



PSI **d**elines

May 2011

Federal Budget's Approval Sets Stage for Future Battles

By Alyson Klein (*Education Week*)

Education advocates are already bracing for protracted budget battles in the coming year, even as they sort the winners and losers in the bill approved by Congress on April 7, 2011 financing the U.S. Department of Education and the rest of the federal government through September.

The hard-fought agreement followed months of wrangling between Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives, who aimed to significantly curtail domestic discretionary spending, including for K-12 education, and the Obama administration, which sought to shelter education and other priorities.

Though a number of smaller, targeted programs ended up being eliminated or cut back over a series of stopgap spending bills, in the end just over \$1 billion was sliced from the U.S. Department of Education's discretionary budget. The final tally: \$68.5 billion for fiscal year 2011, down from \$69.8 billion in the previous fiscal year, excluding Pell Grant money.

The agreement, approved by a 260-167 vote in the House of Representatives and by 81-19 in the U.S. Senate, preserves current-year funding for key formula-grant programs, including Title I grants to districts, financed at \$14.5 billion, and special education state grants, funded at \$11.5 billion. And the president won a surprise, one-year extensions for two marquee education initiatives launched under the economic-stimulus package in 2009: the Race to the Top competitive-grant program, which will be financed at \$700 million, and Investing in Innovation, or i3, which will receive \$150 million. Still, education lobbyists expect to see a replay of the overarching federal funding debate as lawmakers tackle the spending plan for fiscal 2012, which begins Oct. 1.

"We're just going to have this fight all over again," said Joel Packer, a principal with the Raben Group, in Washington, which represents the Committee for Education Funding, a lobbying coalition. The compromise fiscal 2011 spending measure was "not a treaty to end the war, it was more like a truce to go on to the next battle," he added.

For more of this article see: <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2011/04/14/28fedbudget.html>

State Budgets and PSI

By Steve Rosenberg

It is not "new news" that State and Federal budgets are severely impacting schools. Everyone associated with schools, from teachers, administrators, health and special education staff to clerical and other ancillary personnel all feel the pinch of declining budgets. No matter your political persuasion, the cuts are impacting everyone. In the end, it is the children who will suffer the most.

PSI is dedicated to providing the highest quality service at competitive rates with the highest benefits and wages possible for our staff, given the current fiscal environment. To achieve these goals, we are convinced that the best way to provide jobs for all our staff and the services for the children who so desperately need our help, is to maintain our fees wherever possible. While this does not allow for the increases in wages that we all desire, it does allow us to continue with services keeping our staff employed and working at the schools of which we are all a part.

Time will tell how our political leaders emerge from this crisis. However, we at PSI are committed to surviving the budget cuts and contraction of some school districts so that all our staff are fully employed doing what we do best: serving the children in our schools.

We will keep everyone up to date on these pages as the state finalizes its budget numbers. Meanwhile thank you for ALL you do!

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A newsletter for the professional staff of PSI published periodically throughout the year.

Mission Statement

PSI is dedicated to providing high-quality services in a cost efficient manner to help students improve their grades, attitudes, behavior, and health. Our professional staff provides innovative resources within the fields of school health, speech/language, prevention, educational specialists and tutoring. We are committed to developing and implementing a customized service and support system to fit the educational and health service needs of students. Services are provided by PSI or a local representative.

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS

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Nancy Brewer, M.Ed., Educational Consultant

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

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HEALTH SERVICES

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NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

Ruth Harvey, M.Ed., Coordinator

PREVENTION/INTERVENTION INITIATIVES, SPECIAL PROJECTS

Karen McKelvey, M.Ed., Ed.S., Coordinator

ADMINISTRATION

Steven L. Rosenberg, Ph.D., President
Nancy Musci, Administrative Director/New Client Services

From the Desk of:

Colleen Lorber

Educational Support Services Director

YOU MADE IT! The end of the school year is here. I hope you all enjoyed your school experiences. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the students, schools, and PSI.

As we say at the end of every year...

- Remember to leave a list of current students/referrals/important items for the next school year.
- Lock up all files, test kits, materials, etc. and take home any personal items for the summer.
- If you have borrowed any PSI test kits, please return them to the office by June 24th, 2011.
- Please hand in all reports to the office (case reports, final reports, etc) by June 24th, 2011.

Testing Inventory

We will be sending both psychology staff and speech language pathologists the testing inventories this year. In the past, only the psychology staff has received these inventories and sometimes they have included the speech assessments on them. This year, we would like to start giving both psych staff and SLPs the inventories so that we can track what materials are at what schools per discipline. If there are other disciplines at your school including OTs, PTs, LAIs, and Intervention Specialists, please add any assessments they may have at the schools on this list.

One of the points of this list is to verify all materials that are in the building when we leave for the summer and what we should expect to find in the fall. Another reason is to help us anticipate testing material needs when there are updated test versions. Remember in most all cases, the schools own the testing supplies and therefore they must remain at the schools. If you have PSI testing materials, it should be indicated on the assessment and/or you know that you have the assessment on loan from PSI and it should be returned by June 24th, 2011. If you have borrowed test kits from one of your other schools, please be sure to return them to the school that owns the test kit (as listed on your test inventory).

Next Year Placements

If you do not hear from one of the Educational Support Service Team members, your assignment will remain the same. We will call you if your days have been altered (up or down) at any of the schools and if we have any questions concerning your placements for the 2011-2012 school year.

Contracts will be mailed by June 15th.

As always, if you have any questions call 1-800-841-4774 ext. 229

LOOKING AHEAD...

Mark your calendar for the following important dates for the 2011-2012 school year:

8/19/11 - Child Abuse Prevention Training (tentative date)

9/27/11 - Fall Meeting (tentative date)

From the Desk of:

Karen McKelvey

Prevention/Intervention Services & Special Projects Coordinator



Prevention/Intervention News

Despite the loss of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities funding which had provided PSI prevention programs for the Diocese of Cleveland, many schools have found a way to continue programs by using other sources of funding such as PTO, grants, or fund-raising initiatives. The REACT program remains a popular choice as well as a never-ceasing request for assistance with bullying issues. If your school should have a need for anti-drug or anti-violence programming, please have them call the PSI office or email karenmckelvey@psi-solutions.org

The following study referenced below, however, reinforces the need to have prevention/intervention programs in all schools:

Following a decade of steady declines, a new national study released this week by The Partnership at Drugfree.org indicates that teen drug and alcohol use is headed in the wrong direction, with marked increases in teen use of marijuana and ecstasy over the past three years.

The 22nd annual Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS), sponsored by MetLife Foundation, affirms a disturbing trend that has emerged among teens since 2008 and highlights that as underage drinking becomes more normalized among adolescents, parents feel unable to respond to the negative

in teen drug and alcohol use. The study surveyed 2,544 teens in both public and private schools in grades 9-12 and interviewed 831 parents nationally.

According to the three-year trend confirmed in this year's 2010 PATS data, there was a 67 percent increase in the number of teens who reported using ecstasy in the past year (from 6 percent in 2008 to 10 percent in 2010). Similarly, past-year marijuana use among teens increased by 22 percent (from 32 percent in 2008 to 39 percent in 2010). The PATS survey also found that parents feel unprepared to respond to underage drinking by their children. Almost a third of parents (28 percent) feel "there is very little parents can do to prevent their kids from trying alcohol." One in three teens (32 percent) thinks their parents would be ok if they drank beer once in a while; yet only one in ten parents agrees with teens drinking beer at a party.

As with so many challenges facing education today, a lack of funding is truly impacting our students.

Special Projects

As we come to the end of the school year, PSI Staff Development presenters have completed over 40 presentations on a myriad of topics this academic year. If your school is in need of professional development training next school year, please direct your administrator to the PSI web site: <http://psi-solutions.org/staffdevelopment.html>

All foreign language and TESOL staff: please refer to **Some Things Never Change** on page 5 for end of the year information. All of these directives apply to your job roles as well.

PSI is already preparing for professional conferences next year. We have made multiple submissions to the Ohio Special Education Leadership Conference as well as to the Ohio Association of Public Charter Schools Conference. Good luck to all presenters!

To all staff, have a healthy, happy and peaceful summer rest. The value of your work and the appreciation of your many efforts cannot ever be truly measured or expressed. Thank you for all you have done this school year.

EXPERT PARTNERS

PSI is pleased to announce our newest Expert Partners who will be collaborating with PSI to provide further unified support for the schools we serve.

School Improvement

Tim Rasinski, Ph.D. - Literacy
Barbara Duda - Mathematics



SDG Advisors

Stacey Picard and Sr. Ritamary Welsh, OSU

- Planning • Resource Development • Governance
- Marketing • Finances



Viva Spanish Language Programs
PSI's SpanishLanguageConnection

Harry L. Selner, Jr.

Mentoring Services for Principals
School Improvement through Enhanced Professional Practices
Staff Evaluation • Data Analysis

Visit www.psi-solutions.org 800-841-4774



From the Desk of:

Carol Weber

Educational Specialist Coordinator



Happy Spring! After a winter that seemed to go on forever, May flowers are finally here and the 2010-2011 school year is almost over. Once again it is time to THANK YOU for another year of exceptional service to the students and schools you serve. In these days of budget crunches, larger case-loads and the many facets of educational reform, we thank you for stepping up to the challenge. In my opinion, every day should be National Teacher Appreciation Day!

Some Things Never Change:

- If you are leaving PSI, please return any PSI materials to the Twinsburg office. Also return school keys and any other school items to the school office. Leave caseload notes on your students and what needs to be followed up on when the new school year starts.
- Mark 'Final' at the top of the last timesheet you send in to Nancy Berlan in bookkeeping.
- If you haven't taken the PSI HB 276 Child Abuse Training, please plan to attend the PSI training on August 19, 2011 from 8:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Cuyahoga County ESC. All PSI employees are mandated to have this training within two years of their hire date.
- If you are renewing your license this year, please send in a copy of your new license to the PSI Personnel Office, Attention: Patty Wey.
- PSI continues to do BCII (\$22.00) and FBI (\$24.00) fingerprinting checks at cost. Make an appointment with Jackie Weideman, ext. 221 if you need fingerprinting done.

Per the ODE Website:

Educators who are renewing a license or permit and have lived continuously in the State of Ohio for the previous five years, and have a BCI background check on file with ODE, will need to complete only an FBI criminal background check once every five years.

Further, educators with multiple licenses only need to submit the required background checks when they are applying for the renewal of the license or permit that is of the longest duration. Educators who hold a permanent certificate are still required to submit the required background checks once every five years. Permanent certificate holders who have lived continuously in Ohio for those five years, however, will only need to submit FBI background checks.

Get Connected

Humanities Council Sponsors Free Summer Institutes

K-12 educators may enrich their classrooms with new content for their students by applying to attend one of seven summer institutes at various Ohio colleges and universities. With support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ohio Humanities Council has awarded grants to enable approximately 200 teachers to study at no cost with scholars at five-day programs. Some programs may offer continuing education and graduate education credits for a fee. To learn more about each institute and to apply, visit the [Ohio Humanities Council website](#). There are two grants posted with May 20th application deadlines. (*Information from Tools for Teachers/April 2011*)

The Toshiba America Foundation is a non-profit grant-making organization dedicated to supporting science and math education in the United States. The foundation invests in innovative projects designed by classroom teachers. It awards grants up to \$5,000.00 on a rolling basis for projects aimed at students in grades 6-12. (For grants of more than \$5,000.00, applications are due Feb.1.) The foundation also makes grants of up to \$1000.00 for projects targeting students in grades K-5; applications for these grants are due every Oct.1. <http://www.toshiba.com/taf> (*Information from eSchool News/April 2011*)

INFOhio Offers a Myriad of Free Educational Journals and Articles

Having trouble keeping up with your professional reading? INFOhio's education journals can help. [EBSCOhost's Professional Search](#) helps you keep current with access to 550 high-quality education journals, such as Reading Teacher, Education Week and Learning Disability Quarterly, along with access to thousands of Educational Resource Information Center (ERIC) articles. Usernames and passwords for home use of INFOhio resources are available from your local school library media center. You also can complete the [username and password request form](#) or contact central@infohio.org. (*Information from Tools for Teachers/March 2011*)



More From:

Carol Weber

Educational Specialist Coordinator

Summer Reading??

The following is taken from the ODE Website (<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?Page=3&TopicRelationID=1696&Content=103045>)

REVISED ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS AND MODEL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

In June 2010, the State Board of Education adopted the [Common Core State Standards](#) in English language arts and mathematics as well as the revisions to Ohio's academic content standards in science and social studies. The standards will be effective in 2014-2015 when newly aligned assessments also will be implemented.

ODE continued its work of refining Ohio's Comprehensive Educational System with the development of a Model Curriculum, which will be a Web-based tool for educators. During the summer and fall of 2010, teachers across Ohio worked collaboratively in teams to suggest instructional strategies and resources that align with the revised standards. The State Board of Education adopted the Model Curriculum on March 15, 2011. Model Curriculum by Grade Level and Course, as well as related information can be found at the links below.

MODEL CURRICULUM

[English Language Arts Model Curriculum](#)

[Mathematics Model Curriculum](#)

[Science Model Curriculum](#)

[Social Studies Model Curriculum](#)

MODEL CURRICULUM RESOURCES

[Strategies for Diverse Learners](#) - This document presents strategies for meeting the needs of all learners including gifted students, English language learners (ELL) and students with disabilities. Resources based on the Universal Design for Learning principles are available at the [Center for Applied Special Technology \(CAST\)](#).

ADOPTED STANDARDS

By following the links below, you will find content-specific standards.

English Language Arts

[Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts](#)

[English Language Arts Background Information & Staff Contacts](#)

Mathematics

[Common Core State Standards in Mathematics](#)

[Mathematics Background Information & Staff Contacts](#)

Social Studies

[Social Studies Standards, Background Information & Staff Contacts](#)

Science

[Science Standards, Background Information & Staff Contacts](#)

Once again, thank you for being part of the PSI team! We truly appreciate all that you do and wish you a happy, relaxing summer!





From the Desk of: *Lynn Chrostowski* Health Services Manager

Updates From ODH School Nurse Conference

The ODH School Nursing Program's web page can be accessed at www.odh.ohio.gov. Once on the site, select "S" and then "School Nursing". You can also complete registration in order access the ODH School Nurse Bulletin Board while on this site.

The annual Immunization Summary Report will not be mailed this year, it must be completed online at <http://schoolreporting.odh.ohio.gov> or on the ODH Nursing web page (select "Guidelines and Publications" and "Immunization Information"). If you have questions about immunizations in general the toll free help line is 800-282-0546.

The new medication administration law (House Bill 1) goes into effect 7/1/11. This law indicates school employees administering medications need to:

- Be a licensed health professional OR
- Complete a drug administration training program conducted by a licensed health professional and considered appropriate by the individual schoolboard.

The ODH School Nurse Consultants indicated this law applies to public schools only. Further legislation is about to be introduced that would include "all schools"

Train-the-Trainer course will be available online in May 2011. This course is for the health professionals who will be training the school employees and the training is free. PSI is in the process of establishing guidelines for our nursing staff in the event they are asked to provide training to school staff.

The H.A.N.D.S. ("Helping Administer to the Needs of the Student with Diabetes in School") course offered by the NASN is being held in Columbus Friday, June 24, 2011. The fee is \$25 and nurses will receive 6.5 CNE's. Registration information will be posted on the ODH School nurse Bulletin Board and Web page.

Closing Clinics

Just a few reminders as the school year comes to an end...

- Send the Medication at School, End of Year Procedure letter home to parents/guardians (pg.11 in the medication section in the Health Resource Guide) for end of the year medication pick up.

- For proper disposal of meds not picked up (this may not be done until your return in the fall if your building principal wants to allow additional time for pick up) federal guidelines need to be followed. These guidelines include:

1. Not flushing prescription drugs down the toilet or drain unless accompanying patient information specifically instructs to do so.
2. Taking prescription drugs to community drug take-back programs.
3. Take prescription drugs out of original containers and mix with undesirable substance such as used coffee grounds. Put mixture into a disposable container with a lid (empty margarine tub or sealable bag).
4. Conceal or remove any personal information, including Rx number, on the empty prescription bottle. Can use black permanent marker if label cannot be removed.
5. Place the sealed container with the mixture and the empty drug containers in trash.

- Send home medication forms and care plans for completion over the summer for those students who will need them in the fall.
- Order supplies so clinics can open and be functional in the fall.
- Know the date your school is resuming classes.
- The next Child Abuse Training for PSI staff is tentatively set for August 19th, more information to follow.
- Summer CPR dates will be mailed, schedule being composed currently.
- Please return any borrowed equipment, if you need a UPS label call PSI Health Services (800-841-4774 ext.226).
- The new sub coordinator who replaced Jeannette Glover is Linda Wilson LPN (Pam Route assisting), her number is 216-406-6402.
- Reminder to send home the 6th grade parent letter for the booster dose of Td/Tdap.
- We have limited opportunities for summer camp employment, call PSI office with interest.
- Please send in your Tentative Plans form if you haven't done so already!

As always, have a wonderful break and call us with any questions or concerns!!

From the Desk of:
Janet Yue
Health Services Manager



It is with great sadness that we write about the passing of our beloved colleague, Jeannette Glover. Jeannette began working in August of 1981 as a PSI health aide for Parma's Holy Family School. Through her thirty years at PSI Jeannette stayed at Holy Family but became so much more for the PSI organization. Jeannette assumed the role of substitute coordinator for the Health Service Department. This was how Jeannette was known to you. She, for many, was the voice of PSI.

The PSI Health Staff must be on hand daily to cover the clinics at our schools. Jeannette was responsible for taking phone calls early in the morning, throughout the day and late into the night to make sure someone was there to cover over 400 clinics. It wasn't the easiest job to do, but Mrs. Glover did the job and did it well. Through these substitute arrangement calls, Jeannette came to know many of you very well. She, through her 30 years, developed friendships with so many of you. Often times our personnel would share the hardships in their lives and Jeannette listened and she cared. She often let us know what was happening with our coworkers and their families. She was our link to you.

Jeannette looked forward to meeting her telephone friends at our Fall Meeting. So many times, as new PSI Health Staff would come through the door at St Michael's Woodside, they would say hello and "show me who Jeannette Glover is." When introductions were made and acknowledgement of who one another was, I would see the bonds of friendship begin. Jeannette did care for all of you and she cared what was going on in your lives and tried to help ease the burden by finding a substitute so you could stay home ill, go with ill parents to doctor's appointments, attend Grandparent's Day, attend a funeral . The reasons were endless, the call offs were endless, but Jeannette cared.

As Jeannette's health started to turn and I would visit her in the hospital she asked about so many of you. I have heard from coworkers, school administrators, children... how much they appreciated what Jeannette did by answering the call and doing her best to cover your schools.

Now we must go on without Jeannette. She was a great lady, a wonderful coworker, an example of how to do a difficult job without many complaints. She worked until the last days of her life. When I went to calling hours her daughter gave to me a large envelope. Inside the envelope were all the call offs she had taken well into the month of May. Jeannette loved what she did and she would want you to know that she appreciated the substitutes that were willing to help fill all the open days at our schools. She enjoyed that you shared your lives with her and confided all of your stories to her. Near the end of her life she enjoyed hearing of your travels, learning about your new grandbabies, marriages of your children, where your children were going to college and all the details of your personal life that you shared. Jeannette was so much to all of us and we will miss her.