



**AGENDA**  
**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015**  
**CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**  
**C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**  
**3:00 PM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 25, 2015 MEETING**
- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**
  - a) O2015-0008: An Ordinance amending Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code to incorporate changes to the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program; amending Section 207.03(A) to incorporate changes in the powers and duties of the College Savings Account Program Committee; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
- 6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**
- 7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

*\*Complimentary parking for the public is available in the attached garage at 900 Prospect. A skywalk extends from the garage to provide additional entry to the Council Chambers from the 5th floor parking level of the garage. Please see the Clerk to obtain a complimentary parking pass.*

*\*\*Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing assistance system. If needed, please see the Clerk to obtain a receiver.*



## **MINUTES**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS  
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
11:00 AM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Ms. Simon asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Brown and Schron were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Jones and Brady were absent from the Committee. Councilmember Miller was also in attendance.**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA**

**No public comments were given.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 3, 2014 MEETING**

**A motion was made by Mr. Schron, seconded by Ms. Brown and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014 meeting.**

**5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

- a) None

**No matters were referred to Committee.**

6. PRESENTATION

a) College Now Greater Cleveland

**Ms. Lee Friedman, Chief Executive Officer of College Now Greater Cleveland; and Mr. Robert Durham, Director of Scholarship Services and Financial Aid, addressed the Committee regarding Component Two of the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Friedman and Mr. Durham pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

**Ms. Simon announced that the next Education, Environment & Sustainability Committee will take place on Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.**

8. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT

**No public comments were given.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

**With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m., without objection.**

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Ordinance No. O2015-0008

Sponsored by: <b>Councilmember Greenspan</b>	<b>An Ordinance</b> amending Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code to incorporate changes to the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program; amending Section 207.03(A) to incorporate changes in the powers and duties of the College Savings Account Program Committee; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Ordinance No. O2012-0036 was enacted on April 23, 2013 to establish the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program and create the College Savings Account Program Committee; and,

WHEREAS, County Council desires to change the savings mechanism and budgetary impact of the College Savings Account Program; and,

WHEREAS, County Council desires to encourage greater use of existing program infrastructure utilized throughout the State of Ohio to enable and incentivize saving for higher education expenses; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County entity.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions struck through and additions bolded and underlined):

Section 804.02: Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program

- A. There is hereby created the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program that shall include the following:
  - 1. An agreement with a qualified entity **or qualified entities** to administer the County College Savings Account Program, which administration may be subsidized by the County;

2. **Marketing and promotion of existing college savings programs as established in Chapter 3334 of the Ohio Revised Code to eligible students and the parents and/or guardians of eligible students** ~~College savings accounts automatically established for each eligible student upon entering kindergarten, where the County is the custodial owner of the account and the student is the beneficiary, to be used for qualifying post-secondary education expenses;~~
  3. **College savings program application assistance for eligible students and guardians of eligible students** ~~An initial deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of County funds into each college savings account;~~
  4. **Funds budgeted by the County in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 annually to be used in the promotion of educational success and sound financial habits, such County funds shall also be limited to the amount of funds which can be raised from non-County sources to match the County's annual contribution** ~~An opportunity for families who do not wish to participate to opt-out of the Program;~~
  5. Growth of the **college savings program** accounts through family, student, and other outside private or public contributions;
  6. **Coordination of "bBenchmark" incentives from private sources** to promote educational success and sound savings habits, such as savings matches and donor deposits from other sources;
  7. Opportunities for families and students to increase financial literacy; and
  8. ~~Opportunities for families and students to establish banking relationships.~~
- B. An "eligible student," as used in Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code, is a resident of Cuyahoga County who is a **new pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary school, or secondary school** student ~~as of a census occurring on October 31st of each year. Students in other grades, students that repeat kindergarten after the start of the Program, and kindergarten students who move into the County after the cutoff date each year, are not eligible. For any year a student does not live in the County, the student account will remain active and open for use by the student and his/her parent or guardian but will not be eligible for match or incentive deposits from the Program.~~
- C. **Accounts opened for eligible students participating in the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program with an initial deposit of one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) of County funds in the previous form as enacted on April 23, 2013 by Ordinance of Council No. O2012-0036 shall be closed and the County funds deposited returned to the County's General Fund effective December 31, 2015, with the following exceptions:**

1. **Accounts into which any non-County funds have been deposited prior to the enactment of this section; and**
2. **Accounts into which at least one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) of non-County funds have been deposited prior to December 31, 2015.**

- ~~D. "Post-secondary education," as used in this section, includes a college, university, vocational school, and any two or four-year degree program from an accredited educational institution.~~
- ~~E. "Qualifying post-secondary education expenses," as used in this section, include but are not limited to tuition, mandatory fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance, or for any other necessary cost of attending school, including travel to and from school. If a student has special needs, distributions can be used to pay for any accommodations that are required to make it possible for the student to attend school. To assist students in gaining access to post-secondary education, funds may be used for post-secondary school application fees and fees for the ACT, SAT and AP college entrance and placement exams prior to high school graduation.~~
- ~~F. Withdrawals from a student account must be made prior to the student attaining the age of twenty five. For students who serve in a national service program (such as the United States Military or Peace Corps), each year of service may increase the maturity date by one year.~~
- ~~G. If a student does not use all funds in a student account for a qualified expense, any non-Program funds contributed to the student account will be returned to their source. Any funds contributed by the County or donated to the County for the benefit of the Program will remain in the sole possession of the County.~~
- ~~H. In the case of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, the student and/or parent/guardian may submit a non-qualified use withdrawal request to the County administration team for review. If approved, only non-Program funds may be withdrawn.~~
- ~~I. "Non-Program funds," as used in this section, include any funds deposited directly into a student account by a student, parent, guardian or other private source for the benefit of a particular student.~~
- D. The Program will be administered by staff in the Executive's Office, who will accept, review, and make recommendations for approval of eligible students and qualified use of funds.
- E. County administration will provide a policy and procedures manual to the County Council prior to the implementation of the program.
- F. County Council shall be notified of all future changes, additions or subtractions to the aforementioned policy and procedures manual.

- G. A College Savings Account Program Committee shall provide advice and fundraising support to the Administration ~~and rule on appeals from Administration decisions on eligibility and qualified use of funds.~~
- H. The Administration shall perform annual performance monitoring of the Program. At any time after the Program is initiated, however no later than five years thereafter, the Program shall be evaluated by Council to measure its success in achieving its intended outcomes and for the purpose of making any modifications, amendments, or changes to the Program, including but not limited to, its expansion or termination.

**SECTION 2.** Section 207.03(A) of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions struck through and additions bolded and underlined):

- A. There is hereby created the College Savings Account Program Committee to support the College Savings Account Program. The Committee shall provide fundraising support as well as advice on banking, education, and financial literacy. ~~The Committee will also rule on appeals from decisions by the Administration on eligibility and qualified use of funds.~~

**SECTION 3.** It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

**SECTION 4.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas:

Nays:



\_\_\_\_\_  
County Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 24, 2015  
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_