

# Looking At The ISSUES

November 16, 2007

## Public Given Opportunity to Comment on University System Master Plan

*For months, leaders from across Ohio have been engaged in working to develop the goals and strategies for the University System of Ohio's 10 year plan. I want to begin to share the proposed goals for our higher education system with all Ohioans so this truly will be a collective vision. – Chancellor Eric Fingerhut*

It will impact all state higher education institutions, including Stark State and Kent Stark, neighboring Kent Main and the University of Akron. By March 31<sup>st</sup>, under law, a new 10 year plan to chart the future of higher education must be presented to the governor and general assembly by the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. There has been much speculation as to what such a plan might contain but earlier this month, Fingerhut took the step of releasing some proposed goals and anticipated performance measures. One such goal deals with educational attainment:

*The University System of Ohio will lead the development of a highly educated workforce capable of meeting the needs of existing enterprises and creatively leading the development and growth of new enterprises.*

Success is to be measured by – 1) total postsecondary enrollment; 2) total degrees and certificates awarded; 3) total undergraduate enrollees age 25 and older; 4) total undergraduate degrees awarded to first generation college students

Another goal deals with quality: *The University System of Ohio will be a flexible and efficient higher education provider known for the excellence of the teaching and learning of its faculty and students and acknowledged by Ohio's taxpayers, business leaders, and national and international experts as a successful model for multi-institution systems.*

Measurements for success are – 1) graduation rate compared to expected graduation rate; 2) number of students and faculty receiving major national and international awards; 3) number of entering students in the top 20% of their class or top 20% ACT/ SAT; 4) percent of facilities coded as satisfactory or needing minor rehabilitation

Further goals are planned to be released on November 16th and 26th of this month. Significantly, Ohioans are asked to respond and post comments on the state web site concerning the goals and their measures. This can be done at: <http://universitysystem.ohio.gov/master-plan/index.php>



## In The News

Chad Wick, President and CEO of KnowledgeWorks Foundation, recently announced that GlenOak High School was among one of seven semifinalists for the 2007 Richard W. Riley Award recognizing Schools as Centers of Community. Such schools are open to community use and collaborate with community resources to support student and community success.