

For Immediate Release
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Ohio First in Nation to Establish Statewide Metrics for Performance of Educator Programs at Colleges

Criteria Will Measure Contribution of Teacher Graduates to State's Needs

COLUMBUS – Representatives from Ohio's public and private colleges joined Chancellor Fingerhut on a statewide press call today to announce their support of the new Ohio Educator Preparation Metrics. These metrics will form the basis of authorization of colleges in the state to graduate prospective Ohio teachers. The statewide agreement on these measurements is the first of its kind nationwide.

"To prepare students who can be successful in college, we need educators who can teach the skills and knowledge needed in the 21st century," said Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut. "The framework announced today will help ensure Ohio's dedicated colleges of teacher education meet that high standard."

The criteria include placement of graduates in hard-to-staff Ohio school districts, graduate accomplishment in classroom residency, and compilation of in-classroom teacher performance assessments by institution. The measurements will be applied universally to every one of Ohio's 50 colleges of teacher education.

"State University Education Deans (SUED) supports the development of statewide metrics, holding all educator preparation programs who wish to operate in the state of Ohio to standards that will ensure quality, accountability, and continuous improvement. There is a commitment on behalf of the Board of Regents to ensure that the metrics are applied fairly, uniformly, and with transparency. Ohio has a system of education that includes both public and private institutions of higher education who have worked with the state to embrace a statewide and national agenda for reforming education," said Chair of SUED, Dr. Renée A. Middleton. "These metrics align with statewide goals of education reform and national accreditation initiatives. Both SUED and Ohio Association for Private Colleges of Teacher Education (OAPCTE) believe that it is important for all of Ohio's educator preparation programs to ensure that we prepare the most effective teachers, match them with highly seasoned mentors, place them in schools and districts that need them the most, and provide them with tools and guidance for continued success. We must hold ourselves to the highest level of accountability to ensure that Ohio's students can thrive on a local, state, national, and global level."

The creation of annual, performance reports on teacher education colleges was required for public institutions under House Bill 1 of the 128th General Assembly. As the work on the reporting format began, the Ohio Association for Private Colleges of Teacher Education joined their public college counterpart, the State University Education Deans, and the Ohio Board of Regents in the creation of a single, statewide standard for quality teacher

education. Today's list of metric categories is the culmination of that collaborative work. The Ohio Department of Education also played a key role in advising the organizations throughout the process.

"We felt that a unified system of accountability and quality assurance for teacher education will benefit Ohio students and their families," said OAPCTE president Mifrando Obach. "The decision to join our public college counterparts was easy to make because we were part of the conversation about these metrics with the State University Education Deans and the Ohio Board of Regents. It was difficult work but we had a strong history of collaboration among us to shore up our efforts."

Going forward, the organizations will work to finalize data collection and quantitative calculation procedures for each metric with the first comprehensive report to be issued in December of 2012.

The full listing of metrics is available online at: (link will be live by 9 a.m.)

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The Ohio Board of Regents is the state agency that coordinates higher education in Ohio. The agency is directed by a Chancellor, who is a member of the Governor of Ohio's cabinet. The Chancellor, with the advice of the nine-member Board of Regents, provides policy advice to the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly; implements Ohio's 10-year Strategic Plan for Higher Education; advocates and manages state funds for the University System of Ohio; and carries out state higher education policy.