

Are You Ready for 2014–2015? Top Tips to Get Your School/Governing Board Started

- 1. Start your meetings with the big picture.** Create a timeline for your successful transition to a college and career ready framework for your district. Start every school/governing board meeting with a report from your administration about the progress of your transition plan.
- 2. Review curriculum crosswalks.** Once your board adopts the new curriculum standards, teachers and administrators should carefully review and implement the “crosswalks” that compare Ohio’s new College and Career Ready Standards to the existing curriculum guidelines. Reach these by clicking on each of the core subject model curricula listed at the link below. Start with the K–2 standards, which should be implemented immediately.
<http://standardscrosswalks.education.ohio.gov>
- 3. Study the simulations.** Closely review the new simulated letter grades for your school or district to understand the impact of the proposed accountability system. Pay close attention to the percentage of your students that are presently scoring “proficient” or below on current state assessments. Identify what strategies can move students to the “accelerated” level or above in preparation for the new assessments that will be required in 2014–2015.
<http://gradesimulations.education.ohio.gov>
- 4. Evaluate.** Start talking with teachers and administrators about creating educator evaluation systems that conform to the frameworks adopted by the State Board of Education. Adopt an evaluation policy by July 1, 2013, to recognize and reward excellent teaching and education leadership. Complete the teacher evaluation gap analysis tool to determine your readiness for the new system. Review and actively discuss the Ohio Principal Evaluation System and Ohio Teacher Evaluation System to determine if your school or district will implement the State framework or develop a local version to meet the statutory deadlines required.
<http://evaluation.education.ohio.gov>

Consult with your administration to send a board delegate to the FREE Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Educator Evaluation Symposium on May 25, 2012, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.
[http://ohioeducatoreval.wordpress.com./](http://ohioeducatoreval.wordpress.com/)
- 5. Embrace technology.** Instead of banning smartphones or tablets, talk with your students, faculty, staff and parents about responsible use of technology to enhance student learning. What is your current board policy on the responsible use of technology by students?
- 6. Review assessment survey.** Review the Technology Readiness Survey Tool released in May by the ODE and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and

Careers (PARCC) upon completion by your administration. Discuss the status of the technology hardware in your school or district now so that you can prepare for what you will need for the next generation of online assessments.

7. **Engage!** Actively engage students, teachers, principals, parents, business partners and other community stakeholders in Ohio's education reform movement.
 - a. Be transparent about how your schools are successful and what opportunities you have to grow.
 - b. Use the data simulations that have been publicly released to engage stakeholders in work sessions.
 - c. Use the Start Ready, Graduate Ready PowerPoint information shared by ODE as an instructional tool for your community.
<http://presentations.education.ohio.gov>
 - d. Create a timeline for your successful transition to a college and career ready framework for your district and schools.
 - e. Partner with professional organizations and stakeholders.

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