



**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, March 23, 2009

**Contact:** Amanda Wurst  
614 644-0957/614 832-7512  
[Amanda.Wurst@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:Amanda.Wurst@governor.ohio.gov)

## **OAPCTE Announces Support for Governor's Education Plan**

**Columbus, Ohio** – The Ohio Association of Private Colleges for Teacher Education has announced its support for Governor Ted Strickland's education reform and funding plan.

OAPCTE is comprised of 37 member private institutions, which offer one or more state approved teacher licensure program at the graduate or undergraduate level.

"Ohio has long been a leader in the nation in educator preparation," the OAPCTE said in a resolution of support. "Programs that prepare educators in Ohio put children and educators first. As a result, we are positioned to realize the ambitious and transformational goals outlined in the Governor's plan."

Governor Strickland's comprehensive plan to establish a modernized education system is designed to ensure every Ohio child learns the skills they need to be successful in the 21st century economy. The plan has been endorsed by the Ohio Business Roundtable, the State University Education Deans (SUED) and the Ohio 8 Coalition, an alliance of superintendents and teacher union presidents from Ohio's eight big-city school districts.

"Members of the Ohio Association of Private Colleges for Teacher Education understand that educator quality is one of the most critical components in a child's education," Strickland said. "I appreciate their support, and I value their work to ensure that our future educators are well-equipped and ready to lead a 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom."

Ohio's chancellor of higher education, Eric Fingerhut, also thanked members of OAPCTE for their long history of innovation and service.

"Ohio's private colleges of education are essential partners in the Governor's plan for educator quality," Fingerhut said. "We look forward to working with them and the Ohio Department of Education to provide students the education they need to become great educators."