

THREE RIVERS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE REPORT

July 18, 2017

BWC Rebates

For the third time in four years, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation is returning more than \$1 billion dollars to Ohio's private and public employers. This is due to an improving safety climate, good fiscal management and better than expected investment returns that have put the fund in a net position of more than \$9 billion.

In total, public employers will receive a one-time rebate of approximately \$120 million. Most rebates will equal 66% of premium for the policy year ending December 31, 2015.

Three Rivers portion appears to be \$61,071.20

Biennial budget update

The FY18-19 biennial budget has been finalized. Below are some highlighted changes included in the bill.

- Base funding per student is \$6,010 in both years of the biennium.
- Guarantees that all districts receive at least the same amount of state aid in FY18-19 as they received in FY17 unless a district saw a reduction in total ADM of more than 5% between FY14 and FY16.
- Includes a two-tiered gain cap. Districts will have a 3% cap with a higher cap provided for fast-growing districts. Fast-growing districts will have a maximum cap of 5.5% in FY18 and 6% in FY19.
- Includes a provision to assist districts that see a large drop in their property tax base from the sale, re-evaluation or decommissioning of power plants. The bill also directs the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to recommend annually a payment structure to help districts with a public utility decrease of 50% or more in a year.
- Reduces the minimum state share of transportation funding from 50% in FY17 to 37.5% in FY18 and then 25% in FY19.
- Educational service centers (ESCs) receive \$40 million per year with \$26 per student for high performing ESCs and \$24 for other ESCs.
- Makes change to the calculation of the Current Agricultural Use Valuation.
- Permits a superintendent to allow an individual without a permit to serve as a substitute educational aide for up to 60 days as long as application materials indicate that the individual is qualified to obtain a permit or license and has applied to ODE for the credential. The individual must also complete a background check.
- Eliminates the 4th and 6th grade state social studies assessments.
- Sets eligibility criteria for a student to participate in College Credit Plus (CCP).
- Sets criteria on which courses can be taken under the CPP program.
- Creates two new graduation pathways for the Class of 2018.
 - Under the first, a student must meet two of the following nine criteria:
 1. A 12th grade attendance rate of 93%,
 2. A 12th grade GPA of at least 2.5, based on taking four full year courses,

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3. Completion of a capstone project,
 4. Completion of 120 hours of work experience or community service,
 5. Earning at least three credit hours through CCP,
 6. Passing an AP or IB exam with a score sufficient to earn college credit,
 7. Reaching minimum cut scores on sections of the Work Keys assessment,
 8. Obtaining an industry credential or a credential worth at least three points,
 9. Meeting the conditions to earn an Ohio Means Jobs-readiness seal.
- Under the second pathway, students must complete an approved career-technical training program and then fulfill one of the following:
1. Earn a cumulative score of proficient or better on career-technical education exams or test modules for the training program,
 2. Obtain an industry credential or credentials worth at least 12 points,
 3. Complete 250 hours of workplace experience, documented by positive evaluations from workplace and school officials.