

# Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review

For the week ending August 11, 2023

## Monday, August 7, 2023

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced \$61 million in funding for 27 new traffic safety projects in numerous counties across the state.

This round of funding from the Ohio Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Improvement Program includes the installation of Restricted Crossing U-Turns (RCUT), roundabouts, sidewalks, and other safety measures.

"Safe roadways are essential to connecting people and businesses across Ohio," said Governor DeWine. "With the investments made in these projects, we will help save countless lives on Ohio's roads."



**Governor DeWine announced that he is nominating Kara B. Wentz to serve as the Director of the new Department of Children and Youth.**

"Kara Wentz has spent her career advocating for children, and I know she shares my vision of ensuring that all Ohio children have the opportunities they need to live up to their full potential and live their version of the American dream," said Governor DeWine. "For the first time ever, we will have an entire department whose employees are focused every single day on the health, well-being, and opportunities available to all of Ohio's children. Together, we will help make Ohio the best state in the nation to start and raise a family."

Governor DeWine announced that Giles Allen will serve as his Director of Legislative Affairs. Allen currently serves as the Governor's Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs and succeeds Aaron Crooks, who was recently named Chief of Staff for Lt. Governor Jon Husted.

"Giles Allen has been a part of my team for over a decade. As our recent biennial budget showed, my administration has a good relationship with the General Assembly that has yielded significant policy achievements - from mental health to growing our workforce to education and literacy to our state parks and protecting our water," said Governor DeWine. "Giles Allen has played a significant role in working with the legislature and is the right person to continue to lead efforts to advocate for and help pass my policy priorities in the General Assembly."

Governor DeWine announced that \$6.2 million in Roadwork Development Grant funding to Fayette County to support roadwork improvements to Bluegrass Boulevard in Jefferson Township. The Ohio Controlling Board approved the grant during its Monday meeting.

## Tuesday, August 8, 2023

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"Today's investment is about much more than road improvements," said Governor

DeWine. "It's a demonstration of our commitment to Ohio's communities, businesses, and residents. We are doing what it takes to create and bring jobs to our state and support our communities in their expansion endeavors."



**Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted joined a roundtable in Akron to discuss the \$125 million included in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 operating budget allotted for the creation of innovation hubs throughout the state. The initiative aims to increase research and development, create new jobs, preserve existing jobs, and support improved economic conditions throughout Ohio. Ohio currently has Innovation Districts in Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati.**

## Wednesday, August 9, 2023

Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted issued the following statements regarding the one-year anniversary of the federal CHIPS Act being signed into law:

"In Ohio, we value cutting-edge innovation and want Ohioans to continue to be part of the solution in producing critical supply chains," said Governor DeWine. "That's why we were proud to be an early supporter of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022. We applaud members of the Ohio delegation for their support of the legislation and our general assembly for being a leader in enacting state legislation to attract the semiconductor industry to Ohio, making Ohio the Silicon Heartland."

"The CHIPS Act was an important component to ensuring that Ohio, and the nation, could compete on a global scale for computer chip manufacturing," said Lt. Governor Husted. "As we mark the anniversary of its passage, I want to thank our congressional delegation and the general assembly for their collaboration and support, and I want to recognize the work that's been done so far to strengthen our domestic supply chain, prepare our workforce and spur innovation in an effort to support the growing semiconductor industry that's taking root right here in Ohio. I urge the federal government to deploy the funding from the CHIPS Act with as few regulations as possible and as soon as possible."

## Thursday, August 10, 2023

At Columbus Montessori School, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine unveiled the ReadOhio initiative, a statewide effort to encourage improved literacy skills for all ages, including the



implementation of curriculum aligned with the science of reading in k-12 schools. The science of reading refers to research that has been conducted for decades by scientists and literacy experts that shows there is an actual science behind learning to read and that certain skills need to be taught, including phonics.



**Lt. Governor Husted spoke at the Industry Sector Partnership Grantee Meeting in Columbus. ISP grantees will continue to come together to discuss their work and collaborate on new ideas and projects.**



## Friday, August 11, 2023

Governor DeWine continued his tour to promote the ReadOhio Initiative, observing lessons aligned with the science of reading at Warren G. Harding High School Preschool in Trumbull County.

Governor Mike DeWine today announced Ohio's new Teacher Apprenticeship Program designed to help Ohio address the educator shortage while providing an additional career pathway for those wanting to become teachers.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), Ohio Department of Education (ODE), and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) partnered to develop the program standards and add the occupation of K-12 teacher to the registered apprenticeships in Ohio. Ohio's Teacher Apprenticeship model is designed to strengthen partnerships between K-12 schools, their communities, and the educator preparation programs in Ohio's institutions of higher education by incorporating leading practices in educator preparation with the rigors of a registered apprenticeship program.

"This is an innovative way to help those already working in schools, such as teachers' aids, library specialists, or bus drivers, obtain their teaching license," said Governor DeWine. "School districts are able to identify potential future teachers who are already a part of their communities and provide them the support and guidance they need to succeed."

"Teachers all across Ohio are currently instructing students at the more than 120 pre-apprenticeship programs, but ironically, until now, teaching has been a non-apprenticable occupation," said Lt. Governor Jon Husted. "At a time where we are facing a critical need to fill these positions, preparing teachers through the apprenticeship model will help deliver additional qualified teachers for the classroom."

For more information on the Teacher Apprenticeship Program, visit <https://higher.ed.ohio.gov/educator-apprenticeship>.

Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted issued statements on the death of former State Representative Chuck Calvert of Medina County:

"Fran and I are saddened to learn of the death of Chuck Calvert. Chuck served the people of Medina County in numerous capacities, from school board, to county GOP Chairman, to State Representative. In Columbus, Chuck was a well-respected Chairman of the House Finance Committee whose good fiscal stewardship of our state budget kept Ohio's economy growing. He later served as Chairman of the Ohio Elections Commission. Fran and I extend our deepest sympathies to Chuck's wife, Sandy, and his family," said Governor DeWine.

"Chuck Calvert served as Finance Chairman in the House of Representatives during my first term as Speaker, so we worked a lot of long hours together. Chuck was a wonderful man, a true public servant, and a friend. He loved serving Medina County, and he was a genuine public servant who deeply cared about advancing Ohio economically and educationally. Tina and I express our condolences to his wife, Sandy, and their family," said Lt. Governor Husted.



## Governor DeWine Announces New Teacher Apprenticeship Program

August 15, 2023

(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—Governor Mike DeWine announced Ohio's new Teacher Apprenticeship Program designed to help Ohio address the educator shortage while providing an additional career pathway for those wanting to become teachers.

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Serving as the program sponsor, ODHE will collaborate with ODE and ODJFS to provide support to Ohio's K-12 school districts and institutions of higher education as they develop

apprenticeships that:

Provide flexibility to allow for students starting at different levels of experience and schooling to be successful.

Provide credit for prior experience to count for both related instruction and on-the-job training requirements.

Provide wage increases as skills and experience are attained.

Pair candidates with teachers who will model best practices while giving teachers an opportunity to take on a mentorship role while remaining in the classroom.

"This program is meant to replicate other successful programs where dedicated staff such as paraprofessionals, custodians, and bus drivers are recruited by their school districts to complete an apprenticeship and become a teacher," said ODHE Chancellor Randy Gardner. "And it is another example of working together to give

those interested in becoming a teacher one more way to do so."

"The Teacher Apprenticeship Program provides a remarkable opportunity for districts and schools to grow their supply of quality teachers to support student success," said Dr. Chris Woolard, interim superintendent of public instruction. "It is just one initiative being implemented to increase the supply of qualified educators in Ohio."

In addition, candidates participating in the teacher apprenticeship program will be eligible to apply for the newly announced Grow Your Own Teacher scholarships, which provides up to \$7,500 per year for four years in exchange for committing to teach in a qualifying Ohio school for at least four years.

For more information on the Teacher Apprenticeship Program, visit <https://higher.ed.ohio.gov/educator-apprenticeship>.