



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

October 25, 2023

The Honorable J. Christopher Woolard  
Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Ohio Department of Education  
25 South Front Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

Dear Superintendent Woolard,

I am writing to recognize Ohio's ongoing commitment to the maintenance of equity requirements under section 2004(b) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). Knowing the numerous, competing priorities facing States, State educational agencies, and local educational agencies, Ohio's work to implement these new, critically important resource equity requirements is appreciated. We note that Ohio's action is a result of cooperative efforts involving Governor DeWine, appropriators in your State general assembly, and State educational agency leadership and staff.

ARP maintenance of equity requirements help ensure that State and local education funding supports students who experienced longstanding opportunity gaps before, and were disproportionately impacted by, the COVID-19 pandemic. In implementing these provisions through a mix of data quality efforts, engagement with Department-provided technical assistance, and maintenance of State education funding for the communities and students who need it most, Ohio is taking critical steps to accelerate academic recovery and close opportunity and achievement gaps.

My team looks forward to continuing our work with yours in implementation of maintenance of equity requirements. Thank you for your collaboration and all you do for Ohio's students, educators, and families.

Sincerely,

Adam Schott  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs  
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and  
Duties of the Assistant Secretary  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

CC: The Honorable Mike DeWine  
Office of the Governor  
Governor of Ohio  
Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-6117