

Prioritizing Student-Centered Supports

- **Governor DeWine's ReadOhio initiative aims to boost literacy achievement, ensuring every child reads at or above grade level.** It's important to acknowledge the gains in literacy scores for third, fourth, and fifth grade students, but also recognize there is significant improvement still needed. This year, 64.5% of third grade students are reading at or above grade level, an improvement from 62.3% last year. Ohio students are counting on us, and our work remains urgent.
- **Math proficiency has improved incrementally including gains in grades 4-7 and algebra, but only 53.5% of all students are proficient in math.** The emphasis on learning supports and accelerating opportunities in mathematics remains critical to continuous improvement.
- **Ohio schools are leveraging partnerships to ensure students' wellness needs are being met.** While chronic absenteeism has declined from 26.8% in the 2022-2023 school year to 25.6% in the 2023-2024 school year, it remains a challenge. It's more important than ever to keep students engaged in their learning and ensure families understand the importance of daily attendance.
- **The focus on creating valuable workforce experiences continues, equipping more students with practical skills for high-wage, in-demand careers.** Although not included in the ratings, more than half of the Class of 2023 met at least one of the College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness Component measures demonstrating their preparedness for postsecondary education, the workforce, or the military.