To amend section 3314.03 and to enact section 3314.261 of the Revised Code regarding student attendance at internet- or computer-based community schools that are not dropout prevention and recovery schools, to provide public and chartered nonpublic schools discretion regarding educational requirements of substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year, to exempt schools from retaining students under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee for the 2020-2021 school year, to permit the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adjust various deadlines, to prohibit the Department of Education from issuing state report card ratings for the 2020-2021 school year, to establish a safe harbor from penalties and sanctions based on the absence of state report card ratings and community school sponsor ratings for the 2020-2021 school year, and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That section 3314.03 be amended and section 3314.261 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3314.03. A copy of every contract entered into under this section shall be filed with the superintendent of public instruction. The department of education shall make available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed contract filed with the superintendent under this section.

(A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the governing authority of a community school shall specify the following:

(1) That the school shall be established as either of the following:
(a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8, 2003;
(b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003.

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

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

(4) Performance standards, including but not limited to all applicable report card measures set forth in section 3302.03 or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the school will be evaluated by the sponsor;
(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised Code;

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

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

(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of state. The contract shall require financial records of the school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the auditor of state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 117.10 of the Revised Code.

(9) An addendum to the contract outlining the facilities to be used that contains at least the following information:
   (a) A detailed description of each facility used for instructional purposes;
   (b) The annual costs associated with leasing each facility that are paid by or on behalf of the school;
   (c) The annual mortgage principal and interest payments that are paid by the school;
   (d) The name of the lender or landlord, identified as such, and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the operator, if any.

(10) Qualifications of teachers, including a requirement that the school's classroom teachers be licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code, except that a community school may engage noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code.

(11) That the school will comply with the following requirements:
   (a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred twenty hours per school year.
   (b) The governing authority will purchase liability insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of the school.
   (c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.

and 4167. of the Revised Code as if it were a school district and will comply with section 3301.0714 of the Revised Code in the manner specified in section 3314.17 of the Revised Code.

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

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.617, 3313.618, and 3313.6114 of the Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of the Revised Code or any rules of the state board of education. Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school diploma shall be met by completing the requirements prescribed in division (C) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or (F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject area competency, and beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, with the updated plan that permits students enrolled in seventh and eighth grade to meet curriculum requirements based on subject area competency adopted by the state board of education under divisions (J)(1) and (2) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school shall comply with the framework for granting units of high school credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency through work-based learning experiences, internships, or cooperative education developed by the department under division (J)(3) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

(j) If the school operates a preschool program that is licensed by the department of education under sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of the Revised Code, the school shall comply with sections 3301.50 to 3301.59 of the Revised Code and the minimum standards for preschool programs prescribed in rules adopted by the state board under section 3301.53 of the Revised Code.

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

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

(ii) A community school in which a majority of the enrolled students are children with disabilities as described in division (A)(4)(b) of section 3314.35 of the Revised Code.
(1) The school will comply with section 3321.191 of the Revised Code, unless it is an internet- or computer-based community school that is subject to section 3314.261 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

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

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

(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is a converted public school or service center building, specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that the board of education or service center governing board that operated the school or building before conversion is delegating to the governing authority of the community school with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(22) A provision recognizing both of the following:

(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in compliance with health and safety laws and regulations;

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

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

(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall be taken by the sponsor of the school. However, the sponsor shall not be required to take any action described in division (F) of section 3302.04 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

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

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

(a) An indication of what blended learning model or models will be used;
(b) A description of how student instructional needs will be determined and documented;
(c) The method to be used for determining competency, granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level;
(d) The school's attendance requirements, including how the school will document participation in learning opportunities;
(e) A statement describing how student progress will be monitored;
(f) A statement describing how private student data will be protected;
(g) A description of the professional development activities that will be offered to teachers.

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

(31) A provision requiring that, if the governing authority contracts with an attorney, accountant, or entity specializing in audits, the attorney, accountant, or entity shall be independent from the operator with which the school has contracted.
(32) A provision requiring the governing authority to adopt an enrollment and attendance policy that requires a student's parent to notify the community school in which the student is enrolled when there is a change in the location of the parent's or student's primary residence.

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

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

(1) The process by which the governing authority of the school will be selected in the future;
(2) The management and administration of the school;
(3) If the community school is a currently existing public school or educational service center building, alternative arrangements for current public school students who choose not to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not to teach in the school or building after conversion;
(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy of the school;
(5) Internal financial controls.

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

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

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

(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the contract;
(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal performance and the organization and operation of the community school on at least an annual basis;
(3) Report on an annual basis the results of the evaluation conducted under division (D)(2) of this section to the department of education and to the parents of students enrolled in the community school;
(4) Provide technical assistance to the community school in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the contract;
(5) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor;
(6) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the event the community school experiences financial difficulties or closes prior to the end of a school year.
(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the academic goals prescribed in the contract have been satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, and 3314.073 of the Revised Code.

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation within one year after the contract entered into under this section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A school shall not be considered permanently closed because the operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3314.261. This section shall not apply to an internet- or computer-based community school in which a majority of the students are enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery program.

(A) For purposes of this section, "instructional activities" means the following classroom-based or nonclassroom-based activities that a student is expected to complete, participate in, or attend during any given school day:

1. Online logins to curriculum or programs;
2. Offline activities;
3. Completed assignments within a particular program, curriculum, or class;
4. Testing;
5. Face-to-face communications or meetings with school staff or service providers;
6. Telephone or video conferences with school staff or service providers;
7. Other documented communication with school staff or service providers related to school curriculum or programs.

(B)(1) Each internet- or computer-based community school's attendance policy adopted in accordance with division (A)(6)(b) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code shall specify that a student is considered in attendance at the school when the student satisfies either of the following conditions:

(a) The student participates in at least ninety per cent of the hours of instructional activities offered by the school in that school year;
(b) The student is on pace for on-time completion of any course in which the student is enrolled. The school's attendance policy shall define "on pace for on-time completion" for purposes of division (B)(1)(b) of this section.

(2) If a student is not considered in attendance under division (B)(1) of this section, the student shall be considered absent for those hours of instructional activities offered by the school in that school year in which the student does not participate.

(3) In the event that a student has thirty or more hours of unexcused absences in any semester, the internet- or computer-based community school in which the student is enrolled shall submit a written report to the student's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(C) Notwithstanding section 3321.191 of the Revised Code, each internet- or computer-based
community school shall develop and adopt a policy regarding failure to participate in instructional activities. The policy shall state that a student shall become subject to certain consequences, including disenrollment from the school, if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) After the student's parent, guardian, or custodian receives a written report under division (B)(2) of this section, the student fails to comply with the policy adopted under division (C) of this section within a reasonable period of time specified by the school;

(2) Other intervention strategies contained in the policy adopted under division (C) of this section fail to cause a student's attendance to comply with the policy.

(D) If an internet- or computer-based community school disenrolled a student pursuant to a policy adopted under division (C) of this section, the student shall not be eligible to enroll in that school or another internet- or computer-based community school for one school year from the date of the student's disenrollment. This division does not prohibit a disenrolled student from enrolling in another internet- or computer-based community school if a majority of the students of that school are enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery program.

(E) If an internet- or computer-based community school disenrolls a student pursuant to a policy adopted under division (C) of this section, the school shall do both of the following:

(1) Provide the student's parent, guardian, or custodian with a list of alternative educational options available to the student;

(2) Within forty-eight hours of the student's disenrollment, notify the student's resident school district in writing.

(F) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the procedure for automatically withdrawing a student from school that must be adopted as part of a school's attendance policy in accordance with division (A)(6)(b) of section 3314.03 of the Revised Code.

SECTION 2. That existing section 3314.03 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. (A) As used in this section, "school governing body" means any of the following:
(1) The board of education of a city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district;
(2) The governing authority of a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code;
(3) The governing body of a STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code;
(4) The governing authority of a chartered nonpublic school.
(5) The governing board of an educational service center or a regional council of governments, established under Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, consisting of one or more educational service centers that provide substitute teaching services.

(B) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in sections 3301.071, 3319.226, 3319.30, and 3319.36 and Chapters 3314. and 3326. of the Revised Code, or the administrative rules of the State Board of Education, a school governing body may, in accordance with the district's or school's own set of educational requirements, employ an individual who does not hold a post-secondary degree as
a substitute teacher, for the 2020-2021 school year only, provided that all other applicable requirements and procedures contained in the Revised Code and the Administrative Code with respect to that individual's qualifications to be a substitute teacher in the district or school are satisfied. The State Board of Education shall issue a non-renewable temporary substitute teaching license to an individual who does not hold a post-secondary degree for the 2020-2021 school year only, provided the applicant meets all other requirements and procedures contained in section 3319.226 of the Revised Code and in rule 3301-23-44 of the Administrative Code.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Revised Code, no school district, community school, or STEM school and no chartered nonpublic school that is subject to section 3301.163 of the Revised Code shall retain a student in the third grade under that section or section 3313.608 of the Revised Code based solely on a student's academic performance in reading in the 2020-2021 school year unless the principal of the school building in which a student is enrolled and the student's reading teacher agree that the student is reading below grade level and is not prepared to be promoted to the fourth grade.

SECTION 5. (A) For the 2020-2021 school year, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may extend or waive any deadline for an action required of the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, or any person or entity licensed or regulated by the State Board or Department related to the following:

(1) The conducting of evaluations for school personnel under Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code;
(2) Notice of intent not to reemploy school personnel under Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code;
(3) The conducting of school safety drills under section 3737.73 of the Revised Code;
(4) The emergency management test required by division (E) of section 3313.536 of the Revised Code;
(5) The filling of a vacancy in a board of education;
(6) Updating of teacher evaluation policies to conform with the framework for evaluation of teachers adopted under section 3319.112 of the Revised Code;
(7) Identification and screening of gifted students under Chapter 3324. of the Revised Code.

(B) The authority to waive or extend deadlines permitted under division (A) of this section shall not apply to application deadlines for any scholarship program as defined in section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code.

SECTION 6. Except as necessary to comply with federal law, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Revised Code, all of the following shall apply:

(A) The Department of Education shall not publish state report card ratings under section 3302.03, 3302.033, 3314.012, or 3314.017 of the Revised Code for the 2020-2021 school year nor shall the Department be required to submit preliminary data for the report cards by July 31, 2021, as required by those sections. Furthermore, the Department shall not assign an overall letter grade under
division (C)(3) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code for any school district or building, shall not assign an individual grade to any component prescribed under division (C)(3) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code, shall not assign a grade to any measures under division (C)(1) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code, and shall not rank school districts, community schools, or STEM schools under section 3302.21 of the Revised Code for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Department shall report any data that it has regarding the performance of districts and buildings for the 2020-2021 school year by September 15, 2021.

(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, the absence of report card ratings for the 2020-2021 school year shall have no effect in determining sanctions or penalties, and shall not create a new starting point for determinations that are based on ratings over multiple years. The report card ratings of any previous or subsequent years shall be considered in determining whether a school district or building is subject to sanctions or penalties. If a school district or building was subject to any of the following penalties or sanctions in the 2020-2021 school year based on its report card rating for previous school years, those penalties or sanctions shall remain in effect for the 2021-2022 school year. Those penalties and sanctions include the following:

(1) Any restructuring provisions established under Chapter 3302. of the Revised Code, except as required under federal law;
(2) Provisions for the Columbus City School Pilot Project under section 3302.042 of the Revised Code;
(3) Provisions for academic distress commissions under section 3302.10 of the Revised Code. While a district subject to an academic distress commission prior to the effective date of this section shall be considered to be subject to an academic distress commission for the 2021-2022 school year, that year shall not be included for purposes of determining progressive consequences under divisions (H), (I), (J), (K), and (L) of section 3302.10 of the Revised Code that are in addition to those that were being exercised by the chief executive officer during the 2020-2021 school year or for purposes of the appointment of a new board of education under division (K) of that section. Nothing in division (B)(3) of this section shall be construed to limit the powers that the chief executive officer exercised under section 3302.10 of the Revised Code prior to the 2021-2022 school year.
(4) Provisions prescribing new buildings where students are eligible for the Educational Choice Scholarships under section 3310.03 of the Revised Code;
(5) Provisions defining "challenged school districts" in which new start-up community schools may be located, as prescribed in section 3314.02 of the Revised Code;
(6) Provisions prescribing community school closure requirements under section 3314.35 or 3314.351 of the Revised Code;
(7) Provisions of state or federal law that identify school districts or buildings for comprehensive or targeted support and improvement or additional targeted support and improvement. Districts and buildings so identified shall continue to receive supports and interventions consistent with their support and improvement plans in the 2021-2022 school year.
(8) Provisions that determine the conditions under which community schools may change sponsors under section 3314.034 of the Revised Code.

(C) Nothing in division (B) of this section shall affect the awarding of performance-based Educational Choice Scholarships under section 3310.03 of the Revised Code for the 2021-2022 and
2022-2023 school years.

(D) Notwithstanding anything in section 3314.016 of the Revised Code to the contrary, community school sponsor ratings issued under that section for the 2020-2021 school year shall have no effect in determining sanctions or penalties of a sponsor under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code but shall not create a new starting point for determinations that are based on ratings over multiple years. The sponsor ratings of any previous or subsequent school years shall be considered when a sponsor is subject to sanctions or penalties under that chapter. A sponsor shall remain eligible in the 2021-2022 school year for any incentives that the sponsor was eligible for in the 2020-2021 school year, and the 2020-2021 school year shall not count toward the number of years in which a sponsor subject to division (B)(7)(b) of section 3314.016 of the Revised Code is not required to be evaluated.

SECTION 7. Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this act are hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is to ensure school districts and schools can employ an adequate number of substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year to address the needs of the state arising from the COVID-19 outbreak, to ensure that the changes made by Section 4 of this act in regard to retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee take effect as soon as possible after the start of the 2020-2021 school year, and to ensure that the changes made by Sections 5 and 6 of this act take effect as soon as possible after the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this act shall go into immediate effect.
Speaker ________________ of the House of Representatives.

President ________________ of the Senate.

Passed _________________, 20____

Approved _________________, 20____

Governor.
The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

________________________________________

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ____ day of ____________, A. D. 20____.

________________________________________

Secretary of State.

File No. _________ Effective Date ____________________