

The Central Post

Newsletter #5, Fall 2007



Stop by the Central Region Booth at Capital Conference !

There are multiple reasons why you should take a few moments to check out the Central Region display at Capital Conference. Perhaps the most important reason is the opportunity to meet members of the executive committee and make important professional connections.

We are not above offering a small "bribe" either. For example, choose from a variety of free Central Region merchandise including: a beautiful bud vase, a magnifier/ruler, post-it note pads, a t-shirt, or a pen.

If you attended either the spring or fall Central Region conference, you'll want to look at our LCD display of photos from

those events. We have photos of each of the award presentations as well as random photos of the event.

Even more importantly, we printed 4x6 copies of each photo as well. You are welcome to take the photos from your district. These are totally free on a first come, first served basis.

Finally, if you would like additional prints of any of the photos, they can be ordered at just \$1 for 4x6 or \$5 for 8½ x 11 which includes shipping.

The regional booths are on the main concourse near registration, and the Central Region is in the heart of them all!

An opportunity to do "good" with *almost* no time commitment!

Everyone likes to do good deeds. It's a great feeling to know that you have been of service. Unfortunately, many of these "opportunities" take much more time than we bargained for. Wouldn't you like to have the opportunity to volunteer knowing that it would only require 4-5 hours a year? Central Region has a solution for you! We have several subcommittees that are in need of volunteers. They meet only once or twice a year for a couple of hours. It's a great way to sample regional leadership opportunities.

Hospitality Committee: This group of people helps out at our spring and fall regional conference.

Awards Committee: This committee meets once a year to review award applications for Outstanding School Employee and Friend of Education and choose the recipients.

All Ohio Board Selection Committee: This committee meets once a year to review the applications for All Ohio Board and select the recipient.

Legislative Platform Committee: Meets once a year to review proposals for OSBA's legislative agenda from both OSBA staff and local school boards.

The executive committee will be making appointments to these committees at its meeting on Monday, November 12. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the regional secretary, Mike Grote, no later than November 9. Thanks, your help will be appreciated.



The Central Region's fall conference was held for the third time at Villa Milano in Columbus. In addition to brief presentations by Rick Lewis, Marty Rothey, and Susan Zelman, Mike Grote shared what the research has to say about what board members can do to impact student achievement (see separate article).

Several districts were honored for the selection of their high schools for the Newsweek Magazine "Best in USA" list. Dr. Zelman presented plaques to the boards of Bexley City, Columbus City, Dublin City, and Upper Arlington City Schools. (Olentangy Local also qualified for the honor, but was not able to attend).

Outstanding school employees recognized were Larry Kimbler (Madison-Plains), Diana Maxton (Logan Elm), Lee Schreiner (South-Western), Gloria Werline (Fairbanks) and Karen Wright (Hilliard).

Friend of Education plaques were presented to Ray Chappelear (Fairbanks), Deborah French (Lancaster), Jim Jennings (Upper Arlington), Mark Matthews (Liberty Union-Thurston), and Nick Pitner (South-Western).

OSBA President Marty Rothey presented Outstanding Board Member awards to Larry Campbell (East Knox), Howard Koons (Mid-Ohio ESC and Pioneer Tech), and Byron Lloyd (Ross-Pike ESC). Ronald Sheldon (Granville) also was recognized but was unable to attend.

Central Region President, Cathy Johnson, presented this year's President's Award to Bill Phillis of the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding.



LEFT: W. Carlton Weddington recognizes 2007 President Cathy Johnson for her service. BELOW: State Superintendent Susan Tave Zelman shares good news about the state report card. RIGHT: Rick Lewis, OSBA's director (above), and Marty Rothey, OSBA President (below), address conference attendees.



Great turnout once again: Over 200 people attended the Central Region Fall Conference

What Board Members Can Do to Impact Student Achievement

The Mid Central Regional Educational Labs examined over 4500 studies where district leadership and student achievement were variables. They concluded:

1. District leadership matters, i.e., good district leadership has a positive impact on student achievement. This is great news because it means that YOU, the board member, can have an impact on student achievement.


2. Six areas of superintendent responsibilities have a significant impact on student achievement: Goal setting that engages and gets the buy-in of everyone, setting non-negotiable goals for high student achievement and high quality instruction by teachers, board support for the plan including the board's participation in extensive professional development, significant district resources dedicated to professional development of principals and teachers, monitoring of instructional quality and student achievement, and defined autonomy (Principals must meet goals, but have flex-

ibility).
3. Leaders perceived as "strong" do not always have a positive effect on student achievement. They may have the wrong goals or miscalculate the magnitude of the changes they are demanding.
4. Stability in leadership matters. The longer superintendents and board members are in their positions, the higher students achieve.

The full report can be downloaded from: www.mcrel.org



Marty Rothey with Outstanding Board Member Award recipients Howard Koons, Larry Campbell, and Byron Lloyd.



Central Region
Ohio School Boards Association
Dr. Michael Grote, Regional Secretary
PO Box 3323
Dublin, Ohio 43016
mggrote@columbus.rr.com