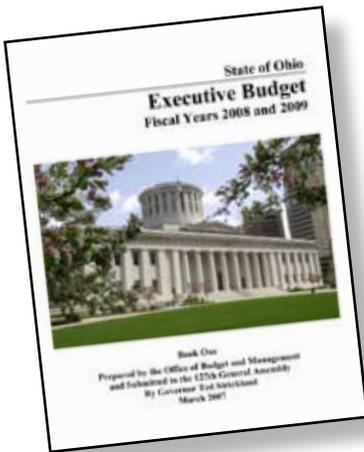


# Looking At The ISSUES

March 23, 2007



## The “16” in P-16: From the Governor’s Executive Budget Proposal

(To) dramatically increase the number of students in Ohio’s colleges and universities by broadening access and ensuring that those who attend succeed and graduate with a degree that counts.- Turnaround Ohio Initiatives

It is known in the Governor’s Executive Budget for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 as the Regents’ Program Series 03, a technical term for programs rich in future promise for Ohio.

This “promise” comes from the section’s tagline, Pre-Kindergarten through Sixteen Preparation and Access- a new and official recognition of Ohio’s need to evolve a P-16 way of thinking. The first of these programs, College Readiness and Access (03.01) heavily underscores the “16” in P-16 and many of its recommendations deal directly with programs and approaches already operating in Stark.

Essentially, the Executive Recommendations will:

- Support early assessment testing and promote collaboration between primary/secondary education and higher education;
- Increase funding for the Ohio College Access Network (OCAN) by providing additional state funds for a new Challenge Grant Program;
- Support funding for college readiness efforts in cooperation with institutions of higher education such as the Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education (OACHE); and
- Support the expansion of the Early College High School Program with an additional \$750,000 per year.<sup>1</sup>

The budget proposal for College Readiness & Access is \$12,655,425 yearly for both fiscal year 2008 and 2009. This is good news for Stark County as both an OCAN and Early College High School site. Additional

## Looking At The Week

### OPEG Presentation on Issues

Issues will be the subject of a presentation by Dr. Joseph Rochford at the Ohio Program Evaluators Group (OPEG) Spring Exchange in Columbus this May as that organization looks at innovative ways to communicate and report on data and information. OPEG was founded in 1980 and now has over 200 members from mental health, education, health, criminal justice, and other human service organizations in Ohio.

### Committee Envisions 21st Century Skills

Canton City Schools held the second meeting of its Driving Beyond Excellence Committee on Thursday. Over 80 educators and community members are working to envision what Canton’s students need to be able to know and do to thrive in the 21st Century.

collaborations between our higher education and K-12 institutions could find support “through the development of pilot projects focused on increasing student access to and retention in higher education for students in under-represented populations” as proposed in the budget.

The Executive Budget will now go to the legislature. While it is debated and considered, legislators should know that Stark County stands fully ready to help pioneer new and innovative P-16 approaches.

<sup>1</sup> State of Ohio Executive Budget Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009, Board of Regents, p. 7 at: <http://www.obm.ohio.gov/budget/operating/executive/0809/#ebs>

## For Your Information

### ERIC Accepts P-16 Book One

The Stark Education Partnership’s *P-16: The Last Education Reform, Book One – Reflections on School Restructuring and the Establishment of Local Preschool through College Compacts* has been accepted for inclusion (ED495436) in the U.S. Department of Education’s Education Resource Information Center (ERIC). With 1.2 million bibliographic records, ERIC is the largest digital education library in the world. Visit <http://www.eric.ed.gov>.

