

State elected officials in Ohio, consistent with the Constitution of Ohio and Ohio law, resisted appropriating public funds for private schools until 1965: Part 3

In Part 2, the Superintendent of Common Schools was just that—Superintendent of Common Schools, not private schools.

Samuel Lewis, in his three Annual Reports, expressed to the legislature that the public common school was in dire need of financial resources. This may have irritated some legislators and thus may have contributed to the legislature's decision to eliminate the state office in 1840..

The State's duties for public education were assigned to the Secretary of the State's office from 1840 to 1853 when the State Commissioner of Common Schools was elected. One significant school law was enacted in 1847—the Akron Bill. This bill provided that all the school districts within a city would be under the jurisdiction of a single Board of Education.

Part 4 will discuss the State's responsibility for education pursuant to the mandate of a thorough and efficient system of common schools.