



Success

Timely tips to improve student achievement

February 2020

Olentangy Local students collaborate on museum about slavery

Olentangy Local (Delaware) Orange Middle School students, inspired by The New York Times' 1619 project, created a museum in their school by using original source documents, writing poems and creating artwork about the history of slavery. Five American history classes worked on the project, which was displayed through the winter break and will be displayed at the district's One Community Conference in February. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU607>.

Teacher uses art, cartooning to reinforce lessons

Students in **Patricia Falsetto's** social studies class in Arizona engaged in a lesson on government finance through art and cartooning. After seeing students respond to a political cartoon in their textbook, Falsetto broke the class into groups to draw their own cartoons, which engaged them in the topic and demonstrated the information they retained from the lessons. For more, go to <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU608>.

Auburn Career Center teams with Painesville City Local to offer on-site technical credentials

Auburn Career Center and **Painesville City Local (Lake)** are working with local manufacturers to introduce its freshmen and sophomore students to the manufacturing industry and offer the Certified Production Technician credential. The program will begin in the 2020-21 school year with on-site courses that are part of the regular school schedule. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU609>.

Good digital citizenship for students and staff

School leaders need to prioritize digital safety awareness among staff and teach students how to be good digital citizens, writes **Matthew Joseph**, director of curriculum, instruction and assessment at **Leicester Public Schools** in Massachusetts. For more, go to <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU610>.

District offers workshops to boost parent engagement

The **School District of Philadelphia** is improving parent engagement through its family engagement workshops available to parents on topics such as reinforcing students' math skills, fostering a growth mindset and helping with homework. The initiative is part of a larger effort to engage families of economically disadvantaged students. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU611>.

Is teacher burnout preventable?

In this blog post, **Naphtali Hoff** shares ways teachers can stave off burnout by focusing on their physical, mental, and social and emotional health. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU612>.

Student achievement in-depth

Each month, **Success** brings you a research brief or in-depth article to discuss with board members and administrators.

Five K-12 trends to watch in 2020

Journalists **Linda Jacobson, Roger Riddell and Naaz Modan** discuss new approaches to assessment, concerns over security and privacy, and reimagining what defines classrooms and instruction as factors that will drive education in the coming year.

Continued innovations and shifts in assessment

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) gave states and districts permission to try new assessment models in response to concerns students were being over-tested and that schools and policymakers had come to place too much emphasis on test scores to measure student and school success.

Only four states are participating in ESSA's innovative assessment initiative so far, but efforts to exercise that freedom in other ways are likely to grow. The state of Washington, for example, has now approved seven pathways toward earning a high school diploma — not all of which include passing a test. Other states, including Georgia and Nebraska, are de-emphasizing end-of-year tests by measuring students' proficiency levels on interim tests throughout the year.

While some experts are predicting the beginning of a “whole-child era,” attention will also continue to shift toward understanding reliable ways to assess nonacademic areas, such as social-emotional learning and the arts.

Clashes between safety efforts and student privacy

Parents and students may not fully understand the level of monitoring, surveillance and data collection that occurs in schools in an effort to identify those who may have the potential to harm others or themselves. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, the number of school districts purchasing social media monitoring software is increasing.

And in the U.S. Senate last fall, Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) introduced a bill that includes a requirement for schools to operate “a technology protection measure that detects online activities of minors who are at risk of committing self-harm or extreme violence against others.”

Privacy experts warn, however, that the proposed legislation would require districts to spend time and money on unproven violence prevention strategies. “This broad language could encourage schools to collect as much information as possible about students, requiring already-overwhelmed faculty and administrators to spend countless hours sifting through contextually harmless student data — hours that could be better spent engaging with students directly,” according to an article from the Future of Privacy Forum.

To read the full article which contains all five trends, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU613>. Watch for information about an extended interview with author, Linda Jacobson about this report.

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