

Executive Order 2014-05K

Creating the Community Connector and Mentoring Program Advisory Board

WHEREAS, high levels of hope and hopefulness have been shown to be strong predictors of one's ability to accomplish vocational goals; and

WHEREAS, strong goal-setting, decision-making and problem-solving skills combined with high levels of resiliency and the ability to persevere even in the face of adversity have been identified as significant components of hope; and

WHEREAS, research confirms that mentoring of youth results in higher levels of hope, educational achievement, well-being, health and workforce readiness; and

WHEREAS, mentoring programs aligned to best practices provide a reliable approach for schools to promote a positive school climate for student success; and

WHEREAS, studies show that people who engage as mentors feel an increased selfvalue and increased sense of purpose from the act of giving back; and

WHEREAS, research confirms that mentoring can help students to develop positive character traits such as integrity, work ethic, persistence, kindness and giving back; and

WHEREAS, Section 263.320 of Am. Sub. House Bill 483 of the 130th General Assembly created the Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program to award competitive matching grants to local networks of volunteers and organizations in eligible school districts that have obtained funding for programs designed to provide career advising and mentoring for students; and

WHEREAS, students will receive mentoring to develop goal-setting, decision-making, and problem-solving skills; to develop character traits such as integrity, work ethic, persistence, kindness, and giving back; and to develop the ability to persevere even in the face of adversity; and

WHEREAS, the Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program was created within the Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ("State Superintendent"); and

WHEREAS, in a letter dated October 9, 2014, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Richard A. Ross requested that the Governor issue an Executive Order to create an Advisory Board for the Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent seeks to use the expertise and knowledge of the Advisory Board appointees in developing the program's guidelines and in reviewing and recommending potential state matching grant recipients; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent in his letter sought the assistance of the Governor's Office in identifying individuals with the qualifications necessary to advise him in his role as administrator of the Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program, and requested the Governor appoint members to an Advisory Board for that program in the number and manner deemed appropriate by the Governor.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Ohio and in accordance with the request of State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Richard A. Ross, do hereby order and direct that:

- 1. The Ohio Community Connectors Advisory Board ("Board") is hereby established to provide its knowledge and expertise to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the development of the Ohio Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program ("Program") guidelines, as well as in reviewing and recommending potential state matching grant recipients.
- 2. The Board shall consist of no more than eleven (11) members, and shall include the Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services ("ODJFS") or her designee. All other members shall be appointed by the Governor, in consultation with the State Superintendent, and represent business, education, or community and faith-based organizations. The Governor shall have the power to replace any vacancy on the Board in the same manner as the original appointment.

3. The Board is created to:

a. Review data and information relating to mentoring, career advising, job preparation, community engagement and any other topic that may aide in the development of guidelines for the Program;

- b. Evaluate potential recipients of state matching grant funds and provide recommendations to the State Superintendent, with the decision to award the grants ultimately made by the State Superintendent;
- c. Develop strategies and recommendations for promoting the growth and expansion of the Program;
- d. Perform other related work as the State Superintendent requests.
- 4. Board members shall serve at my pleasure. The Board will call meetings as needed. A majority of appointed members shall constitute a quorum. Members will not be compensated for their participation on the Board.
- 5. State departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and officers shall cooperate and provide the necessary information and assistance requested by the Board in the performance of its duties.

I signed this Executive Order on November 3, 2014, in Bexley, Ohio, and it will not expire unless it is rescinded.



John R. Kasich, Governor

ATTEST: