



Members Only

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Education Laws and Community Schools*

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INTRODUCTION

Authorized in R.C. Chapter 3314., community schools (often called “charter schools”) are public, nonprofit, nonsectarian schools that operate independently of any school district but under a contract with a sponsoring entity. The schools often serve a limited number of grades or a particular purpose. Conversion community schools may be sponsored by and operate in any school district in the state. Start-up community schools are new schools that may operate only in certain defined “challenged school districts.” The schools are financed with state funds that are deducted from the state aid accounts of the school districts in which their students are entitled to attend school.

Community schools are exempt from many of the education laws of the state.¹ The first part of this brief lists requirements that apply to school districts but from which community schools are exempt. The second part lists school district mandates that specifically also apply to community schools. The brief does not include requirements related to community school governance, location, and sponsorship.

This brief has been prepared for legislators as an overview of state policy. It is not intended to constitute legal advice to community schools, their sponsors, or any other parties. Community schools should consult with legal counsel to determine their responsibilities under the law. The staff of the Legislative Service Commission plans to update this brief biennially, at the end of each General Assembly.

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* This *Members Only* brief is an update of an earlier brief dated November 20, 2012 (Volume 129 Issue 6).

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
9.901	Requirement that employee health care plans incorporate best practices adopted by the former School Employees Health Care Board or the Department of Administrative Services (However, schools may adopt a different delivery system of benefits not in accordance with best practices if it is more financially advantageous)
124.01 <i>et seq.</i>	Civil Service Law (related to nonteaching employees in most city school districts)
133.01 <i>et seq.</i>	Uniform Public Securities Law
Chapter 135.	Uniform Depository Act
149.351 and 149.41	Requirements on retention of school records and establishing a records commission
3301.07	State Board of Education minimum standards covering the assignment of professional personnel according to training and qualifications; instructional materials and equipment, including library facilities; proper organization, administration, and supervision of schools; buildings and grounds (other than any building health and safety standards); admission and promotion of students; phonics instruction; instruction in energy and resource conservation; and reporting requirements (other than financial reporting requirements) ²
3301.072	Training requirements for school treasurers and business managers (However, the community school law prescribes licensure and training requirements for community school fiscal officers (R.C. 3314.011))
3301.073	Required receipt of State Board technical assistance in school budgeting and finances
3301.0725 and 3313.6018	Requirements regarding extended programming for career-technical students
3301.16	School chartering requirements (applies to school districts and nonpublic schools)
3301.17	Driver education course standards
3301.52 to 3301.59	Preschool program standards and licensing (other than parental access rights)
3302.10	Requirement that the Superintendent of Public Instruction establish an academic distress commission for a persistently low-performing school district based on statutory criteria (However, the community school law prescribes separate criteria for the permanent closure of persistently low-performing community schools (R.C. 3314.35 and 3314.351))



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
Chapter 3311.	Requirements related to the formation and territory of school districts and educational service center financing districts
3311.29	Requirement to maintain grades K through 12
3313.01 to 3313.17 and 3313.18	Requirements related to the membership, organization, and operation of school boards (However, each community school is under the oversight of a “governing authority” of at least five individuals (R.C. 3314.02(E))
3313.20	Requirements (1) to make rules necessary for the governing of employees, students, and other persons entering a school, (2) to post the school entry rules, and (3) to have a written policy on employees’ attendance at professional meetings
3313.201	Requirement to purchase liability insurance (However, the community school law has its own provision requiring a community school to purchase liability insurance (R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(b)) and, if a community school assumes responsibility for student transportation under R.C. 3314.091, the school must to comply with R.C. 3313.201)
3313.208 and 3313.209	Latchkey program operating requirements
3313.211	Requirement to pay full-time employees while on jury duty
3313.212	Requirement to provide an opportunity for parents to review the selection of textbooks and reading lists, instructional materials, and the academic curriculum used by a school district; requirement for each district board to establish a parental advisory committee or another method for review, as determined appropriate by the board
3313.22 to 3313.32	Requirements related to the appointment, conduct, and duties of school district treasurers (However, community schools are required to have a designated fiscal officer who meets certain licensure or educational qualifications (R.C. 3314.011))
3313.35	Requirements concerning who is legal counsel for school district boards
3313.372	Requirements related to installment payment contracts for energy conservation measures for school facilities
3313.373	Requirements related to shared-savings contracts for energy savings measures for school facilities
3313.41 and 3313.411	Disposal of district real and personal property requirements ³

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.44	Real and personal property tax exemption for school districts
3313.46 (and related sections in Chapter 153)	Competitive Bidding Law regarding school building projects
3313.47	Vesting of management and control of schools in the board of education (although the community school law requires a start-up community school to be governed by a “governing authority” (R.C. 3314.02(E))
3313.471	Prohibition of nonuniform restrictions on the presentation of career information to students
3313.48 and 3313.481	Standards for minimum school year and minimum school day (although community schools are required to provide 920 hours of instruction annually (R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(a)); requirement to hold a public hearing on the school calendar; requirement that education be provided free of charge (though a separate law prohibits a community school from charging tuition (R.C. 3314.08(F)) ⁴
3313.483 and 3313.487 to 3313.4810	Prohibition against closing schools for financial reasons; requirements and procedures related to school financial crises and resulting loans
3313.49	Assignment of students when a school is suspended
3313.51	Check writing and deposit requirements related to school treasurers
3313.53	Requirements related to employing certificated noneducators for pupil-activity programs
3313.531 and 3313.532	Adult high school continuation program requirements ⁵
3313.534	Requirement for “zero-tolerance” discipline policies; requirement that Big Eight and certain other school districts establish alternative schools
3313.535	Requirement to adopt rules and a policy regarding the academic eligibility of students to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities
3313.55	Requirements related to schooling for children with epilepsy or who reside in certain public institutions
3313.56	Part-time schooling requirements for programs provided to students with age and schooling certificates



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.60	School course of study requirement (except that the parental rights to excuse a child from certain instructional topics and to examine instructional materials and other documents apply)
3313.601	Prohibition against barring teachers from providing periods for activities of a moral, philosophical, or patriotic theme (except that the student's or parent's right to excuse a child from these programs applies)
3313.602(A)	Requirement to have a policy regarding the recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag
3313.602(B) and (C)	Requirement that the "principles of democracy and ethics" be emphasized and discussed in appropriate parts of the curriculum and to encourage a school's employees to be cognizant of their roles to instill in students "ethical principles and democratic ideals"
3313.604	Recognition of American Sign Language as a foreign language in schools
3313.6011	Requirement that venereal disease education, which is a component of health education, emphasize sexual abstinence
3313.613	Requirement to award high school credit to a student for successful completion of a post-secondary course outside of regular school hours
3313.62	Definitions of "school year" and "school week"
3313.63	Specification of school holidays
3313.64, 3313.649, and 3313.65	School admission requirements related to the payment of tuition; tuition payment and charging requirements between school districts
3313.642(B)	Prohibition against charging a fee for materials used in instruction to students eligible for free lunch, under federal guidelines
3313.642(D) and (E)	Prohibition against withholding grades, credits, official transcripts, diplomas, IEPs, or 504 plans of a student for nonpayment of fees for instructional materials if a complaint has been filed at any time in a juvenile court alleging that the child is, or has been adjudicated as, an abused, neglected, or dependent child; requirement that those records be transferred immediately upon a request from another school or school district in which the student enrolls or upon an order from a juvenile court judge; requirement to annually report to the Department the number of students for whom a transcript has been transferred and the amount of unpaid fees lost due to such record transfers

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.646	Requirements and prohibitions related to establishment of preschool programs (but a separate law specifically authorizes community schools to operate preschool programs using the Montessori method (R.C. 3314.06))
3313.70	Prohibition against appointment of a school board member as school physician, dentist, or nurse
3313.713	Requirements related to administering prescription drugs to students (except that the parental right to have a school administer prescription drugs to a child only after the parent makes a written request applies)
3313.714	Requirement, upon request from the Department of Medicaid, to operate a "healthcheck" program for students covered by Medicaid (except that the parental right to excuse a child from a healthcheck examination applies)
3313.75	Prohibition against renting or leasing a school building so as to interfere with the public schools of the district or for any purpose other than authorized by law
3313.76 to 3313.79	Requirements related to the use of school buildings by the public when those buildings are not being used for school purposes
3313.81	Requirements related to management of food service operations and meals for the elderly
3313.811	Prohibition against the sale of anything for profit on school premises unless the profits are used for a school purpose or for a school activity
3313.82	Requirement to appoint a business advisory council
3313.841	Requirements related to sharing certain services cooperatively with other districts and operating joint education programs
3313.843 and 3313.845	Requirements related to school districts receiving services provided by educational service centers (R.C. 3313.844 establishes requirements related to community schools receiving services provided by educational service centers)
3313.85	Requirement that the probate court fill a vacancy in a school board as promptly as possible if, within 30 days after the vacancy occurs, a school board fails to do so
3313.871	Fee limits for school district participation in accrediting associations
3313.90, 3313.91, and 3313.911	Career-technical education requirement ⁶



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.92	Requirements related to joint construction projects between school districts
3313.93	Prohibition against students who are paid for work in a school district occupational work adjustment laboratory being considered employees for purposes of school employee retirement law, nonteaching employee contract law, unemployment compensation law, and workers' compensation law
3313.941	Requirement to include a "multiracial" category in any statistics on race gathered for state or school district purposes
3313.95	Contract requirements for, and limitations on, police services in alcohol and drug prevention programs
3313.97	Intradistrict open enrollment requirements
3313.98, 3313.981, 3313.982, and 3313.983	Interdistrict open enrollment requirements
3315.02 to 3315.05	Requirements related to the administration of funds for bonded indebtedness (other than bonds secured by tax revenues, which community schools are prohibited from issuing (R.C. 3314.08(H))
3315.062	Requirements related to the provision and funding of student activity programs
3315.07	Requirements related to the publishing of school materials for the public; prohibition against using public funds to support or oppose the passage of a school levy or bond issue or to compensate any district employee for time spent on any activity meant to influence the outcome of a levy or bond issue
3315.08	Requirements related to the payment of employee salaries and the administration of payroll accounts
3315.09	Limitation of only a one-year contract with a college or museum for the provision of instructional programs to students
3315.091	Requirements and limitations related to contracting with a driver training school for the provision of driver education
3315.10	Requirements related to the custody, management, and administration of certain property held in trust for educational purposes
3315.11 to 3315.14	Requirements related to establishing and administering a school building replacement fund

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3315.15	Requirements related to setting aside monies in a service fund for paying school board members' expenses in the performance of their duties
3315.18 and 3315.181	Requirement to maintain a Capital and Maintenance Fund
3315.19	Requirements regarding election of set-aside amounts
3315.20	Requirements regarding temporary deficits in school district special funds
3315.29 to 3315.31 (and related 501.01 to 501.14)	Requirements related to common school funds
3315.37	Requirements related to a school district teacher education loan program (if established)
3315.40 to 3315.42	Requirements related to a school district education foundation fund (if established)
Chapter 3316.	School District Solvency Assistance Law (authorizes financial assistance and management intervention for financially troubled districts)
Chapter 3317.	School funding system for school districts, including spending accountability provisions and spending requirements (R.C. 3314.08, 3314.084, and 3314.087 prescribe a method of calculating state funding for community schools)
3317.01	Requirements for the receipt of state education funds, including levying 20 mills and providing instruction for the minimum number of school days; requirement to comply with all school law and State Board rules in order to participate in the state basic aid funding program
3317.06	Funding, requirements, and prohibitions related to auxiliary services for chartered nonpublic schools
3317.061	Requirement to annually report licensed employees to the State Board
3317.08 to 3317.082	Tuition calculation requirements
3317.12	Nonteaching employee salary schedule requirement
3317.13, 3317.14, 3317.141, and 3311.78 ⁷	School district teachers salary schedule requirements (However, if a community school receives federal Race to the Top money, it must adopt a performance-based teacher salary schedule under R.C. 3317.141 (R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(i)))



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3317.15	Requirements specifying the number of speech-language pathologists and school psychologists a school district must hire
Chapter 3318.	School Facilities Assistance Law (except for a program under which community school loans for classroom facilities may be guaranteed by the state for up to 15 years (R.C. 3318.50))
3319.01 and 3319.011	Requirements related to school district superintendent employment
3319.02	Requirements related to employment of assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, and other administrators
3319.03 to 3319.05	Requirements related to employment of school district business managers
3319.06	Requirements related to employment of school district internal auditors
3319.07, 3319.08, 3319.0811, 3319.09 to 3319.111, 3311.77, 3311.80, and 3311.81 ⁸	Teacher employment and contract requirements (However, if a community school receives federal Race to the Top money, it must adopt a “standards-based” policy for annual teacher evaluations under R.C. 3319.111 (R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(i)))
3319.071	Prohibition against requiring teachers to participate in professional development programs
3319.072	Teacher lunch period requirement
3319.081 to 3319.087	Employment and contract requirements for nonteaching employees
3319.088	Educational assistant employment and certification requirements
3319.10	Substitute teacher employment requirements
3319.12	Annual professional staff salary notice requirements; requirements related to the transfer of administrators to other positions
3319.13 to 3319.143	Leave of absence requirements for teachers and nonteaching employees, including professional development leave, sick leave, military leave, personal leave, and assault leave
3319.15	Prohibition against a teacher terminating a contract without consent of the board
3319.16, 3319.161, and 3311.82 ⁹	Requirements and procedure for termination of teacher contracts by school board
3319.17, 3319.172, and 3311.83 ¹⁰	Requirements related to reductions in force of teachers and nonteaching employees
3319.171	Requirements related to administrative personnel suspension policy

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3319.18 and 3319.181	Requirements related to employment of teachers and nonteaching employees when school district territory is transferred or districts are consolidated
3319.21	Prohibition against a school board participating in the making of a contract employing a relative of a school board member; requirement that these contracts and any contracts in which a board member has a pecuniary interest are void
3319.32	Requirement to keep school records, including student records, and to prepare reports
3319.322	Student photograph requirements for student records
3319.33	Requirements regarding statistical reporting to the State Board
3319.35 and 3319.37	Penalties and consequences for failure to submit reports to the State Board
3319.36	Prohibition against paying a teacher who has not filed proof of licensure or any other required reports (except R.C. 3314.03(A)(10) requires teachers in community schools to be licensed under R.C. 3319.22 to 3319.31)
3319.45	Requirement that school principal report certain offenses committed by students
3321.02 to 3321.04 and 3321.05 to 3321.12	Requirements related to the enforcement of student compulsory attendance law; requirements related to students with age and schooling certificates
Chapter 3324.	Identification of gifted children and development of service plan
3324.10	Requirement to adopt a student grade acceleration policy



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE EXEMPT	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3327.01 to 3327.05	Student transportation requirements (R.C. 3314.09 and 3314.091 require a school district to transport its students to community schools in the same manner districts are required to transport students to other schools unless a community school assumes responsibility for providing student transportation. If a community school assumes that responsibility, it is specifically required to comply with the provisions of law regarding who must be transported, standards for payments in lieu of transportation, liability insurance, driver qualifications, and bus rider instruction programs. It is also generally required to comply with all provisions of law pertaining to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses, including those pertaining to drivers and mechanics.)
3327.06	Tuition collection requirements and provisions related to the unauthorized attendance of students
3327.08	Competitive Bidding Law regarding school bus purchases
3327.11	Requirements related to paying the cost of a student's room and board in certain circumstances
3327.13	Requirements related to leasing buses for transporting nonpublic school students to and from school activities
3327.14	Requirements related to providing transportation for senior citizen and adult education groups
3327.15	Restrictions on use of school vehicles out of state
3327.16(A)	Requirements related to volunteer bus rider assistance programs
3329.01 to 3329.08	Requirements related to the selection and purchase of school textbooks and electronic textbooks
3329.09	Requirements related to the accessibility and distribution of textbooks to students (except the parent's right to buy textbooks for a child at no more than 10% over the school district's cost applies)
3329.10	Prohibition against a superintendent, supervisor, principal, or teacher acting as a school textbook sales agent
Chapter 3331.	Requirements related to the issuing and administration of age and schooling certificates (except the parental right, under R.C. 3331.13, to obtain a child's school records upon request for purposes of an age and schooling certificate applies)



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.	
Revised Code Reference	Description
9.90 and 9.91	Provisions regarding insurance benefits for educational employees
Chapter 102. and 2921.42	Ohio Ethics Law
109.65, 3313.672, and 3313.96	Requirements for missing children reporting, student fingerprinting, and admission documentation
Chapter 117.	State fiscal auditing requirements
121.22	The Public Meetings (“Sunshine”) Law
149.43	The Public Records Law
Chapter 1347.	Ohio Privacy Law
2151.357	Procedures related to school records of adjudicated delinquents after their court records are expunged
2151.421	Child abuse reporting requirements
2313.19	Employment protection for employees on jury duty
Chapter 2744.	The Sovereign Immunity Law for public employees
3301.07(B)	Requirement to report financial information to the State Board in the same manner as school districts
3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, and 3301.947	Statewide achievement assessment system
3301.0714	Education Management Information System (EMIS) requirements (as prescribed by State Board of Education rules adopted under R.C. 3314.17)
3301.0715	Administration and scoring of statewide diagnostic assessments and provision of intervention services
3301.0723(C)	Prohibition against assigning new data verification codes to younger children who received early childhood services from a state agency
3301.60	Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
3301.948	Prohibition on providing student names and addresses to any multi-state consortium that provides summative assessments



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
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Revised Code Reference	Description
3302.04 and 3302.041	Sanctions and supports for persistent low academic performance as required under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (Building-level report cards are issued for each community school regardless of how long it has been in operation; however, a school's ratings for its first two years of operation may not be considered in the imposition of sanctions (R.C. 3314.012). In addition to sanctions imposed under R.C. 3302.04 and 3302.041, certain persistently underperforming community schools may be involuntarily closed (R.C. 3314.35, 3314.351, and 3314.36))
3302.13	Reading achievement improvement plan requirements
3302.20	Financial reporting requirements (see also R.C. 3301.07(B)(2))
3302.41	Requirement that, if a district or school voluntarily chooses to use the blended learning model and then ceases operation, the superintendent or director must notify the Department of Education (does not apply to an Internet- or computer-based community school)
Chapter 3307.	State Teachers Retirement System
Chapter 3309.	School Employees Retirement System
3310.11, 3310.42, 3310.63, and 3313.978	Requirement to provide the data verification code of a student applying for an Educational Choice, Autism, John Peterson Special Needs, or Cleveland Scholarship upon request from the Department of Education or the student's parent
3311.742	Requirement for a "partnering community school" offering grades 9 to 12 in a municipal school district (Cleveland) to establish student advisory committees
3313.375	Authorization and procedures for entering into lease-purchase contracts for the acquisition of facilities (in the same manner as school districts and educational service centers)
3313.472	Requirement to adopt a policy on parent and foster caregiver involvement in schools
3313.50	Recordkeeping requirements relating to student hearing and vision testing
3313.536	Requirement to adopt a comprehensive emergency management plan for each school building

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT

This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.

Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.539	Requirements related to the removal of athletes who suffer concussions or head injuries in interscholastic athletics and their return to practice or competition (see also R.C. 3314.142)
3313.602(D)	Requirement that each school devote at least one hour or class period to observance of Veteran’s Day
3313.603(C), (D), and (F)	Curriculum requirements for graduation (the state minimum high school curriculum); requirements relating to students who opt to complete an alternative curriculum or are enrolled in dropout prevention and recovery programs exempt from the state minimum high school curriculum; requirement to notify the Department of the number of students who choose to complete the alternative curriculum and the number of students who complete a student success plan and graduate from high school; requirement to incorporate study of economics and financial literacy into a social studies class that is part of the state minimum high school curriculum or another class; requirement to “integrate technology into learning experiences whenever practicable” ¹¹
3313.603(J)	Requirement to comply with the State Board’s plan for awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject area competency
3313.605	Implementation requirements for schools electing to offer community service education programs
3313.608	Third grade reading guarantee provisions
3313.609	Requirement to adopt a promotion and retention policy that, at a minimum, prohibits the promotion of a student who both has been truant for 10% of the school year and has failed at least two required subjects
3313.6012	Requirement to have a policy on academic “prevention/intervention” services
3313.6013	Requirement to offer students in grades 9 to 12 the opportunity to participate in an advanced standing program ¹²
3313.6014	Requirement to adopt a procedure for notifying parents, guardians, or custodians of the state minimum high school curriculum
3313.6015	Requirement that each district and school adopt a resolution about how it will address career readiness and financial literacy in its 7th or 8th grade curriculum or any other appropriate grades



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.6020	Student career advising requirements
3313.61, 3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.615, and 3313.618	High school diploma provisions ¹³
3313.643	Requirement that students and teachers wear industrial eye protection in certain industrial courses or activities
3313.648	Prohibition on offering monetary payment or other in-kind gift to a student or a student's parent or guardian as an incentive for that student to enroll in a school (does not apply to books, supplies, equipment, or other goods necessary for student to fully participate)
3313.6411	Requirement to provide the parent of a student, during the admissions process, with a copy of the school's most recent report card
3313.66, 3313.661, and 3313.662	Student suspension, expulsion, and permanent exclusion due process requirements
3313.666 and 3313.667	Requirements to establish a policy prohibiting bullying and dating violence, to annually send a written notice describing the policy to parents or guardians, and, if funds are appropriated, to provide education and training about the policy to employees, volunteers, and students
3313.67	Requirement to keep records of student immunizations
3313.671	Prohibition against allowing a student to remain in school longer than 14 days without submitting immunization records or evidence that immunization is in progress (except that the parental right to excuse a child from immunization for religious reasons applies)
3313.672	Requirement to request records from a child's previous school
3313.673	Screening requirements for new kindergartners and first graders in hearing, vision, speech and communication, and health
3313.69	Requirement to include hearing and vision screening if a school opts to have any dental and medical screening
3313.71	Tuberculin testing requirements
3313.716	Requirement that schools permit students to self-administer asthma medication

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT

This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.

Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.718	Requirement that schools permit students to self-administer epinephrine; requirement to contact emergency medical service providers whenever a student is administered epinephrine at school or at a school activity
3313.719	Requirement to have a policy on protecting students with peanut or other food allergies
3313.7110 and 3314.143	Requirement that, if a school elects to procure epinephrine autoinjectors without a distributor license for use in specified emergency situations, it adopts a policy governing their maintenance and use in accordance with specified criteria
3313.7112	Requirements related to the care of students with diabetes in school
3313.80	Requirement to display the national flag
3313.801	Requirement to accept and display donated copies of the national and state mottoes (does not apply to an Internet- or computer-based community school)
3313.814, 3313.816, and 3313.817	Requirement to adopt and enforce nutrition standards, and restrictions on foods and beverages that may be sold in schools
3313.848	Requirements related to the expenditure of unexpended and unobligated funds that were paid to an educational service center in the previous fiscal year
3313.849	Requirements regarding educational service center shared service agreements that may be entered into by two or more school districts, community schools, or STEM schools
3313.86	Requirement to periodically review policies and procedures to ensure the safety of students, employees, and other persons from any known hazards in the school building or on building grounds and to ensure compliance with all federal laws and regulations
3313.89	Requirement that a school that serves any of grades nine through twelve distribute to parents and students information on the online education and career planning tool developed by the Director of Job and Family Services to assist students in developing education and career plans



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3314.101	Requirement to immediately suspend a school employee from all duties that require the care, custody, or control of a child if the employee is arrested, summoned, or indicted for specified offenses
3314.15	Requirement that, if a community school elects to screen students for body mass index and weight status category, the school must comply with parental opt-out, implementation, and reporting requirements
3314.16	Requirement that, if a community school governing authority requires the placement of an automated external defibrillator in a school under its control, the governing authority also require that a sufficient number of the staff persons assigned to each school successfully complete an appropriate training course in the use of the defibrillator – similar to R.C. 3313.717, which applies to school districts and chartered nonpublic schools (does not apply to an Internet- or computer-based community school)
3314.18	Requirements to implement federally subsidized free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch programs – similar to R.C. 3313.813, which applies to school districts (does not apply to an Internet- or computer-based community school, and other community schools may opt out for financial reasons)
3314.26	Requirement to withdraw, from an Internet- or computer-based community school, students who fail to take required achievement assessments for two consecutive years – similar to R.C. 3313.6410, which applies to school district-operated schools that primarily use an Internet- or computer-based instructional method
3314.40 and 3314.99(A)	Requirement to report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction misconduct committed by any employee – failure to report misconduct is a fourth degree misdemeanor and, in some instances, a first degree misdemeanor
3314.401	Requirement to keep investigation reports of misconduct in a licensed employee’s personnel file unless no license disciplinary action is taken against the employee
3314.402	Requirement that employee misconduct reporting and retainment of misconduct reports requirements prevail over any collective bargaining agreements

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT

This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.

Revised Code Reference	Description
3314.403 and 3314.99(B)	Prohibition against false reporting of school employee misconduct (false report is a first degree misdemeanor); granting of immunity from civil liability for a report made in good faith; award of attorney fees and costs incurred because of false report
3314.41	Requirements for criminal records checks of private contractors providing essential school services
3314.44	Requirement that the chief administrative officer of a community school submit all education records of a past or current student to that student's district of residence if the community school closes
3317.141	Requirement for a performance-based teacher salary schedule, but only if the community school accepts federal Race to the Top grant money (see R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(i))
3317.161	Requirement that a school's career-technical education program be approved in order for the school to receive state funding for the students enrolled in the program (see R.C. 3314.08(C)(1)(g))
3319.073	Requirement for teacher in-service training in prevention of child abuse, violence, substance abuse, and dating violence; in promotion of positive youth development; in school safety and violence prevention (including human trafficking content); and on the policy against harassment, intimidation, or bullying
3319.111, 3319.112, and 3319.114	Requirement for a "standards-based" policy for annual teacher evaluations, but only if the community school accepts federal Race to the Top grant money (see R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(i)); not required for substitute teachers
3319.22 to 3319.31	Teacher licensing requirements (except the requirement in R.C. 3319.076 that teachers hired on or after July 1, 2013, to provide physical education hold a license for teaching physical education) ¹⁴
3319.321	Student information confidentiality requirements
3319.39 and 3319.391	Requirements for criminal records checks of job applicants
3319.41	Prohibition against corporal punishment in public schools
3319.46	Requirement to comply with the State Board's policy and standards for the implementation of positive behavior intervention supports and the use of physical restraint or seclusion on students



REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3319.58(C)	Requirement that all teachers of core subject areas at community schools that do not operate dropout prevention and recovery programs ranked in the lowest 10% of public school buildings, based on their performance index scores, take a written exam prescribed by the State Board of Education, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year ¹⁵
3321.01	Requirements relating to admittance of children to kindergarten and first grade, including requirements for early admission to kindergarten and first grade ¹⁶
3321.041	Requirement that schools excuse up to four days of student absences due to out-of-state travel for enrichment programs
3321.13	Reporting requirements related to a child withdrawing from school; requirement to report certain withdrawn students to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles
3321.14, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, and 3321.191	Compulsory School Law enforcement requirements
Chapter 3323.	Requirements related to special education
3323.19	Requirement for comprehensive eye examination prior to receiving special education and related services for the first time
3327.01 and 3327.02	If a community school assumes responsibility for student transportation (under R.C. 3314.091), it must comply with provisions regarding who must be transported and standards for payments in lieu of transportation as if it were a school district. It is also generally required to comply with all provisions of law pertaining to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses, including those pertaining to drivers and mechanics.
3327.09	Motor vehicle insurance requirement (if the community school assumes responsibility for student transportation) ¹⁷
3327.10	School bus driver qualifications; requirement to obtain driving records of school bus drivers (applies to a community school regardless of whether it has assumed responsibility for student transportation); criminal records check requirements ¹⁸

REQUIREMENTS FROM WHICH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ARE NOT EXEMPT	
This section of the brief does not address operating requirements codified in R.C. Chapter 3314. that apply exclusively to community schools or their sponsors.	
Revised Code Reference	Description
3327.16(B)	Requirement to provide school bus rider instruction programs to all students in kindergarten through third grade (if the community school assumes responsibility for student transportation)
3333.81 to 3333.88	Requirements relating to student participation in distance learning courses offered by school districts
Chapter 3365.	Requirement to participate in the College Credit Plus Program ¹⁹
3365.032	Requirement that the governing authority of a community school that expels a student notify the pertinent higher education institution that the student attends under the College Credit Plus Program ²⁰
3737.73	Conduct of fire, tornado, and school safety drills
Chapter 3742.	Requirements to take actions to prevent lead poisoning and to control lead hazard in schools
4111.17	Ohio Equal Pay Law (anti-discrimination related to wages)
Chapter 4112.	Ohio Civil Rights Act
4113.52	Ohio Whistleblower Law
Chapter 4117.	The state Collective Bargaining Law (as prescribed in R.C. 3314.10(A)(2) and (3) and 3314.102)
Chapter 4123.	Workers' Compensation Law
Chapter 4141.	Unemployment Compensation Law
Chapter 4167.	State Occupational Safety and Health Law
5705.391	Requirements for five-year projections of revenues and expenditures



Parental rights and health and safety standards

In addition, community schools must comply with any laws or rules that “grant certain rights to parents”²¹ and with “health and safety standards established by law for school buildings.”²² These might include:

Revised Code Reference	Description
3313.205	Requirement to adopt a policy on notification of a parent when the parent’s child is absent from school
3313.712	Requirement to provide the parent of every enrolled student a statutorily prescribed blank emergency medical authorization form
3313.751	Prohibition against students smoking in any area controlled by a school board; requirement that a school board have a disciplinary policy to enforce the smoking prohibition
3313.815	Requirement to have an employee trained in the Heimlich Maneuver during periods food is being served to students
3707.03	Requirement to abate nuisances or unsanitary conditions on school property
3707.48 and 3707.99	Prohibition of violating any order of a local health board
3707.50	Requirement that a warning about anabolic steroids be posted in school locker rooms
Chapter 3794.	Statewide ban on smoking in public places



Endnotes

¹ R.C. 3314.04.

² It is not clear whether community schools must meet the federal requirement that teachers in core subject areas (reading and language arts, math, science, foreign language, government, economics, fine arts, history, and geography) must be “highly qualified,” as that term is defined by state law. Essentially, to be highly qualified, a teacher must be licensed in the subject area or grade level for which the teacher is assigned and demonstrate subject area competence (by passing a prescribed test or meeting some other prescribed coursework or experience requirements). (See R.C. 3319.074.) The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and its implementing regulations provide that a public charter school teacher must meet the certification and licensure requirements, if any, set forth in the state’s charter school law (34 Code of Federal Regulations 200.56(a)(3)). Ohio law requires that community school teachers be licensed under the same statutes and rules that apply to school district teachers (R.C. 3314.03(A)(10)). But Ohio law also appears to exempt community schools from the provision of the State Board’s minimum education standards that requires teachers to be assigned to teach in the area or grade level in which they are licensed. Thus, under state law, community school teachers also might not have to meet the “highly qualified” prerequisites in order to teach any core subjects.

³ School districts must offer the right of first refusal to purchase district real property to start-up community schools and public college-preparatory boarding schools. Districts also must offer for sale or lease to community schools and public college-preparatory boarding schools district real property that has not been used for two years.

⁴ Community schools, like school districts, may make up calamity days using online and paper “blizzard bag” take-home lesson plans (R.C. 3313.482). Nevertheless, the Department of Education must waive the number of hours or days of learning opportunities not offered by a community school because it was closed due to a public calamity, so long as the school was actually open for instruction with students in attendance for at least the minimum number of hours required by law, which is currently 920 hours (R.C. 3314.08(H)(4)).

⁵ A separate provision of law, R.C. 3314.38, permits individuals ages 22 and above who have not received high school diplomas or equivalence certificates to enroll for up to two cumulative school years in a community school that operates a dropout prevention and recovery program. If students enroll in a community school under that section, the community school must comply with certain reporting requirements and program administration standards.

⁶ Community schools are specifically authorized, but not required, to provide career-technical education (R.C. 3314.086).

⁷ R.C. 3311.78 applies only to a municipal school district (Cleveland).

⁸ R.C. 3311.77, 3311.80, and 3311.81 apply only to a municipal school district (Cleveland).

⁹ R.C. 3311.82 applies only to a municipal school district (Cleveland).

¹⁰ R.C. 3311.83 applies only to a municipal school district (Cleveland).

¹¹ The following other provisions in R.C. 3313.603 may apply to community schools, but it is not clear: (1) the requirement for students who are subject to the state minimum high school curriculum, except for students pursuing a career-technical track, to complete two semesters of fine arts in any of grades 7 to 12 to graduate from high school (R.C. 3313.603(K)), (2) authorization to require a more rigorous minimum curriculum than otherwise prescribed by statute



(R.C. 3313.603(E)), (3) requirements relating to excusing from high school physical education students who have participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading for at least two full seasons or in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) for at least two full school years (R.C. 3313.603(L)), (4) requirements relating to awarding high school credit for coursework taken prior to ninth grade (R.C. 3313.603(G)), and (5) eligibility of coursework delivered through integrated academic and career-technical instruction to count toward the state minimum high school curriculum requirements (R.C. 3313.603(I)).

¹² Advanced standing programs will replace dual enrollment programs beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. For the 2014-2015 school year, students who enroll in such a program will continue to participate in the manner specified under former law for the dual enrollment program in which that student enrolled (Section 6(C) of Am. Sub. H.B. 487 of the 130th General Assembly).

¹³ R.C. 3313.616 permits school districts and nonpublic schools to grant diplomas to certain veterans. Since the statute does not mention community schools, presumably they *cannot* award diplomas to veterans.

¹⁴ Although community school teachers must hold an educator's license or certificate issued by the State Board of Education as prescribed in R.C. 3314.03(A)(10), it appears that they are not subject to the State Board rule that requires teachers to teach in the subject area or grade level for which they are licensed. (See also note 2 above.)

¹⁵ A similar testing provision applies to school district teachers of core subject areas who are rated ineffective for two of three performance evaluations (R.C. 3319.58(B)).

¹⁶ Current law generally permits admission of underage students to grades K and 1 only if done in accordance with a state-approved grade acceleration policy adopted under R.C. 3324.10. That restriction applies to community schools but, unlike school districts, the requirement to have grade acceleration policies does not. (R.C. 3314.06(A), 3314.08(B), and 3321.01(A)(2).) It may not be clear whether a community school now must have a grade acceleration policy (which otherwise it does not) if it intends to admit a student early. (Additionally, a community school may admit individuals younger than five years of age if it operates a Montessori preschool program (a program using the Montessori method endorsed by the American Montessori Society, the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, or the Association Montessori Internationale as its primary method of instruction). These individuals must be offered at least 455 hours of learning opportunities per school year.)

¹⁷ The general liability insurance provision of R.C. 3313.201 also applies to a community school if it has assumed responsibility for student transportation.

¹⁸ Presumably, the direct application of the statutory bus driver qualifications and driver record requirements to all community schools, regardless of whether a school has assumed responsibility for student transportation, also includes independent contractors hired by a community school.

¹⁹ The College Credit Plus Program will replace the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. For the 2014-2015 school year, students will continue to participate in the manner specified under former law for the Post-Secondary Options Enrollment Program, and the Department must continue to make payments as specified under that former law for students who participate (Section 6 of Am. Sub. H.B. 487 of the 130th General Assembly).

²⁰ See previous note.

²¹ R.C. 3314.04.

²² R.C. 3314.05(B)(5). See also R.C. 3314.03(A)(22) and 3314.072(B).

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