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ODE GUIDANCE

See the following Ohio Department of Education links for guidance and answers to your most frequently asked questions.

FAQ's AND IMPORTANT LINKS

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Frequently-Asked-Questions-Governor-DeWine's-Scho>

GENERAL QUESTIONS

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus>

GRADUATION

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Graduation-Requirements-in-Light-of-Coronavirus-Re>

HOMELESS STUDENTS

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/District-and-State-Support-for-Homeless-Students-D>

LICENSURE

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Educator-Licensure>

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>

REMOTE LEARNING RESOURCE GUIDE

<http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Remote-Learning-Resource-Guide.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>

SCHOOL REPORT CARDS

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Additional-Information-on-Accountability-and-the-O>

SCHOOL-BASED MEALS

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Supporting-Whole-Child-Nutrition>

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Supporting-Children's-Social-Emotional-and-Behavi>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Considerations-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Duri>

THIRD GRADE READING GUARANTEE

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee>

OASBO Survey Seeks Data on Non-Renewals

Districts are struggling with how to address final evaluations for teachers and administrators who may be non-renewed. If a school district doesn't complete the evaluation process for a teacher or administrator, that person cannot be non-renewed and they automatically roll over to a one-year extended limited contract (or perhaps longer depending on the negotiated agreement) unless they are already on a one-year extended limited contract, in which case they roll over to a continuing contract.

A legislative solution may be needed, but there is no statewide data to share with lawmakers. To that end, OASBO has developed a survey that has been sent out to district treasurers. Please consult with your treasurer to ensure the survey is completed by this Friday, April 10.

The survey link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6F9KVK8>.

LEGISLATIVE

PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION: The option to dispense with evaluations of teachers and administrators under H.B. 197

Bricker & Eckler, LLP

March 27, 2020, Governor DeWine signed Am.Sub.H.B. 197 into law, which, in part, empowers a board of education to elect not to conduct an evaluation of a teacher, administrator or superintendent if the evaluation was not completed prior to March 14, 2020 (when the Director of Health issued the Order closing all K-12 schools in Ohio). In order to make the election, a board of education must determine that it “would be impossible or impracticable” to conduct the evaluations. According to H.B. 197, if the election to dispense with evaluations is made, the “employee shall be considered not to have had evaluation procedures complied with” pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3319.11. At first blush, being relieved of the statutory responsibility to evaluate teachers and administrators alleviates the significant and immediate stress of completing countless evaluations during unique and challenging circumstances. However, a wholesale election, declaring evaluations impossible or impracticable, may have significant and unintended consequences.

Electing to not evaluate teachers

While H.B. 197 allows a board to elect to not complete the statutory evaluation obligations related to teachers, the Legislature made no changes to the prerequisites for the nonrenewal of a teacher. A teacher on an expiring, limited contract, for whom evaluation procedures have not been complied with, cannot be nonrenewed. (See O.R.C. 3319.11(E).) Therefore, before recommending the adoption of a resolution to dispense with evaluation of teachers, you will want to carefully consider whether there are any teachers for whom you expect to recommend nonrenewal. If so, you will want to carefully word any resolution dispensing with evaluation of certain teachers but preserving the ability to evaluate teachers being considered for nonrenewal. In addition, you will want to develop a plan to comply with evaluation procedures set forth in law, policy and/or any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Depending on collective bargaining agreement provisions, foregoing evaluation and the ability to nonrenew may result in a teacher securing a multi-year or continuing contract.

Electing to not evaluate administrators

Compliance with evaluation procedures is similarly significant when contemplating nonrenewal of an administrator. However, the decision to forego evaluation of an administrator extends beyond the current year, and into any future expiration of an administrator contract. An administrator, for whom evaluation procedures have not been complied with in any year of a multi-year contract, cannot be nonrenewed. (See O.R.C. 3319.02(D)(2)(c)(ii) and (ii).) House Bill 197 provided no relief with respect to

the prerequisites for nonrenewal of an administrator. Therefore, deciding to forego evaluation of an administrator this particular year will eliminate the ability to recommend nonrenewal of an administrator at the expiration of a multi-year contract.

Given the current landscape and potential challenges associated with conducting evaluations, it is clear that recommendations for nonrenewal may be challenged. As you identify employees who may need to be considered for nonrenewal, and you prioritize your district's needs, you will want to work closely with legal counsel as you consider recommending the adoption of any resolution to dispense with evaluation obligations and any recommendation for nonrenewal of a teacher or administrator.

Resolutions

House Bill 197 requires Boards of Educations to act on two resolutions:

1. A resolution either extending an existing "blizzard bag" policy or, in the absences of such policy, creating policy to permit the district to make up through distance learning any number of days or hours necessary to meet the state-required minimums due to the mandates closure of school buildings. NOTE that ORC regarding the original "blizzard bag" law is still in effect, meaning:
 - a. The resolution must have the support of the teachers' union;
 - b. Any distance learning must allow students two weeks to submit work.
2. A resolution declaring evaluations "impracticable" or "impossible" if they cannot be completed by the end of the school year. PLEASE SEE the Bricker and Eckler "On Advice of Counsel" which BASA sent out on March 31 regarding evaluation of teachers and administrators who might be non-renewed. That document is also included in today's communication.

Two other resolutions might be considered but are not mandatory.

1. Some boards are adopting resolutions giving the superintendent authority to take any and all actions necessary to maintain educational programming for students and provide for the safety of all students and staff.
2. HB 197 allows student to graduate if they are on track to meet minimum state curriculum requirements. However, **superintendents of schools and districts who have adopted a more challenging curriculum than the state minimum may, under the provisions of HB 197, elect to require only the state minimum curriculum.** Superintendents who elect to exercise this authority should consult with their local boards of education or governing authorities. Action by the local board or governing authority is not required, but superintendents may seek a resolution as a matter of record.

NOTE: Bricker and Eckler is developing model resolutions for #'s 1, 2 and 3. These model resolutions will be available for distribution to BASA members soon.

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Ohio High School Athletic Association – March 27 Letter

Good afternoon to each of you. In light of today's announcement, we wish to keep you up-to-date on the current status of our school athletic programs as they relate to the current COVID-19 crisis. I applaud each of you for the efforts to continue learning and, while our athletic programs are on hold, your combined efforts are the reason they WILL return . . . stronger than ever.

Thursday's Announcement

As most of you are now aware, all remaining winter sport tournaments (state ice hockey, state individual wrestling, girls' state basketball and boys' regional and state basketball) are now cancelled. There had been many conversations with venue management and, in concert with current information from Gov. DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health, we felt the window of opportunity has closed completely. In an attempt to reach as many student-athletes as possible (and community members), I have communicated the "Open Letter..." found at this link to the competing schools:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Memos/OpenLetterToStudent-Athletes.pdf>

Thank you for communicating with your coaches and student-athletes to help them understand the crisis we face needs their help and, in order to get school extracurricular activities back as soon as possible, they are a major part of the solution. The end of the winter tournaments, while extremely emotional, is part of a great sacrifice that will be for the betterment of many. Thank you for serving as the leaders to our FUTURE leaders, and I hope you will extend our gratitude to your coaches as well.

Honoring This Year's Teams

ESPN has done a tremendous job of honoring seniors on their evening SportsCenter show with Scott VanPelt. Our sport administrators have ideas and are encouraging others to give ideas as well.

Looking Ahead – Spring Sports

At the time of this communication, we continue with the hope we can return and have a semblance of a spring season. As of today, four states have officially cancelled their spring sport seasons. An important aspect to keep in mind is making certain 'consistency' exists among our 800-plus member schools. When the initial school closures were announced, we immediately heard from member schools with the request to be consistent and shut down for everyone and not permit some schools in a league/conference to practice/compete while others are not being permitted due to local regulations.

Refunds for Purchased State Wrestling/Basketball Tickets

The Ohio State University Ticket office is refunding all pre-sold tickets in the following manner: For All Credit Card Purchases: Refunds will be made within three (3) weeks of the scheduled starts of the tournaments. For all Check Purchases: Refunds will be made within five (5) weeks

scheduled starts of the tournaments. Here is the link on our website:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/news-media/articles/ohsaa-wrestling-basketball-and-ice-hockey-state-tournament-ticket-refunds>

April 22 OHSAA Board of Directors' Meeting

While we are currently exploring conducting the April 22 meeting electronically, the meeting at the OHSAA office is currently cancelled. We will publicly communicate the rescheduling of this meeting.

Important Notes to all Athletic Administrators

While the deadline is extended to MAY 15 for you to submit your school's tournament officials' ballots for Wrestling and Boys' and Girls' Basketball, please find time to submit these as soon as possible through the school's myOHSAA account. To date, there were nearly 400 athletic directors that had not been submitted. These are important for next year's tournaments.

Competitive Balance Date Adjustments

As you may be aware, all schools have submitted their roster data for the fall sports of football, soccer and volleyball. This data is used to determine the 2020 tournament divisions and representation. Our staff plans to present this information to the Board of Directors for approval at one of their upcoming spring meetings.

For girls' and boys' basketball, the original deadline to submit roster data was April 1. The new deadline is Friday, May 15, although, with the fluidity of our current situation, that date may change again. However, we highly encourage schools who are able to complete and submit their roster data to do so immediately. As of late last week, there were still approximately 150 schools that had yet to submit their roster data for girls and/or boys basketball through the school's ArbiterGame account.

Spring Athletic Discussion Meetings (Voting for Referendum Items)

As mentioned previously, the OHSAA's Constitution requires meetings to review any proposed amendments/changes/ additions to the OHSAA's Bylaws and Constitution. Our Board of Directors has approved several Constitutional and Bylaw proposals for member schools to vote upon. While we have cancelled all face-to-face meetings to review the proposals, which were set to begin in April, we will be communicating the date for these to be viewed in an online presentation.

District Athletic Board Elections

While nominating petitions are not scheduled to be completed and submitted until April 30, our office typically sent out a reminder that the process was set to open up on April 1. The reminder as well as the date for opening up nominating positions is being postponed. When adjusted dates are set, we will communicate them and send out a reminder when the process will open.

Ohio High School Athletic Association – March 31 Letter

In light of the announcement by Governor DeWine, I felt it important to communicate the following as quickly as possible. I applaud our Compliance Staff for their forward thinking and

preparation while being in constant contact with the ODE and NCAA. Thank you for your continued efforts to educate students and in so many cases come together to support our health care workers and provide much needed meals to your students and families.

Guidance for Fall Scholarship Eligibility

In response to many inquiries from OHSAA member school administrators, the Executive Director's Office provides this guidance as it pertains to Scholarship Eligibility for the fall of the 2020-2021 school year. Nothing in this guidance should be construed as indicating that the OHSAA has made any final decision relative to the suspension of Bylaw 4-4 as it applies to scholastic standards for student eligibility. If such a decision becomes necessary, it will be made and would be required to be made in accordance with duly adopted Constitutional provisions approved by the membership and authorized by the OHSAA's Board of Directors.

Bylaw 4-4-1 indicates that a student must receive **passing grades** in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent (or five classes in grades 7/8 – possibly four classes if a current referendum issue passes) during the “immediately preceding grading period” in order to be eligible for the 2020 fall season. To assist your school in decision making for the remainder of the school year, please consider the following:

- The “immediately preceding grading period” refers to the grading period of the school which immediately precedes the grading period in question. So, if your school elects to forego the 4th grading period for whatever policy reason, then the grades the students received at the end of the 3rd grading period would be what you use to determine their eligibility for fall sports. This would essentially be turning your 3rd grading period into your 2nd semester or final grading period of the 2019-2020 school year.
- A “Pass,” “Satisfactory,” etc. is considered a passing grade. If your school elects to forego traditional letter grades in lieu of *Pass/Fail* or *Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory* for the remainder of the school year – which is permitted, that should have no impact on the eligibility of fall athletes if the student were scheduled for enough credits (or classes in grades 7/8). However, if choosing to provide grades for the final grading period on a Pass/Fail basis, please be advised that you will not be able to calculate a Grade Point Average (GPA) for that grading period. Keep in mind that OHSAA Bylaws do not consider GPA when determining compliance with the scholarship standards expressed in Bylaw 4-4.

Information Relative to NCAA Eligibility for Incoming Freshmen

On Thursday, March 26, the NCAA Eligibility Center released the following statement:

In response to closings, cancellations and changes related to COVID-19, the Eligibility Center is closely monitoring the impact on students and their ability to meet NCAA initial-eligibility requirements. The EC will be posting more information here in the coming days to assist our membership, prospective student-athletes and the high school community. For information on COVID-19, please visit ncaa.org/COVID-19 and continue to monitor for more information.

- While the OHSAA does not provide interpretations on NCAA initial eligibility requirements or any other rule governing collegiate athletics participation, our Office wants you to have access to that information as soon as it is released by the NCAA.

Information Relative to CCP

In accordance with guidance provided to the OHSAA by Dr. Larisa Harper, Director of CCP for the state of Ohio, the following statement is provided for our member schools:

“Due to the closure of secondary schools and colleges changing to only remote/online courses, the colleges are giving the option to students to take a Pass/Fail grade instead of an ABCDF grade due to the extraordinary changes.”

Nothing in this guidance should be construed as indicating that the OHSAA has made any final decision relative to the suspension of Bylaw 4-4 as it applies to scholastic standards for student eligibility. If such a decision becomes necessary, it will be made in accordance with duly adopted Constitutional provisions approved by the membership and authorized by the Board of Directors.

Information Relative to Spring Sports & Beyond

Yesterday’s announcement by Governor DeWine extended mandatory school closures through May 1. As a result:

- The mandated No-Contact period has been extended through this date (May 1). This is to assist with the Governor’s ‘stay at home’ order, to prohibit coaches from privately meeting with student-athletes AND to put all schools on an equal level relative to future competitive opportunities.
 - It should be noted that the No-Contact Regulation was never intended to discourage or prohibit electronic communication with student-athletes. For the mental well-being of student-athletes, it is actually encouraged but is NOT intended for coaches to encourage any form of group gatherings or instruction.
- No practices or competitions may occur through this date (May 1).
- Since other events and activities are not permitted by the current Governor’s orders, we collectively believe we can continue looking at abbreviated schedules for spring sports. While cancellation remains on the table with all other options, there are many factors that enter into possibilities. Availability of venues for any events, Dept. of Health guidelines and Governor’s orders are all part of the equation. Under no circumstances will we compromise the safety of student-athletes, coaches, officials, game workers or fans. Everyone in the schools is aware of the extremely fluid situation and we will continue to update you as things change.
- Simply so we are prepared, we have begun looking at:
 - Off-Season Regulations. In the event activities are permitted to begin in June or July, we are looking at adjusting off-season regulations to expedite a return to school-based athletic programs.
 - Fall Sport Issues. Again, I feel it is incumbent for our staff to look at every ‘what if’ and be prepared. In a worst-case scenario, if events/practices/training are shut down during or through the summer, the reality exists that many of the thousands of student-athletes may lack any high-level physical training. We need to look at what serves our student-athletes best relative to acclimatization periods. I want to stress that we are PLANNING for worst-case scenarios by identifying all the challenges we could potentially face.
- We applaud all of you for helping with providing guidance and leadership to your coaches with the request they speak with their student-athletes (electronically of course) to convey to them the seriousness of the current crisis and an understanding that ALL of us are in this together and understand their emotions and desire to ‘get back.’

PARTNER RESOURCES

JASON - STEM leader for over 30 years - offering online platform for Free during COVID-19 crisis

JASON Learning, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire and educate students everywhere through real science and exploration is offering FREE districtwide access to their award-winning online collection of STEM resources to support districts in their efforts to continue remote schooling.

JASON offers single sign-on options with Google, Microsoft Office 365 and can connect to a host of other Learning Management platforms districts may already have in place.

For more information - and to sign-up, visit www.jason.org/coronavirus

JASON's Grab and Go Lessons - JASON has created - and continues to create - a series of "Grab and Go" lessons to help support educators who are in need of quick and easy - already put together activities or plans for their students. These can be accessed under the Announcements section once logged into JASON with a teacher account. Some helpful details about these "Grab and Go" lessons:

- Lessons are currently organized by grade bands.
- Each lesson or activity includes instructions for the students and direct links to the JASON resources.
- Lessons vary in length from short, quick activities that can be done in one sitting to longer - week-long plans.
- Educators can copy these lessons and share via any platform they may already be using: Google, Microsoft Teams . . . etc
- Educators are free to modify and take pieces of these as fits their needs and timeframes.
- We will be adding to this library throughout school closures and beyond.
- We will also be including ideas for activities that can be done offline.

Edgenuity's COVID-19 School Closure Support

As districts around the country are planning for school closures due to COVID-19/coronavirus, Edgenuity wants to support and guide educators in continuing to provide learning opportunities for students. Online learning offers increased flexibility and the ability to work remotely, both of which can be critical when planning for prolonged school closure.

In an effort to provide stability in a time of uncertainty, we created two solutions to help you prepare for school closures.

TEACHER-LED SOLUTION

With this solution, educators can use Edgenuity's online curriculum to continue offering instruction to students during a closure. Educators broadcast themselves teaching lessons using Zoom or Google Classroom so students can continue learning.

This solution enables districts to respond quickly and effectively to closures, and provides training options so your teachers can easily navigate the course content and platform.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL SOLUTION

This solution is true online learning, offering structure and progress tracking. You get professional development and training to offer a virtual school solution for all students, and can use the courses already available to you, with the option to expand to additional grade levels, including coverage for K–12. Students can work asynchronously and at their own pace.

ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS

Q: How can we broadcast lessons to our students?

A: We have lifted Edgenuity licensing restrictions so you can broadcast lessons online for your students to access at home. If you are not already set up to do this, we recommend using Zoom or Google Classroom. Both are free to download and use, and Zoom offers a paid education plan to enhance the online learning experience.

Q: What if access to Internet or devices is a concern?

A: Online learning requires the use of devices and Internet access. Edgenuity content will play on any device that has Internet access, including mobile phones, tablets, and computers. Consider loaning out devices and partnering with local businesses to offer Wi-Fi hotspots. Additionally, many mobile phones can be set up as Wi-Fi hotspots.

Q: What training is available?

A: You always have access to the Edgenuity Help Center, which houses comprehensive guides, videos, and instructions for using our products.

With the **Teacher-Led Solution**, you already have the content you need to broadcast lessons to students. We recommend training and additional support to ensure success. We have created a discounted training package that covers accessing courses for instruction, as well as best practices for broadcasting live instruction.

Training for the **Virtual School Solution** covers importing teachers, enrolling students, managing student learning remotely, and utilizing online learning for longer-term school closures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit edgenuity.com/covid-19

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Remote Leading for Remote Learning

Coming together for Ohio's Students during the COVID-19 Crisis

Please use the password **COVID19** for all sessions unless otherwise noted.

Monday

<u>Secondary Math Teachers</u>	11:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/925529</u>
<u>Special Education Leaders/Teachers</u>	2:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/403583153</u>

Tuesday

<u>School Counselors - High School</u>	9:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/165160007</u>
<u>School Counselors - Middle School</u>	9:45 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/165160007</u>
<u>School Counselors - Elementary</u>	10:30 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/165160007</u>
<u>Secondary English Teachers</u>	2:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/589830485</u>

Wednesday

<u>Tech Directors/Instructional Coaches</u>	9:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/862385152</u>
<u>Superintendents</u>	11:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/436328560</u>
<u>Tech Prep/Career Education</u>	2:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/867556709</u>

Thursday

<u>Communications</u>	9:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/803827512</u>
<u>Arts and Fine Art</u>	11:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/798629167</u>
<u>Central Office</u> (PW 807760)	11:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/436967912</u>
<u>Music Teachers</u>	12:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/798629167</u>
<u>Social Studies</u>	1:00PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/798629167</u>
<u>Kindergarten Teachers</u>	1:00PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/200829642</u>

Friday

<u>Science</u>	11:00 AM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/359875914</u>
<u>Foreign Language</u>	12:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/359875914</u>
<u>Elementary Principals</u>	1:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/984974045</u>
<u>Secondary Principals</u>	2:00 PM	<u>https://zoom.us/j/834703802</u>



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OLAC Professional Development

The OLAC team is continuing to revise modules to align to the OIP. In the coming weeks, you'll see updates and notification for these modules on the main page and within the modules, noting when these updates were made and which modules are affected.

The Ohio Leadership Advisory Council has free resources, including webinars, modules, podcasts and more. Check out our newest resources on [coaching](#), [gifted education](#), and [instructional leadership](#), as well as [teaching cases](#) and the updated [educator evaluation crosswalk](#).

Other updated resources include:

[Learning Supports](#) Module

[Higher Education](#) Module

[Instruction](#) Module

[Coaching](#) Module

[Episode #8: Teams Working Towards Inclusive Instructional Practices](#) Podcast