

# THE PLAIN DEALER

**Gov. Kasich champions mentoring of students with Cleveland bill signing**

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By Patrick O'Donnell

CLEVELAND – Gov. John Kasich stopped at an East Side Cleveland school Thursday to promote his \$10 million student mentoring program and other efforts with a ceremonial bill signing.

The "wraparound" school approach that the Cleveland school district and the United Way of Greater Cleveland are using to bring social service supports to 17 district schools this year was one of a few models around the state that Kasich had for his "Community Connectors" program.

Cleveland is also taking cues from similar efforts in Cincinnati and nationwide.

Community Connectors is part of House Bill 483, one of the major bills in the mid-biennium budget update the legislature just passed and which Kasich signed at Anton Grdina elementary school at E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street and Kinsman Avenue. The school is one of Cleveland's struggling schools using the wraparound efforts as part of its plan to improve.

It was just a ceremonial signing for the bill, which he has already signed into law.

The bill sets aside \$10 million for grants for three-to-one matches of what local communities spend on programs to mentor and guide children in schools.

Kasich, joined by several legislators, Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and district Chief Executive Officer Eric Gordon, said it is crucial to have adults in schools talking with kids, hearing their dreams and helping guide them toward achieving their aims.

**Article continued here:**

[http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/06/gov\\_kasich\\_champions\\_mentoring.html](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/06/gov_kasich_champions_mentoring.html)