

We will be providing our legislative guests with topics/questions submitted by our members. What topics would you like to see discussed?

This year my child's school opened free breakfast and lunch to any student regardless of qualifications without having to complete paperwork. This was a good program because it took away stigmas and was utilized by many students who otherwise wouldn't have. I'm not sure exactly the particular program or the funds it came from, but is there a chance the program will become more permanent and grow? Im not entirely sure either if it was just my child's district or statewide or even nationwide.

SB 37

School funding in Ohio

Safety protocol with covid

State testing

Teacher evaluations

OTES- teacher choice in assessments, we are being 'told' by admin what to give (and the test is not appropriate for our district, online assessment for kinder and up in an Amish population)

Funding

Early Childhood, we need more preschools.

HB 67 Testing Changes for this school year and Graduation requirements

Patterson-Cupp Bill changing funding formulas

Education Budget for 2021-2023

What are you doing to make the funding of public schools constitutional?

-The reason for Alternative Assessment qualifications and why students with significant disabilities (who don't meet the qualifications) are expected to take state tests.
-The rationale for science and social studies based English standards to be such a highlight on the English OST/EOC. Should and English teacher really be responsible for teaching their students analyzing science and social studies materials? Especially in writing?

State testing and special education students-

Is there a way to hold districts accountable and promote high expectations for special needs students without consistently frustrating our special needs students?
Taking tests with content 2 years or more above their basic skill levels is torture for our children? Testing accommodations, if done correctly, offer them minimal help-tests that are modified to their level of skills would at least give them a chance to show what they know and feel success.

End of Course Exams

Value added data

State testing

-state testing

-eliminating RESA & changing to a mentorship program

More information on how COVID has impacted legislation regarding education and what the path forward looks like.

Do you think perhaps fairly funding Ohio's public schools might be more of a priority than legislating a Yay for Donald Trump Day?

For the state school board members that will be present...

With the ever-changing topic of state testing and teacher/student requirements, what are the future plans for the Resident Educator Program? On ODE most of the links to complete various tasks are expired making it seem to young educators that these are not valued and a waste of time. How can a young teacher in RESA fully be evaluated if a district is teaching remotely?

1. Mental Health Facilities v Incarceration

2. Adding Energy to Marginalized Communities through Reinvestments

3. Surveys show people want a place to gather and feel included. Any suggestions for bringing people together would be welcomed.

4. Challenging the wide disparity between poor and rural education for students in various zip codes.

Why can't there be an increase in funding for " in-house " wrap around services. More funding for schools to hire more school counselors, title teachers, tutors, reduce class sizes etc .

We are fueling the burning house syndrome. Mental health agencies want to come into the schools and do what??

We have building full of experts, who, if given support, can help kids more effectively and refer out , if a child needs more intensive support.

SEL starts in the classroom .

What are some things they have done that have made a positive impact in the districts they represent and what are some additional things that could be done to make more positive impacts?

When will the Ohio Legislature address unconstitutionality of the state's model for funding public schools? The funding model was determined to be unconstitutional on March 24, 2019 (23 years ago) in DeRolph v. State of Ohio.

SLOs are going away but teachers are needing to still use HQSD for the new OTES. Teachers understand the importance of data and 'good data' but what do you suggest teachers do when the 'Approved Vendor Assessments' are not good and are causing test anxiety in our youngest learners. We use iReady Math and Reading and for Kindergarten to Second Grade it is inappropriate. Students have to sit in front of a computer screen and answer questions. I, as a teacher, don't get to see what they miss or what they get correct. I get a score with very broad topics to work on for that child. Just a few years ago the state required all teachers in the elementary grades complete a reading endorsement...so we did. We learned best practice and best assessments to grow good readers. Online assessments for these small children are inappropriate. Our district only uses the assessment so students can pass iReady in third grade for the reading guarantee. We aren't giving the test to help instruction in K-2 we are giving the assessment so they can be better test takers in third grade. This sickens me. What do you suggest we K-2 teachers do to effect change locally but also statewide in regards to this issue of overtesting just to get a passing score in third grade?

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAT DURING THE LIVE EVENT (edited)

We need more counselors and school nurses and smaller class sizes so we can build better relationships with students and know who needs assistance.

We finally have counselors in each grade at our middle school now but we need more clinical counselors - kids wait over 4-6 weeks just for intake services

In the 3 schools I serve with Canton City SD, the mental health agencies we partner with are not accepting new clients because they are at capacity.

We need more funding for after-school services as well - great programs have been started but not necessarily being funded

Agreed on the After School Programs. The programs have been cut for many of Canton City SD elementary schools.

The agencies also have a large turnover which limits the consistency with the students and the families.

WE need more help for students who are not low income and don't qualify for many of the programs in place

Canton City continues to deliver breakfast and lunch on virtual days.

Most of my middle school students (students with special needs) will lose 4 full days of instruction, not to mention the time we'll have to spend prior to testing reteaching them to use the online testing portals.

And we have adopted an online test for K-8 and the state says it HQSD and can be used for third grade guarantee SO they have us give it to K-2 so they are used to the test format before third grade...it seems unethical to give a kindergartner a test just so they can see the test 3 times before they have to pass in third grade.

What happens to schools who are already listed in academic watch due to previous scores? This gap in learning and affects will not just affect this year and that is a concern of ours especially in a district already with many inequities

I have seen first hand the benefits of after school programs having worked for the last 5 years. Meals, academic and enrichment programs along with family engagement activities is helpful to both students and families.

EOC testing has happened to it!!!!

Our kids can tell you what they need to know for the Government EOC exam, but they can't tell you who our state or US reps/senators are, or how to contact them, etc. Nothing is relevant because the tests are generic.

We can't stop. The future of our students is at stake.

Thank you to all of you! Your commitment to education and our children is awesome. I am so grateful for you.

I'm really hoping that finding gets addressed, especially in my district (Claymont). We are closing buildings and cutting teaching jobs which will create larger classroom sizes which is not best for students!

funding

Yes we are increasing class sizes and budget cuts in CCSD as well.

Yes. I second the funding needs. Knowing that funding is solvent means AMAZING teachers like April Knisely get to continue serving those Claymont students. She started as an aide, moved to preschool teacher and after 21 years is now RIF'd . School funding is a crucial issue now. They are increasing class sizes and she WANTS to teach. Please, keep working hard on the funding and thank you!

Would anyone be willing to briefly address the transfer of territory issue that is reappearing now at the state level? Plain Local had to fight for our district, but the issue is now going to impact all public districts. Was really hoping to see this addressed tonight!

Thank you to all of you hearing us and representing us! Also, thank you to each and every educator in this room for still sharing our passions with our students and helping to grow our future

HB117 is a frightening thought...I hope our reps will support public schools on this issue.

Thank you everyone for working so hard to help students through this stressful time! They will never forget you!!