



Senate Education Committee
Senate Bill 19 Testimony
Ohio School Boards Association

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit interested party testimony on Senate Bill 19 on behalf of the Ohio School Boards Association. OSBA represent boards of education for public school districts, career technical education centers and educational service centers across Ohio.

First, we want to thank Senator Brenner for his continued leadership on this topic and for his willingness to listen to input from education stakeholders. OSBA truly appreciates the thoughtful way this legislation has evolved. We know that improving math achievement across the state is a top priority for both lawmakers and local school leaders, and we share that goal.

At OSBA, our legislative platform is grounded in the belief that every child can learn, and every child will learn if the conditions are right. Those conditions depend on strong partnerships between students, parents, schools and communities with everyone playing a role in student success. Expanding professional development opportunities for teachers and school leaders, providing model policies and implementation guidelines, and developing a list of high-quality instructional materials will help to give educators the tools necessary to help students succeed.

We appreciate the provision that allows districts to use disadvantaged pupil impact aid funds toward professional development in math instruction. This is an important change giving schools flexibility to invest in training that supports teachers and benefits students.

We also appreciate the recognition of the need to postpone implementation to the 2026–2027 school year. This additional year gives districts this time to plan carefully, train staff and ensure an effective rollout. Thoughtful implementation is key to achieving real improvement.

As we continue this work, OSBA would like to emphasize the importance of maintaining local control in curriculum decisions. Local school boards know their students, families, teachers, and communities best. While we support ODEW's effort to identify high-quality

instructional materials, districts must have the flexibility to choose the curriculum that best meets their local needs. Local control ensures that curriculum decisions reflect each community's unique priorities while still aligning with statewide goals for student success.

In closing, we want to again thank Senator Brenner and this committee for your focus on strengthening math instruction and supporting Ohio's students. OSBA is committed to working with you to ensure that every student in Ohio has access to a high-quality education that prepares them for success.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please reach out with any questions you may have.