

# The Courier

The Findlay Courier, Editorial – June 19, 2012

## Sharing services could save money

As school, city and county government leaders struggle to balance their budgets and ponder future tax requests, they might want to reconsider an old idea: sharing services.

In 2011, the Kasich administration pitched it to governments so they could improve efficiencies and save money as a way to deal with state funding cuts.

So far, however, relatively few have bought into the idea. A report released recently, "Beyond Boundaries: A Shared Services Action Plan for Ohio Schools and Governments," cited only 51 collaborative efforts involving schools and governments across the state.

Those efforts, according to the 56-page report, already have resulted in almost \$1 billion in savings. Millions more, however, could be saved through additional agreements.

The report urges schools and governments to adopt a business model based on shared services, a collaborative strategy that optimizes staff, equipment, facilities and other resources. By combining, entities can improve efficiencies and reduce costs. ...

Eventually, there might be no other option but to operate under cooperative agreements.

The sooner officials consider the possibilities and begin to act on them, the better off our budgets might be.

Also published in:

COSHOCTON  
**TRIBUNE**

**Zanesville**  
**TimesRecorder.com**

**Newark**  
**Advocate.com**

**LANCASTER**  
**EAGLE-GAZETTE**

Chillicothe  
**Gazette**