

Regular Board Meeting (Tuesday, February 18, 2025)

Generated by Shelley Martin on Wednesday, February 19, 2025

1. Call To Order
Procedural: 1.01 Roll Call

All Board Members were present

Procedural: 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2. Visitors to the Board

There were no visitors

3. Treasurer

Action, Minutes: 3.01 Minutes - January 21, 2025 Organizational Meeting
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends the approval of minutes as presented.

Action, Minutes: 3.02 Minutes - January 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends the approval of minutes as presented.

Action: 3.03 Treasurer's Financial Reports
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends financial reports as presented.

Action: 3.04 Monthly Financial Report
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends financial report as presented.

4. Executive Director

Discussion: 4.01 Update on Enrollment/Graduate/Documented Hours/Student & Family Engagement Events

Mr. Lenney reported that the last orientation class will occur this week. Enrollment is expected to cap at 740 students. There are currently 70 graduates to date. He also provided an update about the ESports team.

Discussion: 4.02 Update of School Improvement Plan / One Plan

Discussion: 4.03 Legislative Update

Mr. Lenney reported that Representative Adam Mathews and Representative Dani Isaacsohn visited the GOVS Student Center on February 13, 2025.

Action: 4.04 2024-2025 Graduates
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of graduates as presented.

Action: 4.05 Supplemental Contracts
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of supplemental contracts as presented.

Action: 4.06 Updated/New Board Policies
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of update/new Board Policies as presented.

Action: 4.07 Resolution 25-01
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of Resolution 25-01 as presented.

5. Sponsor Representative

Discussion: 5.01 Discussion and Updates

Frank Stoy addressed the Board regarding the new CEO, Rod Gale and the transition underway.

6. Agenda Approval

Action: 6.01 Motion to approve all agenda items
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of all agenda items as presented in one motion.

Motion: Hook
Second: Isaacs

Motion Carries 5-0

7. Adjournment

Action: 7.01 Adjourn

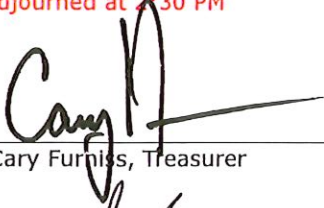
Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Isaacs

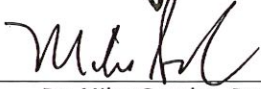
Second: Hooks

Motion Carries 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM



Cary Furniss, Treasurer



Dr. Mike Sander, President

As of January 31, 2025

Difference from Beginning Cash	267,133
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GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL
FY 2025
PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS

2/4/2025

FUND	SCC	DESCRIPTION	Initial	January	February	March	April	May	June	TOTAL ACCOUNT
001	0000	GENERAL FUND	\$ 5,107,560.00							\$ 5,107,560.00
001	9002	TERMINATION BENEFITS FUND	\$ 20,139.97							\$ 20,139.97
507	9624	ARP HOMELESS TARGETED SUPPORT	\$ -							\$ -
507	9724	ARP HOMELESS ROUND II	\$ -							\$ -
516	9924	IDEA FY24 FUND	\$ 20,000.00							\$ 20,000.00
516	9925	IDEA FY25 FUND	\$ 163,147.57	\$ (925.48)						\$ 162,222.09
536	9925	TITLE I NON COMPETITIVE FY25	\$ 149,176.44							\$ 149,176.44
551	9925	TITLE III CONSORTIUM FY25								
572	9024	TITLE I EOEC NON COMPETITIVE FY24	\$ -							\$ -
572	9025	TITLE I EOEC NON COMPETITIVE FY25	\$ 65,940.18							\$ 65,940.18
572	9924	TITLE I FY24 FUND	\$ 9,000.00							\$ 9,000.00
572	9925	TITLE I FY25 FUND	\$ 66,624.53							\$ 66,624.53
584	9924	TITLE IV-A FY24 FUND	\$ 4,000.00							\$ 4,000.00
584	9925	TITLE IV-A FY25 FUND	\$ 10,000.00							\$ 10,000.00
590	9924	TITLE II-A FY24 FUND	\$ 3,000.00							\$ 3,000.00
590	9925	TITLE II-A FY25 FUND	\$ 6,689.01							\$ 6,689.01
Monthly Appropriation Changes										
SUB-TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - ALL FUNDS			\$5,625,277.70							\$ 5,625,277.70

School-wide Transfers:

From	To	Amount	Month/Year	From	To	Amount	Month/Year
590-9924	572-9924	\$1,338.10	July 2024				
584-9924	572-9924	\$1,491.74	July 2024				
590-9924	572-9924	\$663.86	August 2024				
584-9924	572-9924	\$809.50	August 2024				
572-9924	590-9924	\$185.58	Sept 2024				
572-9924	581-9924	\$22.90	Sept 2024				
590-9924	572-9924	\$680.06	Sept 2024				
584-9924	572-9924	\$829.26	Sept 2024				
590-9925	572-9925	\$739.73	Oct 2024				
584-9925	572-9925	\$1,075.34	Oct 2024				
584-9925	572-9925	\$1,075.35	Nov 2024				
590-9925	572-9925	\$739.73	Nov 2024				
584-9925	572-9925	\$1,075.34	Dec 2024				
590-9925	572-9925	\$739.74	Dec 2024				
001-0000	572-9924	\$0.02	Jan 2025				
584-9925	572-9925	\$1,075.34	Jan 2025				
590-9925	572-9925	\$739.73	Jan 2025				

Greater Ohio Virtual School CASHSUM

FUND-SCC	Description	Initial Cash	MTD Received	FYTD Received	MTD Expended	FYTD Expended	Fund Balance	Encumbrance	Unencumbered Balance
001-0000	GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL	\$ 3,406,858.19	\$ 333,139.41	\$ 3,053,731.39	\$ 422,226.78	\$ 2,754,679.50	\$ 3,705,910.08	\$ 1,015,949.86	\$ 2,689,960.22
001-9002	TERMINATION BENEFITS FUND	20,139.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,139.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
507-9624	ARP HOMELESS TARGETED SUPPORT FY24	0.00	0.00	9,160.84	0.00	9,160.84	0.00	839.16	(839.16)
516-9924	IDEA-B FY24	(18,258.39)	0.00	46,234.55	0.00	27,976.16	0.00	0.00	0.00
516-9925	IDEA-B FY25	0.00	22,103.02	79,156.33	18,485.02	97,641.35	(18,485.02)	0.00	(18,485.02)
536-9925	Title I Non Competitive FY25	0.00	11,818.18	59,090.90	11,818.18	70,909.08	(11,818.18)	59,090.92	(70,909.10)
551-9924	LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	5.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
551-9925	LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.00	(125.00)
572-9024	EOEC Non Competitive FY24	(1,445.45)	0.00	1,445.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
572-9025	EOEC Non Competitive FY25	0.00	5,409.09	27,045.45	5,409.09	32,454.54	(5,409.09)	27,045.46	(32,454.55)
572-9924	TITLE I FY24	(6,484.64)	0.02	18,652.14	0.00	12,167.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
572-9925	TITLE I FY25	0.00	7,250.25	29,001.04	7,250.26	36,251.30	(7,250.26)	0.00	(7,250.26)
584-9024	STRONGER CONNECTIONS GRANT	(5,000.00)	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
584-9924	TITLE IV-A FY24	0.00	0.00	3,130.50	0.00	3,130.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
584-9925	TITLE IV-A FY25	0.00	1,075.34	4,301.37	1,075.34	4,301.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
590-9924	TITLE II FY24	0.00	0.00	2,682.02	0.00	2,682.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
590-9925	TITLE II FY25	0.00	739.73	2,958.93	739.73	2,958.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total		\$ 3,395,814.71	\$ 381,535.04	\$ 3,341,590.91	\$ 467,004.40	\$ 3,074,458.09	\$ 3,662,947.53	\$ 1,103,050.40	\$ 2,559,897.13

Greater Ohio Virtual School
CHKREG

Check Number	Date	Name	Amount	Status	Reconcile Date	Void Date	Reference Number
0	1/27/2025	MEMO COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS	\$ 310.39	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13831
0	1/27/2025	UNUM Life	118.25	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13821
0	1/27/2025	Ohio BWC	520.00	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13828
0	1/27/2025	MEMO LCNB	144.10	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13827
0	1/27/2025	School Employees Ret. System	3,991.30	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13829
0	1/27/2025	MEMO Ohio Dept of Education	31,964.43	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13823
0	1/27/2025	LEBANON-CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK	2,741.73	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13826
0	1/27/2025	American Fidelity	22,000.00	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13822
0	1/27/2025	STATE TEACHERS RET. SYSTEM	1,997.80	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13825
0	1/27/2025	Southwest Ohio EPC	1,373.28	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13824
0	1/27/2025	STATE TEACHERS RETIRE. SYSTEM	25,376.00	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13819
0	1/27/2025	MEMO ST ALOYSIUS	7,555.90	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13830
0	1/27/2025	Southwest Ohio EPC	24,433.74	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13820
134100	1/23/2025	AMERICAN FIDELITY	210.91	OUTSTANDING			13815
134103	1/23/2025	VERIZON WIRELESS	7,849.94	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13816
134102	1/23/2025	SPEEDWAY LLC	4,853.95	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13817
134101	1/23/2025	Waterco of the Central States	82.50	RECONCILED	1/23/2025		13818
134099	1/17/2025	WARREN COUNTY ESC	100,557.62	RECONCILED	1/21/2025		13813
134097	1/17/2025	Amazon Capital Services	530.56	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13811
134098	1/17/2025	Frontline Technologies	2,718.51	RECONCILED	1/21/2025		13812
0	1/16/2025	MEMO-PNC BANK	7,147.53	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13810
0	1/15/2025	MEMO-PNC BANK	884.94	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13809
134094	1/9/2025	The Meeting Connection	620.00	OUTSTANDING			13803
134095	1/9/2025	TREASURER OF STATE OF OHIO	1,035.25	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13804
134096	1/9/2025	WARREN COUNTY ESC	4,350.00	RECONCILED	1/9/2025		13806
134090	1/9/2025	A Book Company LLC	178.72	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13805
134092	1/9/2025	Clermont County	720.00	RECONCILED	1/31/2025		13807
134091	1/9/2025	AFPlanServ	1.00	RECONCILED	1/9/2025		13802
134093	1/9/2025	JEFFERSON COUNTY ESC/VLA	29,550.00	RECONCILED	1/9/2025		13801

Grand Total \$ 283,818.35



***Greater Ohio
Virtual School***

Greater Ohio Virtual School

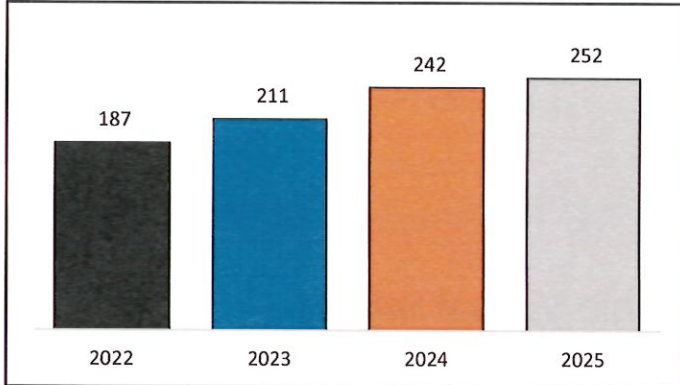
Monthly Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2025 - July to January

Cash Balance Analysis

Monthly cash flow helps explain the timing of revenue and expenditures in the current fiscal year and over several fiscal years. This snapshot is designed to demonstrate three key cash balance indicators - 1) Days of cash on-hand at year end, 2) Cash balance as % of Revenue, 3) Monthly cash balances. The data reflected is as of January 31 for each respective year.

Calendar Days of Cash on Hand



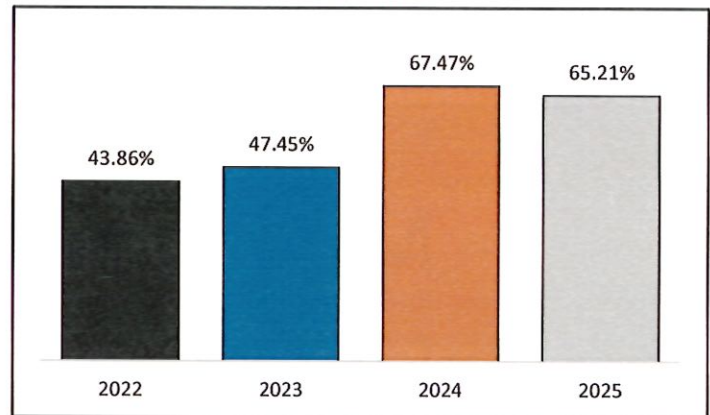
GOVS completed June 2024, with 245 days of operating cash on hand. The graph to the left reflects the cash on hand at January 31st of each year.

Ending Cash Balance at End of the Month

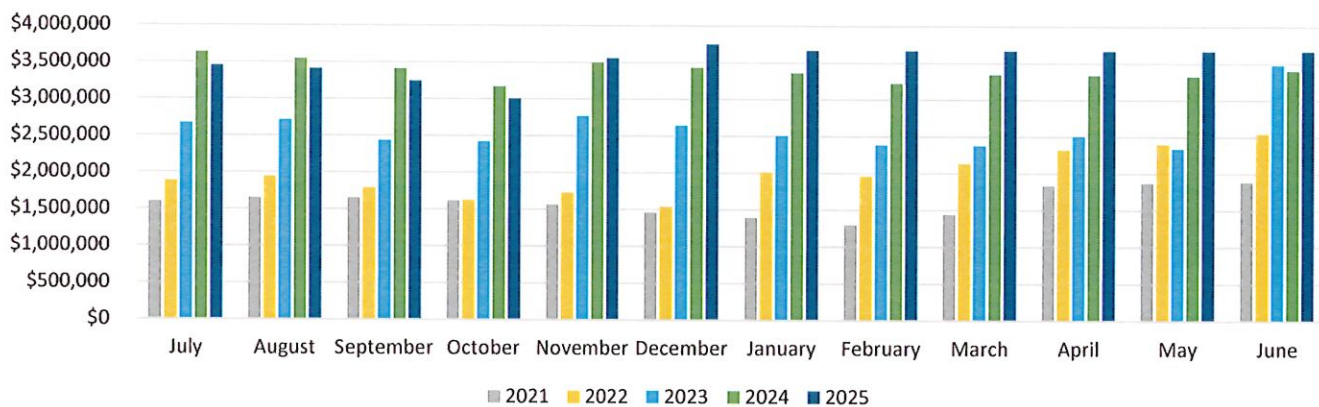
2022	\$2,012,070
2023	\$2,504,572
2024	\$3,355,292
2025	\$3,662,944

Cash balance as a % of revenue can help the organization to understand the amount of revenue change that could be buffered by one-time cash balance reserves.

Cash Balance as % of Revenue



Fiscal Year -- End of Month Cash Balance (\$000)



Cash balances can fluctuate significantly within a fiscal year. The lowest cash balance of \$1,296,240 occurred in February 2021. The highest cash balance position was \$3,887,299 and that occurred at January 31, 2019.

ACTUAL REVENUE RECEIVED THROUGH JANUARY COMPARED TO THE PRIOR YEAR

	Actual Revenue Collections For July to Jan.	Prior Year Revenue For July to Jan.	Actual Compared to Last Year
Local Revenue	(21,840)	(20,163)	▼ (1,677)
Interest	98,333	107,637	▼ (9,304)
State Revenue	2,970,119	2,194,910	▲ 775,209
Federal Revenue	274,579	396,913	▼ (122,334)
All Other Revenue	20,401	17,733	▲ 2,668
Total Revenue	3,341,593	2,697,030	▲ 644,563

Compared to the same period, total revenue are
\$644,563
Higher than the previous year

Revenues after seven (7) months are \$644,563 higher than at the same point last fiscal year. In November, GOVS received the final true up payment for last fiscal year using the new State Funding model, increasing State Revenue Year Over Year. Updated student enrollment was included for the December payment generating additional state aid. The higher state aid now, likely will result in a smaller true up payment next fall. Federal Revenue continues to decline due to the loss of federal pandemic aid.

ACTUAL EXPENSES THROUGH JANUARY COMPARED TO THE PRIOR YEAR

	Actual Expenses For July to Jan.	Prior Year Expenditures For July to Jan.	Actual Compared to Last Year
Salaries and Benefits	1,740,936	1,498,342	▲ 242,593
Purchased Services	956,720	874,199	▲ 82,521
Supplies	114,249	197,336	▼ (83,087)
Capital	-	200	▼ (200)
All Other Expenses	262,556	249,206	▲ 13,350
Total Expenditures	3,074,461	2,819,284	▲ 255,177

Compared to the same period, total expenditures are
\$255,177
Higher than the previous year

Expenditures are \$255,177 higher than last year at the same point. The current fiscal year does include a one-time expenditure of severance pay for a retiring staff member that is included in the salary and benefits line item. Science of Reading stipends were paid in December and reimbursement is expected in January or February, increasing salary and benefit costs compared to last year.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR REVENUE

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Local Revenue	-	(21,840)	▼ (21,840)
Interest	175,000	165,333	▼ (9,667)
State Revenue	4,633,426	4,660,119	▲ 26,693
Federal Revenue	469,170	475,845	▲ 6,675
All Other Revenue	2,000	20,401	▲ 18,401
Total Revenue	5,279,596	5,299,859	▲ 20,263

Compared to forecast,
revenue cash flows
are
\$20,263
Higher than forecast

Compared to the November Forecast, revenues are (\$20,884) lower than anticipated. Interest reductions by the Federal Reserve are starting to impact Interest Income. State aid is slightly higher due to Science of Reading Reimbursements.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR EXPENSES

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Salaries and Benefits	3,002,693	3,030,936	▲ 28,243
Purchased Services	1,551,315	1,601,720	▲ 50,405
Supplies	250,000	194,249	▼ (55,751)
Capital	1,000	1,000	-
All Other Expenses	338,657	392,411	▲ 53,754
Total Expenditures	5,143,665	5,220,316	▲ 76,651

Compared to forecast,
expenditure cash flows
are
\$76,651
Higher than forecast

Spending after seven (7) months is higher than forecast by (\$42,617). Salaries and benefits are higher than projected due to higher than expected due to Science of Reading stipends that will be reimbursed by the State of Ohio in January or February. Supplies are trending lower for the fiscal year and All Other Expenses are higher due to charges associated with prior school year enrollment true ups.



SPONSOR CONNECTION

February 2025

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

Reminders

2/7: Attend free, virtual [Human Capital Resource Center's Power Hour](#) (Level Up Your Talent Acquisition: Assessing Current Practices)
 2/11: Attend [Career-Readiness Leaders Meetup](#)
 2/11: Attend [Ohio AI Education Coalition training series](#) (Model Policy Deep Dive: Acceptable Use Educator)
 2/12: Register for [Principal Chat](#) (Quality School Improvement Plans)
 2/12: Attend [AT&AEM Center's upcoming office hours](#) (Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students)
 2/14: Attend free, virtual [Human Capital Resource Center's Power Hour](#) (Elevating HR: A Strategic Approach to Driving Organizational Success)
 2/21: Attend free, virtual [Human Capital Resource Center's Power Hour](#) (Creating a Culture of Care: Supporting Educator Well-Being)
 2/25: Attend [Ohio AI Education Coalition training series](#) (Model Policy Deep Dive: Academic Integrity)
 2/28: Complete [Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students](#) (superintendents)
 3/11: Military Signing Day

24-25 Governing Authority and School Leader Timeline

[Governing Authority & School Leader Timeline 24-25](#)



Governing Authority Trivia Corner!

Welcome to our February 2025 Governing Authority Trivia Corner. Thanks to all of you that participated in the January contest. Our winner was Shelly Nutter from Central Point Preparatory Academy. Shelly received a \$25.00 Amazon gift card.

If you would like to see the questions and answers for January, please click on the link below:
<https://forms.office.com/r/JmkWfTkky9>

The answers to questions below are contained in the February Sponsor Connection so you don't have to look far!

So, let's play. Here are the three (3) questions for February:

- 1) True or False - The Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Program is accepting applications through March 31, 2025, for community schools that recruit and develop talented future educators.
- 2) True or False - Mr. Mike Odioso, a former community school board member at Mount Auburn Preparatory Academy in Cincinnati has been elected to the Ohio House of Representatives.
- 3) True or False - As a governing authority member of a St. Aloysius sponsored community school, the Sponsor Connection Newsletter arrives in your email mailbox the 1st of every month from Charter School Specialists.

You can enter the contest by clicking on this link <https://forms.office.com/r/ywCwTHpW8S> or email your answers to fstov@charterschoolspec.com. Be sure and submit your responses by February 28, 2025. The winner will be announced in the April Sponsor Connection.

CSS 2024-2025 Professional Development

Click the link below to access the CSS PD Catalog:
[Professional Development Catalog 2024-2025](#)

Military Signing Day for High School Students

In partnership with schools and communities, the Department will host Military Signing Day on March 11 for Ohio's students committed to military service.

Registration will close Friday, Feb. 28, or earlier if seating is full. [Register to attend Military Signing Day.](#)

2025 Charter School Specialists and Schools Forward Literacy Consortium

Mark your calendars for the 2025 Charter School Specialists and Schools Forward Literacy Consortium (previously known as the Schools Forward Literacy Academy), taking place **June 4-6, 2025**, at the **Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus**. The theme for this year's event is *From Theory to Practice*. This year's event promises dynamic keynote speakers, including **Deon Butler**, **Kareem Weaver**, **Dr. Julie Washington**, **Michelle Elia**, and others yet to be announced.

Breakout Sessions will cover a wide range of topics, such as:

- ODEW and Statutory Requirements
- Early Literacy Report Card calculations
- Best Coaching Practices
- Motivation
- Writing
- Supporting ELLs
- Vocabulary Development
- Assessment of Effective Practices and Student Learning
- Literacy Look-Fors
- Early Literacy
- Adolescent Literacy
- High School Literacy

This conference is tailored for **teachers, leaders, coaches, and superintendents**, ensuring a comprehensive literacy focus for all attendees.

Registration Information:

- A fee will be required to cover food costs and will be credit card only this year.
- Space is limited to **300 attendees**—all Ohio charter schools are invited!

Stay tuned for additional details on registration and speaker confirmations. We look forward to seeing you there!

Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Program

The application period for the 2025-2026 school year is now open for the Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Program. The program, sponsored by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, is an incredible opportunity to support Ohio school districts in recruiting and developing talented future educators. This program provides **scholarships of up to \$7,500 per year for four years** to help students and school staff pursue a teaching career in their home district. Although not previously open to charters, charter schools are now eligible to participate in this program.

The program is open to current employees (full-time or part-time) at qualifying school districts and high school seniors enrolled in 12th grade who meet eligibility requirements. Recipients of the scholarship would commit to teaching in their home district for a minimum of four years after graduation and licensure. Eligible high school seniors must either have a Student Aid Index (SAI) of 25,000 or less (determined by completing the FAFSA) or graduate from a qualifying district where at least 25% of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

The nomination deadline is **February 14, 2025**, and the application deadline is **March 31, 2025**. To submit a nomination, schools must first complete the **Intent to Register form** located [here](#). Once registered, superintendents can create an account and nominate candidates via the [Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Portal](#). Select "District" in the top-right corner to get started. With \$10 million to award in scholarships through this program, there is no limit to how many applications a school can submit.

This program is a fantastic way to invest in the future of education while addressing the challenges of recruiting and retaining qualified teachers. For more information, please refer to the following resources provided by the Ohio Department of Higher Education:

- [Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Program](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Webinar-20250107 190329-Meeting Recording.mp4](#)

For further questions on the information above, please reach out to Jennifer Heyman at jheyman@charterschoolspec.com.



A Word From Our CEO Exciting Changes for Charter School Specialists!



Partners, Clients, and Colleagues.

I am pleased to announce to you that we have made two highly significant changes that I believe will position us for continuity of quality service and reliability well into the future.

The first change required me to move to the position of Chief Executive Officer. This change then opened the position of President of Charter School Specialists. After an exhaustive search that included a number of high-level candidates, we have hired Rod Hale as the new President of Charter School Specialists. Rod is known to some of you for his extensive 15-year tenure on the Marshall and Cliff Park board, during which he served 12 years as its President. Additionally, he held the position of President of the Buckeye Charter School Boards Association. Rod's professional journey encompassed roles as a Police Officer, Detective, and Sergeant in Middletown, followed by a six-year tenure as the Chief of Police in Trenton. Rod has also worked in the private security field for many years and has volunteered on many boards and organizations. Rod possesses two strengths that you generally do not see together in one person. He possesses strong interpersonal skills alongside exceptional organizational capabilities. Rod will manage the day-to-day internal operations of Charter School Specialists, allowing me to concentrate on advocacy, strategy, and overall guidance of the organization. We are all excited to have Rod join our organization.

The second significant change is a foundational change to Charter School Specialists. We have always been a single member Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) providing sponsorship services for St. Aloysius and other services for a number of charter schools. I have been the owner and leader, but we have always operated as a team. As such and to ensure a continuity of quality service and reliability, we have converted Charter School Specialists into an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). We are now proudly employee owned. I and the management team will remain in place to lead and guide, but all the employees now have a stake in our success. Our partners can rest assured that we shall remain the same high quality and reliable organization that we have always been.

Respectfully,

Dave Cash, CEO
Charter School Specialists INC



It is with a heavy heart we inform you that Delores Junior has passed away.

Delores was one of the first employees of Charter School Specialists, serving our schools for over fifteen years. Our team absolutely loved and cherished Delores. We hired Delores once she retired from Cleveland Metro School District where she served for many years. During her years with the district, she served in various capacities including physical education, health instruction, and most notably as a principal. Delores even started the school district's first charter school.

Many of you know that Delores was a people person. She loved visiting your schools and working with you and your staff. I tried to curb the energy that she brought to your meetings many times but was thoroughly unsuccessful. She always smiled at me and said she would stop the games and tests, but she never did. I finally gave up. What could I do against the force of nature that was and is Delores Junior?

It was a deal for me in that I got two for one. I hired Delores but also got her husband Wavy. Wavy fully embraced his role as Delores' driver and is truly a special person. We fully appreciate both of them.

Not only did she perform at your meetings, but she carried that same spirit and determination at all our staff and professional development meetings. Christmas was the worst time for Wavy as he had to carry in all the presents that Delores brought for our staff. Delores added much to the Charter School Specialists organization and our reputation, and we will always remember her. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Dave L. Cash

Legal Department

Coming Soon

On January 8, Governor DeWine signed several new bills into law which will be effective on April 9, 2025. Two of the bills signed are Senate Bill 208 and House Bill 206 that made some miscellaneous changes that are applicable to community schools. The Governor also signed House Bill 8, which is known as the Parent's Bill of Rights Act, and House Bill 257 which allows certain boards and board members to attend and hold meetings virtually, if certain conditions are met. All of these bills will be discussed in more detail in a From the Desk Of Memo that will be released by Charter School Specialists this month.

Special Education

Special Education Professional Development Opportunities

Charter School Specialists will be offering several opportunities to provide support and guidance for Special Education. These are virtual Professional Development sessions, and all sessions are from 12:00pm-1:00pm.

February 27, 2025: Discipline, Avoiding Costly Mistakes, and Corrective Action Plans
April 24, 2025: Topic TBD

Special Education Virtual Office Hours will be held the first Tuesday of each month from 12:00pm-1:00pm. The session dates are:
February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6

These informal sessions provide Directors of Special Education, Intervention Specialists, and Administrators the opportunity to discuss the latest news from The Department of Education and Workforce & the Office for Exceptional Children. They are opportunities to ask questions, learn from colleagues, and network.

Please email Susan at sscarponi@charterschoolspec.com for the link to attend any of these sessions.

College and Career Readiness Corner

Stay Ahead: Updates to Ohio's CTE-26 Application Process

Ohio's Department of Education has announced updates to the [CTE-26 application process](#) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, introducing important changes that schools need to know. A key update includes an additional application window, open from **July 1, 2025, through August 15, 2025**, allowing schools to apply for **Industry Credential Only (ICO) programs** aligned with newly recognized credentials. These changes provide more flexibility for schools to expand career-technical education offerings that meet workforce demands. School leaders are encouraged to review the updated guidelines and timelines on the ODE website to ensure successful submissions and take full advantage of this opportunity to align with Ohio's in-demand jobs.

Federal Programs

Cohort 2 schools will be completing the One Needs Assessment and One Plan. There have been enhancements to the One Needs Assessment. The optional questions in the assessment have been removed, leaving only the required questions. Charter School Specialists is hosting a professional development workshop for Cohort 2 schools on February 11, in Columbus. This is an opportunity to bring a school team and work on the One Needs Assessment and begin writing the One Plan. Please email Nannette Sherman for registration information: nsherman@charterschoolspec.com. The Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs (OASFEP) Spring Conference takes place April 7-9 at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus. For more information click the link: <https://oasfep.org/upcoming-conferences>.

Compliance Highlight 1

Federal regulations state that schools may only use federal funds for nominal student incentives, which support the educational learning process. Incentives should cost under \$2.00 and include items such as fidgets, erasers, and pencils. Schools receiving Title IV funds can use these funds to support the school's PBIS program. Title IV can also be used for well-rounded instructional experiences, which can include field trips.

Compliance Highlight 2

Please ensure that your school submits Purchase Cash Requests (PCRs) at least four times a year. Failure to submit PCRs at least quarterly may result in the school receiving an onsite monitoring visit. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce monitors the frequency of PCRs. Schools should also make sure they are completing grant revisions in a timely fashion. Similarly, when revisions are sent back to the school for corrections, schools should make these corrections and return the revision back to ODEW as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding Federal Programs, please contact: nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.

School Highlights



Mt. Auburn Board Member Resigns After Election to Ohio House of Representatives

Mr. Mike Odioso, a respected member of the Mt. Auburn Preparatory Academy school board, announced his resignation after being elected to the Ohio House of Representatives. Mr. Odioso served diligently on the school board since his appointment on March 1, 2019. During his tenure, he was dedicated to advancing the education system, advocating for both students and educators alike.

His decision to step down from the school board was driven by his new responsibilities as an elected official, where he will now represent the interests of the broader community in Ohio's legislative body.

Charter School Specialists would like to express our gratitude for Mr. Odioso's service and leadership, and while his resignation from the school board will be felt, there is optimism about his continued impact on Ohio's future in education.



[Important updates on Kindergarten Readiness Assessment reporting](#)

[Now available: 2025-2026 FAFSA form and resources](#)

