as 270  
specified under division (A) (2) of this section is solely to 271  
serve dropouts. In its initial year of operation, if the school 272  
fails to open by the thirtieth day of September, or within one 273  
year after the adoption of the contract pursuant to division (D) 274  
of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code if the mission of the 275  
school is solely to serve dropouts, the contract shall be void. 276

(26) Whether the school's governing authority is planning 277  
to seek designation for the school as a STEM school equivalent 278  
under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code; 279

(27) That the school's attendance and participation 280  
policies will be available for public inspection; 281

(28) That the school's attendance and participation 282  
records shall be made available to the department, auditor of 283  
state, and school's sponsor to the extent permitted under and in 284  
accordance with the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act 285  
of 1974," 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, as amended, and any 286  
regulations promulgated under that act, and section 3319.321 of 287  
the Revised Code; 288

(29) If a school operates using the blended learning 289  
model, as defined in section 3301.079 of the Revised Code, all 290  
of the following information: 291

(a) An indication of what blended learning model or models 292  
will be used; 293

(b) A description of how student instructional needs will 294  
be determined and documented; 295

(c) The method to be used for determining competency, 296  
granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level; 297

(d) The school's attendance requirements, including how 298  
the school will document participation in learning 299  
opportunities; 300

(e) A statement describing how student progress will be 301  
monitored; 302

(f) A statement describing how private student data will 303  
be protected; 304

(g) A description of the professional development 305  
activities that will be offered to teachers. 306

(30) A provision requiring that all moneys the school's 307  
operator loans to the school, including facilities loans or cash 308  
flow assistance, must be accounted for, documented, and bear 309  
interest at a fair market rate; 310

(31) A provision requiring that, if the governing 311  
authority contracts with an attorney, accountant, or entity 312  
specializing in audits, the attorney, accountant, or entity 313  
shall be independent from the operator with which the school has 314  
contracted. 315

(32) A provision requiring the governing authority to 316  
adopt an enrollment and attendance policy that requires a 317  
student's parent to notify the community school in which the 318  
student is enrolled when there is a change in the location of 319  
the parent's or student's primary residence. 320

(33) A provision requiring the governing authority to 321  
adopt a student residence and address verification policy for 322  
students enrolling in or attending the school. 323

(B) The community school shall also submit to the sponsor 324  
a comprehensive plan for the school. The plan shall specify the 325  
following: 326

(1) The process by which the governing authority of the 327  
school will be selected in the future; 328

(2) The management and administration of the school; 329

(3) If the community school is a currently existing public 330  
school or educational service center building, alternative 331  
arrangements for current public school students who choose not 332

to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not 333  
to teach in the school or building after conversion; 334

(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy 335  
of the school; 336

(5) Internal financial controls. 337

When submitting the plan under this division, the school 338  
shall also submit copies of all policies and procedures 339  
regarding internal financial controls adopted by the governing 340  
authority of the school. 341

(C) A contract entered into under section 3314.02 of the 342  
Revised Code between a sponsor and the governing authority of a 343  
community school may provide for the community school governing 344  
authority to make payments to the sponsor, which is hereby 345  
authorized to receive such payments as set forth in the contract 346  
between the governing authority and the sponsor. The total 347  
amount of such payments for monitoring, oversight, and technical 348  
assistance of the school shall not exceed three per cent of the 349  
total amount of payments for operating expenses that the school 350  
receives from the state. 351

(D) The contract shall specify the duties of the sponsor 352  
which shall be in accordance with the written agreement entered 353  
into with the department under division (B) of section 3314.015 354  
of the Revised Code and shall include the following: 355

(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all 356  
laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the 357  
contract; 358

(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal 359  
performance and the organization and operation of the community 360  
school on at least an annual basis; 361

(3) Provide technical assistance to the community school 362  
in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the 363  
contract; 364

(4) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to 365  
correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare 366  
the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 367  
3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the 368  
school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or 369  
terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 370  
of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor; 371

(5) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the 372  
event the community school experiences financial difficulties or 373  
closes prior to the end of a school year. 374

(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under 375  
this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the 376  
approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that 377  
contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not 378  
ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor 379  
finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and 380  
terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the 381  
academic goals prescribed in the contract have been 382  
satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division 383  
remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, 384  
and 3314.073 of the Revised Code. 385

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation 386  
within one year after the contract entered into under this 387  
section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 388  
of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the 389  
expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the 390  
school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A 391

school shall not be considered permanently closed because the 392  
operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 393  
3314.072 of the Revised Code. 394

**Sec. 3326.11.** Each science, technology, engineering, and 395  
mathematics school established under this chapter and its 396  
governing body shall comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 109.65, 397  
121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 2921.42, 2921.43, 398  
3301.0714, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.14, 399  
3313.15, 3313.16, 3313.18, 3313.201, 3313.26, 3313.472, 400  
~~3313.473,~~ 3313.474, 3313.48, 3313.481, 3313.482, 3313.50, 401  
3313.539, 3313.5310, 3313.5318, 3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.6012, 402  
3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6020, 3313.6021, 3313.6023, 403  
3313.6024, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 3313.6029, 3313.61, 3313.611, 404  
3313.614, 3313.615, 3313.617, 3313.618, 3313.6114, 3313.643, 405  
3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 406  
3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.67, 407  
3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69, 3313.71, 3313.716, 408  
3313.717, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 3313.721, 409  
3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.801, 3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 410  
3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 3319.073, 411  
3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.21, 3319.238, 3319.318, 412  
3319.32, 3319.321, 3319.324, 3319.35, 3319.39, 3319.391, 413  
3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.45, 3319.46, ~~3319.90,~~ 3319.614, 3320.01, 414  
3320.02, 3320.03, 3320.04, 3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.05, 3321.13, 415  
3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 3321.191, 3322.20, 416  
3322.24, 3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 5502.262, 417  
5502.703, and 5705.391 and Chapters 102., 117., 1347., 2744., 418  
3307., 3309., 3365., 3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 4167. of 419  
the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 420

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 of 421  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 422

**Section 3.** That sections 3109.054, 3129.01, 3129.02, 423  
3129.03, 3129.04, 3129.05, 3129.06, 3313.473, 3313.5320, 424  
3319.90, 3345.562, and 3345.90 of the Revised Code are hereby 425  
repealed. 426

**Section 4.** The General Assembly, applying the principle 427  
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 428  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 429  
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 430  
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 431  
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 432  
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 433  
as presented in this act: 434

Section 3314.03 of the Revised Code as amended by H.B. 8, 435  
H.B. 214, H.B. 250, S.B. 104, S.B. 168, S.B. 208, and S.B. 234, 436  
all of the 135th General Assembly. 437

Section 3326.11 of the Revised Code as amended by H.B. 8, 438  
H.B. 47, H.B. 214, S.B. 104, S.B. 168, S.B. 208, and S.B. 234, 439  
all of the 135th General Assembly. 440

**Section 5.** This act shall be known as the Parents' Rights 441  
to Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (P.R.I.D.E.) Act. 442