

MISSING
MAN, GIRL
ID'D AS PAIR
FOUND IN
RIVER. **A2**

BENGALS' O-LINE
FINDS RHYTHM AFTER
EARLY STRUGGLES
VS. JAGUARS. **D1**

ICE MOVING
TO DEPORT
MORE
VICTIMS OF
CRIME. **B1**

MILITARY

Wright-Patterson helping national security needs

10th annual Ohio Defense & Aerospace Forum focuses on threats from space.

By **Thomas Gnau**
Staff Writer

At a time when military threats are evolving, participants at the 10th annual Ohio Defense & Aero-

space Forum agreed that Dayton, Springfield and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base remain integral to national security. Four senior executives on the panel examining the future of prime contractors praised Ohio and its openness to defense-focused companies.

Mark Williams, senior vice president for Sierra Nevada Corp., said his company will have seven Dayton-area buildings by next year, including four big maintenance,

repair and overhaul hangars at Dayton International Airport.

The state of Ohio's \$78.8 million award for infrastructure projects around the Dayton International will make possible an eventual fifth hangar, Williams told the Dayton Daily News.

"We're all in on Dayton," Williams said.

Micah North, chief executive

Security continued on **A8**

Brig. Gen. Robert Schreiner, Space Force liaison officer to U.S. Northern Command and Strategic Command, speaking at the Ohio Defense & Aerospace Forum on Monday Sept. 15, 2025. THOMAS GNAU/STAFF

ONLY IN THE DAYTON DAILY NEWS

TOP NATIONAL STORY

Big improvements on report cards for some

School administrators attribute improvement to commitment, work.

By **Eileen McClory**
Staff Writer

Several local school districts showed major improvement on the state report cards for last school year, while other high-performing schools saw small declines.

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce uses multiple data points from public schools to determine the districts' ratings. The five categories that go into the overall rating are achievement, gap closing, early literacy, graduation and progress.

Achievement and progress are the most heavily weighted in the equation. Achievement includes how students did on state testing, and progress is the statistical analysis used to measure academic growth of students from year to year, according to ODEW.

The star rating is the system that the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce use to rate how well school districts are doing, with 3 to 3.5 stars considered meeting state expectations.

Top-performing school districts

Many regularly top-performing school districts in the region again dominated this year's ratings.

Oakwood City Schools was the seventh-highest performing school district by overall rating points, which is used to determine the star rating of each district, and performed the ninth-best on state tests. Oakwood overall earned 5 stars.

Dayton International School students prepare their assignments for their teacher. While Dayton Public Schools saw some significant academic improvements over last year, Dayton performed worse overall and on multiple indicators compared to the "Ohio 8," or the eight urban districts. JIM NOELKER / STAFF

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek, Centerville, Mason, Miami East and Wayne Local also earned 5 stars.

"This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our teachers and staff, who work daily to empower, challenge, and support every learner to grow every day," said Jon Wesney, superintendent for Centerville Schools. "We are incredibly proud of our students, whose hard work and

accomplishments made this possible."

Springboro Schools dropped slightly, from a 5-star rating to a 4.5-star rating. District leaders said the change was due to an adjustment in the Gap Closing measure and said they would "intensify our efforts to ensure every student has equitable access to success."

Kettering City Schools earned

4 stars overall and in achievement, progress, graduation rate and early literacy, along with a 5-star rating in Gap Closing, which shows how much students learn through the year.

"We are incredibly proud of our students and staff for this outstanding performance and their commitment to excellence,"

Report cards continued on **A7**

Trump blames 'radical left' for political violence

Worries arise that Kirk killing will be exploited to chill free speech.

By **Chris Megerian, Lisa Mascaro and Alanna Durkin Richer**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump is escalating threats to crack down on what he describes as the "radical left" following Charlie Kirk's assassination, stirring fears that his administration is trying to harness outrage over the killing to suppress political opposition.

Without establishing any link to last week's shooting, the Republican president and members of his administration have discussed classifying some groups as domestic terrorists, ordering racketeering investigations and revoking tax-exempt status for progressive nonprofits. The White House pointed to Indivisible, a progressive activist network, and the Open Society Foundations, founded by George Soros, as potential subjects of scrutiny.

Although administration officials insist that their focus is preventing violence, critics see an extension of Trump's

Worries continued on **A8**

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