

# Official Newsletter

## WELCOME

### Dear Neighbors and Friends,

I wanted to take a moment to update you on some details in the district and what has been happening at the Statehouse. Both the House and Senate have come to an agreement for the biennium operating budget that was signed by the governor at the beginning of July. This budget has something for every Ohioan, but I am especially proud of the work done in the education space to help provide for students and teachers around the state. I have also accepted the role of vice chair of the House Higher Education Committee so I may continue to improve universities and colleges around Ohio.

As always, if you have any questions, need assistance with state agencies or would like to discuss how to improve the 52nd district, please reach out to my office at [rep52@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep52@ohiohouse.gov).



## SUPPORTING STUDENTS, PARENTS

To help make sure that no student gets left behind, the third-grade reading guarantee will assure every Ohio student receives the reading education they need, while not preventing them from moving on in their academic career.

This legislation will allow for students that would be retained to be promoted to the fourth grade, unless a parent request that their child be retained. If a student is promoted but is not currently reading at grade level, they will continue to receive reading intervention services until they are reading at an adequate level.



## SUPPORTING TEACHERS

With a steady decline of new teachers coming into the career field, I developed the Grow Your Own Teacher Program. This program will award scholarships up to \$7,500 for low-income high school seniors who commit to teaching in a qualified school for four years after graduating from a teacher training program. By awarding these qualifying individuals we can keep our trained talent right here in Ohio, help provide training for workforce shortages and provide an excellent education for Ohio students.

## SALES TAX HOLIDAY

Included in the budget is the sales tax holiday. This “holiday” is an expansion of the already existing sales tax holiday that takes place on the first weekend in August. This expansion includes increasing the spending cap to \$500 worth of goods that will be tax-free and will be extended to a week. The expanded sales tax holiday will be effective in August of 2024.

## SAFER SCHOOL ROUTES

The City of Elyria and Sheffield Township have both been awarded Safe Routes to School funds. These funds will be used to improve include sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, traffic signals upgrades and other safety enhancements. The City of Elyria received \$550,000 and Sheffield Township received \$40,000 to make future improvements.