

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Governor touts Green for saving money

By Robert Wang

GREEN — Gov. John Kasich on Tuesday used Green as Exhibit A in his campaign to convince more cities, townships, school districts and other local governments to explore mergers and the pooling of services and resources.

The governor hosted a panel discussion in Green's administration building because the city and the Green Local School District said they have saved millions of dollars by sharing the building and other facilities.

The event, which about a 100 attended, took place 12 days after Kasich signed the state's two-year budget bill that significantly cuts state funding of local governments and schools.

His administration has touted provisions in the bill that it says makes it easier for governments to share resources resulting in savings that would help offset the cuts.

VIDEO and story continued here: <http://www.cantonrep.com/topstories/x1249733008/Kasich-speaks-to-Stark-County-leaders>



Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Kasich asks teachers to design merit-pay plan

By Joe Vardon

ASHLAND, Ohio - It took a 30-minute meeting with a handful of teachers from across the state yesterday for Gov. John Kasich to decide who should construct a merit-pay system for Ohio schools.

And it's not him.

"I've become convinced that when it comes to actually designing this program, the governor ought to stay out of it," Kasich said after the meeting at Ashland University. "I'd be the most comfortable if the teachers themselves could put together what they think is a fair process."

Kasich concluded a whirlwind tour of northeastern Ohio yesterday with a sit-down with seven teachers and a librarian who responded to the Republican governor's request for input in implementing a merit-pay system for teachers.

Story continued here: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2011/07/13/teachers-to-design-merit-pay-plan.html?sid=101



July 12, 2011

Kasich's Ideas on Teacher Evaluations Sparks Debate in Ashland

By Dave Nethers

Ashland— Seven teachers and a school librarian met with Ohio Governor John Kasich on Tuesday, offering their input on his plan to change the way they are evaluated.

Kasich insists the suggestions offered at the round table discussion at Ashland University are important.

"This is a listening session where we really don't know what we are going to do and I'm trying to figure it out," he added.

"We want to do it," Kasich said, referring to a new teacher evaluation policy. "But we don't want this to be some sort of a 'gotcha' policy."

Kasich has already signed a budget in which teacher pay, their ability to earn promotions and even get fired will be directly tied to their performance. It is expected to become effective in the 2013-14 school year.

Story continued here: <http://www.fox8.com/news/wjw-kasich-ashland-teacher-evaluation-round-table-dn-txt,0,6401089.story>



Kasich praises Green's collaboration

By Dave Scott

Green: Ohio Gov. John Kasich told a group of local officials that collaboration can save millions and pointed to the city of Green and its school system as examples.

By working together to share costs on things like sharing administration buildings and other services, the two governments have saved more than \$100,000 annually. The city has saved another \$1.5 million by allowing the Summit County Sheriff to handle police duties. Having Summit County provide building and health department services saves another \$400,000 annually, according to a release by Mayor Dick Norton.

Kasich's statement came before about 100 government and business leaders at the Green City Council Chambers, which also are used for school board meetings.

Story continued here: <http://www.ohio.com/news/local-news/kasich-praises-green-s-collaboration-1.224849>

THE PLAIN DEALER

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Northeast Ohio leaders embrace sentencing reform law during Gov.

John Kasich visit

By Mark Naymik

Northeast Ohio community leaders publicly embraced Ohio's new sentencing reform law Tuesday at an event with its chief cheerleader, Gov. John Kasich.

"This bill is a long time coming," State Sen. Nina Turner of Cleveland said, standing behind a lectern at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church on Cleveland's East Side, before a couple dozen politicians, ministers and people who work directly with felons.

In addition to evening out the penalties for crack and powder cocaine, the law, formerly known as House Bill 86, diverts low-level criminals – such as those arrested with drug paraphernalia – to community based programs focused on rehabilitation and education. It also allows future inmates to earn shorter sentences if they complete education and mental health programs while incarcerated.

Story continued here:

www.cleveland.com/naymik/index.ssf/2011/07/northeast_ohio_leaders_embrace.html

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