

Sponsorship News

[Phoenix Community Learning Center Wins Robotics Competition](#)
[Springfield Academy of Excellence Principal Wins Award](#)

Extras

[Required Addition to Anti- harassment and Bullying Policy](#)
[BMI Screening](#)

Policy News

[House changes to the Ohio budget bill puts charter quality at risk](#)
[ESEA reauthorization: What Ohioans should know](#)

Upcoming Deadlines and Events

[Deadlines](#)
[Events](#)

Sponsorship News

Phoenix Community Learning Center Students Win Robot competition

On March 19th seven students from the Phoenix Community Learning Center competed in the “Where in the Neighborhood is Dr. Dunn” robotics competition at Shroder Paideia High School. The students built and programmed a robot to help eliminate environmental hazards found in any neighborhood.

The team started work in January, built a Lego® MindStorms® Kit robot, programmed the robot to perform different tasks, built the small scale model of a typical neighborhood in which the robot would perform, and created an oral presentation. The students even spent their entire Spring Break at school, working six hours daily to complete their robot. The students’ hard work paid off, and the team brought several new trophies back to the Phoenix Community Learning Center. The team placed second in the fields of creativity, display and oral presentation and won the first place prize for their floor and neighborhood designs as well as their robot.

Congratulations to the hard robotics team at the Phoenix Community Learning Center!

[Back to Top](#)

Springfield Academy of Excellence Principal Receives Award

In early May, Edna Chapman, Principal at Springfield Academy of Excellence, was awarded the National AfterSchool Association’s “My Principal Matters” award. This award recognizes excellence in school leadership and celebrates highly effective afterschool collaborative relationships between preK-12 principals, assistant principals and afterschool program leaders. The award honors principals who have exhibited extraordinary commitment to their students and staff, service to their communities, and contributions to the afterschool profession, including their professional associations.



Congratulations to Springfield Academy of Excellence and Mrs. Chapman on their successful partnerships with the Center for Civic and Urban Engagement at Wittenberg University, Forging Responsible Youth, and on this award.

[Back to Top](#)

Policy News

House changes to the Ohio budget bill puts charter quality at risk

The Ohio House released its version of the budget bill, and several amendments subsequently released would dramatically turn back the clock on progress the state has made toward better charter school quality and accountability. Among some of the most troubling parts of the bill include allowing charter school operators to apply directly to the Ohio Department of Education and operate without a sponsor, as well as allow a charter school sponsor to open new schools without regards to the performance of their current schools. Fordham's Terry Ryan [weighs in](#) on these amendments and what they mean for Ohio.

[Back to Top](#)

ESEA reauthorization: What Ohioans should know

The education policy debates at the Statehouse might have some of us forgetting that another education debate is afoot on Capitol Hill, over the reauthorization of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). ESEA is the law authorizing federal funding and policy directives for K-12 education; for the past ten years it's been better known as No Child Left Behind.

What are the major policies related to ESEA? What are the thorny issues holding up its reauthorization? In a [new briefing book](#), Fordham's Mike Petrilli and Chester E. Finn, Jr. take a look at the reauthorization of ESEA to identify the key questions Congress and the Obama Administration must answer in order to reach an agreement on the Act and offer up Fordham's recommendations for moving forward. You can read the entire briefing book [here](#), an opinion piece from last week's *Education Gadfly* [here](#), and continued coverage on Fordham's *Flypaper* blog [here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

Extras

Required Addition to Anti- harassment and Bullying Policy

Due to the passage of [HB 19](#) in March 2010 additional information is now required in a school's Anti-harassment and Bullying Policy. The definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying **must** include violence in a dating relationship. If a school's policy doesn't have this element it will need to be added as soon as possible. Failure to update a school policy in this regard may lead to findings from the Auditor of State in the school's next audit.

For more information on the content required in school Anti-harassment and Bullying Policy please refer to the [Ohio Revised Code section 3313.666](#).

[Back to Top](#)

BMI Screening

Due to the passage of Senate Bill 210 in June of 2010, all public schools (including community schools) must screen the body mass index (BMI) of every student in kindergarten, third grade, fifth grade and ninth grade. The results of the screenings must then be shared with the Ohio Department of Health by June 1.

The BMI screening is required for this school year (2010-11); however, schools may submit a waiver for 2010-11. The waiver can be found on the [Healthy Choices for Healthy Children Act page](#) of ODE's website. The website also contains waiver submission information, timelines, sample letters to parents and FAQs about BMI screening.

Any questions should be forwarded to Dawn Ayres at dawn.ayres@ode.state.oh.us.

[Back to Top](#)

Upcoming Deadlines and Events

Deadlines and Board Meetings

June 3: AOIS Submissions (Tornado Drill Log)

June 10: AOIS Submissions (Truancy Documentation)

June 16: Phoenix Community Learning Center Board Meeting

June 17: AOIS Submissions (5 Year Forecast, Spring Site Visit)

June 20: Columbus Collegiate Academy Board Meeting

June 21: KIPP: Journey Academy board Meeting

June 24: AOIS Submissions (Final Approved Board Meeting Minutes May, fire Drill Log June, LPDC Meeting Minutes, Monthly Financial Report May)

[Back to Top](#)

Events

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools Annual Conference

The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools (NAPCS) will host its National Charter Schools Conference at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta June 20-23. Advance registration and discounted hotel blocks end May 31.

For more information, including registration, reserved hotel blocks, and conference sessions please visit the NAPCS conference [website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

DECA Institute Workshop

The DECA Institute will be hosting a 2 day workshop, *Changing Culture with Achievement* on June 22 & 23. The workshop will be held at The University of Dayton and will provide educators and school leaders with best practices that will enable them to get low income urban students college ready.

Schools are invited to enroll a 5 member team (school leader, guidance counselor and 3 teachers) to participate in this workshop. DECA staff will be on hand to guide participants through the creation of a school change plan. Topics of discussion will include:

- How to implement best practices for tracking and applying data
- How to create and execute strategies to achieve **Race to the Top** results such as teaching to standards, formative assessment, use of data, and developing and retaining great teachers
- How to form partnerships with colleges, parents, community, and school boards
- How to use peer coaching effectively to change the culture of the classroom and increase student achievement
- How to get students college/career ready through gateways and advisories
- How to create a culture of student achievement
- How to use **My Voice** Student Survey Data effectively

There is no fee to register for this workshop but groups do have the option of registering for food, beverages and snacks for \$250 per group.

For more information on the workshop please visit [The DECA Institute's website](#) or contact Marge Mott at 937-229-5779 or mmott@daytonearlycollege.org.

[Back to Top](#)

Battelle for Kids' Great Teachers Make Great Schools: 2011 Teacher Conference

Battelle for Kids will be holding its annual Teacher Conference from August 8 – 10 at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus Ohio.

This conference is designed to inspire, challenge and invigorate teachers with new thinking and practices and provide the opportunity for networking and collaboration with peers.

To learn more about the conference and to register visit [Battelle's conference website](#).

[Back to Top](#)

For additional information on anything in this update, please contact Whitney Gilbert at wgilbert@edexcellence.net

Visit us on the web at www.edexcellence.net/index.cfm/our-charter-schools



[Subscribe to
the Gadfly](#)



[Read Fordham's
blog Flypaper](#)



[Follow us
on Facebook](#)



[Follow us
on Twitter](#)