



# MAYFIELD

## EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Quality Education Quality Staff  
[www.mayfieldea.ohea.us](http://www.mayfieldea.ohea.us)

News and Views

DECEMBER 2015

### Mission Statement

Protect the contractual rights of all its members and to build an effective partnership in an environment of professionalism and mutual respect in order to promote the educational goals of the Mayfield City School District.



from the President

December 2015

Dear MEA Members!

On December 10, 2015, the President of the United States signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act. This bipartisan bill passed the US House and Senate with 85% of the vote. Though not a perfect bill, this effectively ends the failed era of No Child Left Behind (“No Child Left Untested”) and will bring the focus back to what really matters - whether all students have access to what they need to learn.

These sweeping changes will begin a real change in learning opportunities for all students. As their educators, we must be prepared to lead that change to reshape and redefine what learning looks like for our students.

Here are some of the key victories from the Every Student Succeeds Act.

- This bill gives back to states the responsibility for determining how to use federally required tests for accountability purposes. States must include these tests in their accountability systems, but will be able to determine the weight of those tests in their systems. (MEA Position: Connecting student standardized test



scores to teacher and support staff evaluations does not improve student achievement.)

- This bill recognizes that states, working with school districts, teachers, and others, have the responsibility for creating accountability systems to ensure all students are learning and prepared for success. (MEA Position: Evaluation systems should be bargained at the local level and maintained through collaborative committee work.)
- This bill affirms that states decide what academic standards they will adopt, without interference from the federal government. (MEA Position: A “one size fits all” system of standards shouldn’t come from the legislators in the federal government. Standards should come from teachers and support staff working with students.)
- This bill provides resources to states and school districts to implement various activities to support teachers, principals, and other educators, including allowable uses of funds for high quality induction programs for new teachers, ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers, and programs to recruit new educators to the profession. (MEA Position: Professional development, resources, and training should be offered to all teachers and support staff.)
- This bill allows, but does not require, states to develop and implement teacher evaluation systems. This bill eliminates the definition of a highly qualified teacher– which has proven burdensome to states and school districts– and provides states with the opportunity to define this term. (MEA Position: Evaluation systems should be bargained at the local level and maintained through collaborative committee work. Teachers and support staff should not have to jump through hoops to become highly qualified.)
- This bill recognizes the unique challenges that homeless students face and provides the necessary supports for homeless students to enroll, attend, and succeed in school. (MEA Position: All students should have access to a quality public education.)
- This bill ensures that Federal funds can be allocated for early childhood education, by clarifying that states, school districts, and schools can spend ESSA dollars to improve early childhood education programs. (MEA Position: Access to early educational opportunities are a great investment for future generations.)

Though some key issues, such as charter school accountability and unconstitutional public school funding methods, were left unaddressed to my satisfaction, this bipartisan bill is a step in the right direction. Following my message to you is a further breakdown of the bill compared to No Child Left Behind.

I would personally like to wish you and your loved ones a joyous Holiday Season. Please rest, relax and enjoy your days off!

John Paydo

MEA President

## No Child Left Behind vs. Every Student Succeeds Act

|                       | <i>No Child Left Behind<br/>2002-2015</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <i>Every Student Succeeds Act<br/>2015-Current</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Testing</i>        | The law required states to test students on math and English every year in the third through eighth grades, and then again once in high school. It also required at least one science test in elementary, middle and high school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | States must still test students in the same grades but will now have flexibility in how and when they administer those tests. For example, a single annual assessment can be broken down into a series of smaller tests. There's also an emphasis on finding different kinds of tests that more accurately measure what students are learning.                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Common Core</i>    | The 2002 law did not address the Common Core standards specifically, since they didn't emerge until later that decade. And they emerged not from the federal government, but from a state-led effort to define what the states should be teaching and how it should be taught. But the Obama administration did play a role in expanding Common Core through waivers to No Child Left Behind requirements that encouraged states to adopt the standards.                                                                                                                            | The new law allows states to adopt Common Core but does not require it. In fact, it requires the Education Department to remain neutral: "The Secretary shall not attempt to influence, incentivize, or coerce State adoption of the Common Core State Standards developed under the Common Core State Standards Initiative or any other academic standards common to a significant number of States, or assessments tied to such standard."                   |
| <i>Accountability</i> | One of the fundamental principles of the 2002 law – indeed, the principle that gave the law its name – was that schools had to improve the performance of all students. To do that, it required school districts to break out test scores and other measures for minority subgroups to make sure they were making progress each year. In practice, many states found that goal to be unrealistic and got around them by either creating "super subgroups" that lumped all disadvantaged students together, or changing to more subjective measures like parent/teacher involvement. | The new law leaves accountability goals almost entirely up to the states. States must submit their accountability plans to the Department of Education, which still has a limited oversight role. And there are "guardrails" defining broadly what the accountability goals need to include, and test scores and graduation rates must be given "much greater weight" than the more subjective measures.                                                       |
| <i>Remedies</i>       | States that wanted their fair share of federal funding were required to fix schools that failed to improve test scores adequately. Those "interventions" started out with softer measures, but after five years the school had a limited number of dire choices: fire the principal and most of the staff, convert to a charter school, lengthen the school day or year, or close down the school entirely.                                                                                                                                                                         | The new law is much more specific about which schools need intervention but much less specific on what those interventions should be. Schools at the bottom 5% of assessment scores (as defined by the state), high schools that graduate less than 67% of students, or schools where subgroups are consistently underperforming would be considered failing and could be subject to state takeover – although the law doesn't say what the state needs to do. |
| <i>Spending</i>       | The education law sets policy, and does not spend money directly – that's done through annual spending bills. The original                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | The law authorizes the spending of \$24.9 billion in 2016, again subject to the spending bill now being finalized by                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|                       | law authorized up to \$32 billion in spending in 2002 dollars, but Congress never spent anywhere close to that, appropriating just \$23 billion in 2015.                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Congress. According to the Congressional Budget Office, that cost would grow to \$25.8 billion in 2020.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <i>Bipartisanship</i> | The architects of the 2002 law were on opposite sides of the Capitol and on opposite ends of the political spectrum: Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio (later the House speaker), and Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass. The vote on final passage was 381-41 in the House and 87-10 in the Senate. Bush signed the bill into law at a high school in Boehner's congressional district. | The lead sponsors in the Senate were Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., and Patty Murray, D-Wash, and in the House were Reps. John Kline, R-Minn., and Bobby Scott, D-Va. It passed the House 359-64 and the Senate 85-12. President Obama signed it into law on December 10, 2015 |

School Boards Make a  
**Difference**



*You're Invited!*

*January is School Board Appreciation Month. The MEA will recognize and thank our Mayfield Board of Education at their January meeting. Please join us!*

**Wednesday, January 6, 2016**  
**3:45 – 4:15 PM**

*Mayfield Middle School Media Center*



Thank you to the following MEA Members  
for attending the OEA Fall Representative  
Assembly in Columbus on Saturday,  
December 5<sup>th</sup>!

Cara Bokovitz  
Mike Bokovitz  
Cheryl D'Amico  
Dave Ehrbar  
Marty Mackar  
John Paydo  
Kerri Setlock  
Kim Zanella





# Cleveland Clinic

**Opening January 6th, 2016!**

**Wildcat Health & Wellness Center**

Now, you and your family can get convenient, confidential care at no-cost right on the Mayfield City Schools campus!

The Wildcat Health & Wellness Center for the Mayfield City School District will offer expert services from Cleveland Clinic for:

- Annual Mayfield Schools Wellness Exams
- Back Pain
- Bladder infections
- Bronchitis
- Check-ups
- Chronic disease management (blood pressure, weight, etc.)
- Coughs, colds, sinus problems, sore throats
- Ear aches
- Injuries (burns, sprains, strains, cuts, scrapes)
- Headaches
- Flu symptoms
- Musculoskeletal problems
- Pink eye
- Preventive care
- Skin rashes

**Monday, Wednesday and Thursday  
7am - 5pm**

**Wildcat Health & Wellness Center  
6098 Wilson Mills Rd | Mayfield Village, OH 44143**

**440-995-7600**

Appointments accepted, but not required. Walk-in patients welcome!

*Wishing you a wonderful, restful holiday season!  
We'll see everyone in 2016!*

*Send News items to:*  
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