

Ohio House of Representatives  
Finance Subcommittee on  
Primary and Secondary Education  
HB1  
Testimony in Support of the **Fair School Funding Plan**  
**RE: OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**

Michael Tefs, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Wooster City School District  
February 23, 2021

Chairman Richardson, Ranking Member Troy, and members of the House Finance Subcommittee. Sub HB305 created the **School Funding Oversight Commission** to ensure implementation fidelity and integrity of the Fair School Funding plan.

Let's begin with the **membership** of the Commission. The Commission consists of nineteen (19) total members, comprising:

- Legislative Membership (4):
  - Two (2) members of the House of Representatives, one from each caucus, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
  - Two (2) members of the Senate, one from each caucus, appointed by the President of the Senate.
  
- Superintendent/Treasurer Membership (6):
  - Three (3) school district superintendents, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction with advice from those statewide organizations that represent school district superintendents, and
  - Three (3) school district treasurers, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction with advice from those statewide organizations that represent school district treasurers

*\*the Superintendent of Public Instruction must attempt to ensure that these superintendents and treasurers represent a combination of urban, suburban, and rural school districts*

- Parent Membership (3):
  - Three (3) parents, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Governor

*\*the Governor must attempt to ensure that the parents appointed are a combination of parents of students who are enrolled in, will enroll in, or were enrolled in urban, suburban, and rural school districts) (R.C. 3317.64(B)*

- Teacher Membership (3):
  - Three (3) parents, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- School Board Membership (3):
  - Three (3) school board members, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Governor

*Note for possible Q/A: Requires the members of the Commission to be appointed prior to the Commission's first meeting (R.C. 3317.64(C))*

The role (purpose) of the **School Funding Oversight Commission** is to:

1. To the extent possible, the funding priorities specified in the bill are implemented as directed and that all other provisions are funded as equitably and evenly as possible as additional funding becomes available;
2. Analyze and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding any appropriate adjustments to the provisions of the bill for inflation, technology developments, changes in instructional methodology;
3. Review and analyze the findings or implications of any of the required studies (special education, Poverty, Preschool, English learners, and the cost of community school operations, etc.) as those studies become available, or any other school funding studies authorized in related legislation and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly;

*\*December 31, 2022 is the deadline for these studies to be submitted to the Commission...as well as the other individuals specified in the previous version of the bill (R.C. 3317.61(A)(2) and (6) and (B) and 3317.62)*

4. Assess the impact of the calculations and other basic concepts and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding appropriate modifications to those calculations and other basic concepts;
5. Generally, monitor the implementation of the provisions of the bill to ensure that they are implemented in a timely and effective manner that is consistent with the intent of the General Assembly at the time those provisions were enacted and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding its implementation. (R.C. 3317.64(A)).