
Ohio SchoolNet Commission

Role and Overview

The Ohio SchoolNet Commission (NET) is an independent state agency that was legislatively charged with administering Ohio's education technology programs for public school K-12 classrooms. However, to more efficiently use scarce state resources, NET and the Ohio Educational Telecommunication Network Commission (OEB) will be merged and some of their responsibilities will be given to existing state agencies beginning in fiscal year 2006. In addition to reducing costly overhead, this change will allow the redesigned agency to concentrate on its core responsibility to promote educational achievement through the use of technology. Some specialized operations will be transferred to other existing agencies as appropriate.

Through June 2005, a 13-member commission will continue to provide oversight to the agency's executive director and the staff of 69. NET has an annual budget of \$26.1 million, plus additional revenue from the tobacco settlement which supports programs designed to help Ohio's public schools acquire and use education technology, including SchoolNet Plus, ONEnet, and several other programs and services that helped eligible districts maximize Ohio SchoolNet technologies.

A task force will be convened and present recommendations regarding which programs should be retained by the new agency, which programs should be transferred to other existing agencies, and which programs should be discontinued. These recommendations are due to the Governor by the end of March 2005, upon which the Governor will develop a plan for the merger of these agencies. The funds available for the new agency as well as for any programs which may be transferred to another agency are to be appropriated and held within the Controlling Board's (CEB) budget. These funds are equal to the total amount of the combined budget requests of NET and OEB.

LINE ITEM SUMMARY - SchoolNet Commission

FUND	ALI	ALI TITLE	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 ACTUAL	FY 2004 ACTUAL	FY 2005 ESTIMATE	FY 2006 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE	FY 2007 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE
GRF	228-404	Operating Expenses	5,971,776	5,705,498	5,494,103	5,603,536	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	228-406	Tech. & Instruc. Prof. Dev.	10,045,405	9,352,666	7,333,511	7,230,321	0	(100.0)	0	.0
GRF	228-539	Education Technology	6,160,683	5,766,571	6,680,166	6,569,956	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL General Revenue Fund			22,177,864	20,824,735	19,507,780	19,403,813	0	(100.0)	0	.0
5D4	228-640	Conference/Special Purpose Exp	1,226,628	672,542	284,393	1,350,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL General Services Fund Group			1,226,628	672,542	284,393	1,350,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
3S3	228-606	Enhancing Education Technology	0	13,868	309,703	589,362	0	(100.0)	0	.0
3S3	228-655	Technology Literacy Challenge	18,004,163	473,975	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
3X8	228-604	Individuals W/Disabilities Edu Act	1,711,361	7,592,994	490,364	110,356	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL Fed Special Revenue Fund Group			19,715,524	8,080,837	800,067	699,718	0	(100.0)	0	.0
4W9	228-630	Ohio Schoolnet Telecommunity	81,000	1,023,370	386,861	400,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
4X1	228-634	Distance Learning	1,774,353	4,271,896	1,532,655	1,750,000	0	(100.0)	0	.0
4Y4	228-698	Schoolnet Plus	4,349,748	1,455,817	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
5G0	228-650	Video Distance Learning	11,625,717	0	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
5T3	228-605	Gates Foundation Grants	66,903	957,987	990,015	1,194,907	0	(100.0)	0	.0
TOTAL State Special Revenue Fund Group			17,897,721	7,709,070	2,909,531	3,344,907	0	(100.0)	0	.0
017	228-603	SchoolNet Plus Supplement	7,988,224	10,676	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
017	228-690	Schoolnet Electrical Infrastr	888,260	0	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
TOTAL Lottery Profits/Educ Fund Group			8,876,484	10,676	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
TOTAL SchoolNet Commission			69,894,221	37,297,860	23,501,771	24,798,438	0	(100.0)	0	.0