



AGENDA
CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 1, 2015 MEETING**
- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**
 - a) R2015-0088: A Resolution making an award to College Now Greater Cleveland in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Fund for Component Two of the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for the period ending 6/30/2019; authorizing the County Executive to execute the contract and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
 - b) 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, APRIL 1, 2015
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA

No public comments were given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 25, 2015 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schron, seconded by Mr. Jones and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2015 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) Q2015-0008: 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.

Mr. Kenneth Surratt, Deputy Director of Housing, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2015-0008. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Surratt pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

Mr. Greenspan addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2015-0008. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Karlton Laster, Special Assistant to County Executive Budish, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2015-0008. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Laster pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

No further legislative action was taken on Ordinance No. O2015-0008.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were given.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m., without objection.

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2015-0088

<p>Sponsored by: Councilmember Simon</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: Councilmembers Miller and Hairston</p>	<p>A Resolution making an award to College Now Greater Cleveland in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Fund for Component Two of the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for the period ending 6/30/2019; authorizing the County Executive to execute the contract and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.</p>
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WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.09(11) of the Charter authorizes Council to “establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants and other forms of financial assistance for residents of the County that will enable them to participate in post-secondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining;” and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. O2012-0007 established the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program (the “Program”) and the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Fund (the “Fund”); and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. O2012-0007 was amended to add an additional component to the Program, to authorize an alternative procurement process and to authorize Council to annually designate the amount of budgeted funds to be allocated for each component of the Program; and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County Council set aside \$500,000.00, annually, in the 2014-2015 Biennial Budget for each component of the Program; and

WHEREAS, Council has determined to allocate an amount to College Now Greater Cleveland for Component Two of the Program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution 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 program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby authorizes the award of \$500,000.00 to College Now Greater Cleveland for scholarships, retention and

First Reading/Referred to Committee: May 12, 2015
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Additional Sponsorship Requested: May 8, 2015

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: May 12, 2015

Journal _____
_____, 20__

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2015-0008

Sponsored by: Councilmember Greenspan	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.
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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__

[PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE]

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2015-0008

Sponsored by: Councilmember Greenspan	An Ordinance amending Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code to repeal the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program and provide an orderly winding down for program participants; repealing Section 207.03 of the Cuyahoga County Code; 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 repeal the Cuyahoga County College Savings Account Program and provide an orderly winding down for program participants; 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 the qualified entity to administer the County College Savings Account Program, which administration may be subsidized by the County;~~
- ~~2. 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. An initial deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of County funds into each college savings account;~~
- ~~4. An opportunity for families who do not wish to participate to opt-out of the Program;~~
- ~~5. Growth of the accounts through family, student, and other outside private or public contributions;~~
- ~~6. "Benchmark" incentives 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.~~

A. An "eligible student," as used in Section 804.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code, is a resident of Cuyahoga County who **was enrolled as a kindergarten student in Cuyahoga County as of the censuses occurring on October 31, 2013 or October 31, 2014, and who has not opted-out of the College Savings Account Program enacted pursuant to Ordinance No. O2012-0036.** ~~is a new kindergarten 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.~~

B. **All accounts opened for eligible students shall be closed and the funds deposited by the County shall be returned to the County's General Fund no later than July 31, 2016, except as otherwise provided herein:**

- 1. A parent or guardian of an eligible student may request, on or before December 31, 2015, that the County transfer all funds deposited, or scheduled to be deposited in a college savings account maintained by the County to an eligible college savings account created consistent with Chapter 3334 of the Ohio Revised Code and Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code.**

2. Any non-County funds deposited into existing college savings accounts maintained by the County as of the close of business on December 31, 2015 shall be returned to the parent or guardian of the eligible students for which each account was created.

C. Section 804.02 of this Code shall be repealed in its entirety effective December 31, 2016.

- C. ~~“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.~~
- D. ~~“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.~~
- E. ~~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.~~
- F. ~~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.~~
- G. ~~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.~~
- H. ~~“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 of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby repealed and the College Savings Account Program Committee is hereby disbanded.

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__