

Advocacy Update!

Here is a short summary of some legislative and advocacy activities right now.
The following is from the "Ohio Fair Schools Campaign" e-mails:

- **MORE ABOUT SCHOOL FUNDING MATTERS**

School Funding Matters, an initiative of KnowledgeWorks Foundation, aims to give Ohioans the information and resources they need to understand and participate in the public dialogue about how Ohio schools are funded. The website provides background on this issue, links to other organizations working for school funding reform, and advocacy tools that can be downloaded and used locally. To visit the School Funding Matters website go to: <http://www.schoolfundingmatters.org/>.
(Summary courtesy of Julie Brinker Wijesooriya and KnowledgeWorks)

- **UPDATE ON GOVERNOR STRICKLAND'S EDUCATION REFORM PROCESS**

Governor Ted Strickland has recently released a list of 22 priorities to improve our system of public education in Ohio. The proposals cover many ideas from people who participated in the Conversation on Education and concurrent Watch Parties this summer. The proposal covers what should be expected of our schools as learning environments for students, our teachers as educators, and our administration as accountable and effective managers of resources. To read the "Roadmap for Academic Reforms". Visit: <http://www.osba-ohio.org/Files/08govroadmap.pdf>

- **ALIGNING RESOURCES WITH STUDENT LEARNING**

The Center on Reinventing Public Education at the University of Washington, released a report called "Funding Student Learning, To read the full report, visit: http://www.crpe.org/cs/crpe/view/csr_pubs/247
(Summary courtesy of Joan Platz and The LWVO Education Update for 8-27-08)

- **BRIEFING ON PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENTS**

The Forum for Education and Democracy co-sponsored a briefing on performance-based assessment in Washington D.C. The purpose of the briefing was to explore how performance based assessment "can improve the conditions for higher-quality teaching and learning in our nation's schools. " Presenters provided information that compared assessments in the U.S. to high achieving countries and showed how assessments could demonstrate higher order thinking skills and other skills needed for the 21st Century. To learn more about the presentations please visit: <http://www.forumforeducation.org/foruminaction/index.php?item=461&page=31>
(Courtesy of Joan Platz and The LWVO Education Update for 11-3-08)

The PTA Mission:

- A powerful voice for all children
- A relevant resource for families and communities
- *A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child*

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to get on a distribution list for monthly Advocacy Reports (this report can be used as is for meetings and newsletters or edit it as desired but please keep the references mentioned). 11/08