

May 18, 2007

Looking At The Week

P-16 Proposals Reviewed

Dr. Joe Rochford met in Columbus Thursday, May 17 as part of a Partnership for Continued Learning committee reviewing proposals from regions hoping to establish P-16 Councils. Initial planning grants of \$10,000 each will be given to five regions by the state.

Harvard Education Grantmakers Institute

Dr. Adrienne O'Neill attended the Harvard Education Grantmakers Institute May 15-18, 2007. The institute is sponsored by Grantmakers for Education (GFE), a national organization of over 200 philanthropies whose mission is to strengthen philanthropy's capacity to improve educational outcomes for all students. The Stark Education Partnership is a GFE member.

Looking At The

ISSUES



Higher Education in Ohio: At a Turning Point?

"This legislation marks a significant turning point for higher education in Ohio" –Governor Ted Strickland on the earlier House passage of H.B. 2.

The Ohio House and Senate concurred on May 9th with very little fanfare on Substitute H.B. 2. Signed by the governor on Tuesday, May 15, the bill substantially alters the role of the Ohio Board of Regents, the state's higher education coordinating body. Simply put this bill:

- Makes the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents an appointee of the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, instead of an appointee of the Board of Regents.
- Transfers the current powers and duties of the Board of Regents to the Chancellor.
- Makes the Board of Regents an advisory board to the Chancellor.
- Requires the Chancellor to make recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor for improvements in higher education.

The Senate version of the bill also contained some significant additions. Among these is a requirement that the chancellor report to the General Assembly by September 28, 2007 on how to increase access to higher education, make college more affordable and keep students in Ohio after graduation.

The term of the Chancellor is also limited for the first time to five years, subject to reappointment by the governor, and regents' terms are reduced from nine to six years.

To read Substitute H.B. 2 in its entirety, go to http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=127_HB_0002.