



Success

Timely tips to improve student achievement

June 2022

Preschool funding relatively low in Ohio, study finds

A recent study by the National Institution for Early Education Research found that per-student spending in Ohio for preschool-age students ranks 33rd among all states. "Ohio is not within reach of serving at least 70% of 4-year-olds across state preschool, Head Start and special education," the researchers wrote, adding that no funds received from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program went to preschools. For more, go to <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU782>.

Reading gets a boost from mixed-reality glasses

Struggling readers can get reading support through the use of mixed-reality glasses, which display supplementary content to help boost reading comprehension, researchers from East Carolina University say. Through eye-movement tracking, glasses detect when a student is stuck on a word or concept and display audiovisual explanatory content. For more, go to <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU783>.

Mobile game lets middle-schoolers explore bio jobs

SkillsGapp, a Greenville, South Carolina-based developer of gamified career-exploration apps, is working with middle schools in Greenville and Hartsville, South Carolina, to pilot its new app, which introduces students to life sciences careers through virtual challenges. The challenges include testing and receiving Food and Drug Administration approval for new medicines, overseeing the high-tech manufacturing process to make them and administering new drugs to patients. As students play, the app provides information about future job opportunities with employers and allows students to build a "résumé" in the game. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU784>.

Moving away from remedial courses boosts graduation rates

California community colleges are placing fewer students in remedial classes, a move that has increased course completion and graduation rates. The state changed its strategy after research showed that Latino and Black students made up a majority of those placed in remedial classes, which was shown to delay or deter degree completion. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU785>.

How to shift more learning choices to students

Students benefit from having more options for how they learn, according to educational consultant **James Fester**. Fester shares a four-part structure for adopting more free-choice learning in the classroom, including giving an equal voice to students. For more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU786>.

Student achievement in-depth

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

What students need to know about digital citizenship

Despite growing up as digital natives, some educators believe that students need lessons and guidance on digital citizenship now more than ever. Dr. **Carrie James**, Harvard Graduate School of Education principal investigator at Project Zero, defines digital citizenship as “the responsible use of technology to learn, create and participate.” James emphasizes that different rings of responsibility exist that direct attention in digital decision-making to “care for the self, close friends and family, near communities and the broader world.”

Widely associated with internet safety, digital citizenship now encompasses more than safety alone. Evaluating information and being able to decipher credible from noncredible sources of information is essential to K-12 students’ safety and community well-being. Educators must combat less-than-credible sources of information because students won’t innately be able to identify these sources as such without guidance and instruction.

Nearly half of students in grades four-eight (40%) connected or chatted with a stranger online, according to a study by the Center for Cyber Safety and Education. Of those, 53% gave the stranger their phone numbers, and 15% tried to meet the stranger in person. Likewise, 2 in 3 adults reported that fabricated news greatly confuses them about current events. These statistics have school districts asking how they can better educate students to understand internet safety as a key component of digital citizenship.

Mike Ribble, author of “The Digital Citizenship Handbook for School Leaders and Digital Citizenship in Schools,” explains that districts hoping to improve their digital citizenship instruction can use the following framework to empower students:

- **Digital access** ensures the equitable distribution of technology and digital resources.
- **Digital commerce** focuses on buying, selling and banking on digital platforms.
- **Digital communication and collaboration** as the electronic exchange of information.
- **Digital etiquette** refers to the standards of online conduct.
- **Digital fluency** enables people to make good decisions online.
- **Digital health and welfare** centers on users’ physical and psychological well-being online.
- **Digital law** refers to the understanding of online actions and policies around digital behavior.
- **Digital rights and responsibility** means the freedom to use the internet and digital tools while maintaining a responsibility to inform adults of potential problems.
- **Digital security and privacy** focuses on awareness of cyberthreats and working to prevent them.

To access study links and learn more about digital citizenship, please visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/SU787>.

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