# RPRICE BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team

#### Save the date for 2023 Ohio School Safety Summit

The Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC) will hold its annual safety summit July 25-26 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Featuring four keynote speakers and a variety of in-depth sessions on school safety topics, this event gives school leaders the chance to update their understanding of the security field and apply the knowledge they gain to policymaking, governance and management within their district. Announcements and registration details will be posted on the OSSC website at https://ohioschoolsafetycenter.ohio.gov/ school-safety-summit.

#### Raffles may return after update to rules

Last September, an amendment to Ohio Revised Code 2915.092 — which deals with the legality of raffles as fundraisers for various institutions — removed public schools from the list of entities permitted to conduct raffles without a bingo license. Since then, the General Assembly passed an amendment reinstating the words "public schools" to the list, and as of April 7, schools can once again count on the ability to legally conduct raffles. For more information, review the OSBA's Legal Ledger blog: http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ohioschoolboards/raffles-reinstated.

#### **Deadline nearing for Legislative Platform resolutions**

Each year, OSBA member school boards are invited to propose amendments to the OSBA Legislative Platform, which you can view in its current form at **www.ohioschoolboards.org/platform**. The OSBA Legislative Platform Committee will review the proposals in August when it meets to develop recommendations on amendments for the Delegate Assembly to consider at the November Capital Conference. If your board supports a plank it believes should be incorporated into the platform or would like to suggest an amendment to an existing position, contact the OSBA Division of Legislative Services for more information. The submission deadline is May 31. The platform guides OSBA's advocacy efforts and informs legislators, policymakers, the public and the media where OSBA stands on a variety of public education issues.

#### Updated Ohio RC dates and deadlines available

The OSBA Division of Legal Services has updated its Ohio Revised Code (RC) dates and deadlines page for the 2022-23 school year. Members can access this important resource at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/32127.

April 24, 2023

Volume 55 Issue 8

#### Contents

More news......2 Bus electrification webinar coming soon; Discover the joy of language and literature in April; OSBA online

Bulletin Board......3

News.....9

Public Schools Work!.....11

### Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Principals
- Communication specialists
- Transportation supervisors



## Bus electrification webinar coming soon

Join OSBA May 5 at 10 a.m. for a free webinar designed to help districts prepare for the competitive application process for grants from the EPA's Clean School Bus Program, which is expected to open soon. The webinar will feature presentations from experts on the bus grant process and a superintendent who led a successful electric school bus implementation program. For more information and to register, visit http://links. ohioschoolboards.org/ ohioschoolboards/electric-buswebinar.

# Discover the joy of language and literature in April

April is National Poetry Month and School Library Month, making this an ideal time to explore how your district can encourage students to read and

#### Clark-Shawnee students collect shoes for community

More than 300 shoes have been donated to the city of Springfield and communities throughout Clark County thanks to students' efforts at **Clark-Shawnee Local**'s **(Clark)** Shawnee Elementary School.

The Brave Leaders, in partnership with the Springfield Salvation Army, organized the gently used shoe drive at the elementary school, where donations bins were placed in each grade-level pod.

"To have over 300 pairs of shoes donated is pretty amazing," Principal **Kyle Phelps** told a local newspaper. "There is power in numbers. Our school can accomplish a lot, and we cannot wait to see what the Brave Leaders and Shawnee Elementary community can do next for Springfield Township. and the city of Springfield." Source: Springfield News-Sun

write for fun and self-expression. Last year, data from the Pew Research Center showed that the number of 9- and 13-year-olds who read for pleasure every day was at a historic low, but those who did earned higher grades. Many children have their first positive experiences with literature



#### Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association 8050 North High Street, Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43235-6481 (614) 540-4000 ● (800) 589-OSBA www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA President: Christine Varwig, Toledo City OSBA Chief Executive Officer: Richard C. Lewis, CAE Editor: Katherine Gregor, editorial manager Layout and design: Jennifer Rowe, communication design manager Assistant editor: Scott Gerfen, senior communication manager

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through personalized classroom explorations and free time in the library. The National Poetry Month classroom activity suggestions at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ poets are fun ways to introduce kids to the power of the written word. A toolkit for districts to celebrate their school libraries is available at https://www.ala.org/ aasl/advocacy/slm.

#### **OSBA** online

#### • www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn pages are great ways to stay connected to your association, school districts around the state and other organizations. Following are the links for each platform. Facebook: www.facebook.com/ohschool boards; Twitter: www.twitter.com/ ohschoolboards; Instagram: www. instagram.com/ohschoolboards; LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/ company/ohio-school-boardsassociation.



compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

#### **OSBA** executive searches

#### **Treasurer**

District **①** Groveport Madison Local (Franklin)

Deadline Contact May 12

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



#### **Other searches**

<b>Position</b> Assistant Superintendent	Location Licking Heights Local (Licking)	<b>Deadline</b> April 28	<b>Contact</b> <b>Kim Henderson</b> , director of human resources, Licking heights Local, (740) 927-6926, ext. 10500
Treasurer	Cardinal Local (Geauga)	April 28	<b>Daniel L. Wilson</b> , director of business development, <b>ESC of Western Reserve</b> , (440) 350-2563, ext. 767
Treasurer	Swanton Local (Fulton)	May 4	Kerri Weir, superintendent Northwest Ohio ESC, (567) 444-4795 or Homer Hendricks, treasurer, Northwest Ohio ESC, (567) 444-4795
<b>National searches</b> <b>Position</b> Superintendent	<b>Location</b> Laurinburg, NC	<b>Deadline</b> May 2	<b>Contact</b> <b>Sam Thorp</b> , assistant legal counsel for superintendent searches, North Carolina School Boards Association, (919) 747-6706

#### Editor's note

Job postings must be received six weeks before the application deadline to ensure timely publication. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **Board changes**

Akron City Board of Education member Dr. N.J. Akbar announced his resignation effective April 10. ••• Leetonia EV Board of Education appointed Marilyn Heddleson to the board effective June 28. She will replace Richard Hendricks, who resigned. ••• Trotwood-Madison City Board of Education member Michael Andrews announced his resignation effective March 31. ••• Xenia Community City appointed Joshua Smith to the board effective March 27. He replaced Pam Callahan, who resigned.

#### **Administrative changes**

#### Superintendents

Adams County/Ohio Valley Local (Adams) Superintendent Richard Andrew Seas announced his retirement effective July 31. ••• Avon Lake City hired Joelle M. Magyar as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Robert Scott, who is retiring. Magyar is currently superintendent at Brecksville-Broadview Heights City. ••• Bath Local (Allen) Superintendent Richard Dackin announced his resignation effective July 31. ••• St. Henry Consolidated Local (Mercer) hired elementary school principal Adam Puthoff as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Julie Garke, who is retiring. ••• Tipp City EV hired Aaron Moran as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Mark Stefanik. Moran is currently superintendent at Versailles EV. ••• Van Wert City hired high school principal Robert Priest as assistant superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Bill Clifton, who is retiring. ••• Willoughby-Eastlake City hired Dr. Patrick A. Ward as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent Charles Murphy. Ward is currently director of curriculum at Mayfield City.

#### Treasurers

Jefferson County JVSD Treasurer Karen Spoonemore announced her retirement effective Aug. 1. ••• Kenston Local (Geauga) hired Seth Cales as treasurer effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Treasurer Ryan Pendleton. Cales is currently treasurer at Cardinal Local (Geauga).

#### **Sympathies**

Former **Fort Recovery Local (Mercer)** Board of Education member **Cyril LeFevre** died March 31. He was 76. ••• Former **Lima City** Board of Education member **Alberta Lee** died March 30. She was 89. ••• Former **Ottawa Hills Local (Lucas)** Board of Education member **Justice "Judd" G. Johnson Jr.** died April 5. He was 84.



#### What will your district look like two, five or eight years down the road?

As leaders in your district, it's important to look toward the future and anticipate opportunities and roadblocks in preparing students for school and lifetime success.

Let OSBA be your partner in developing an effective, aligned strategic plan to map your district's future. Call OSBA's Division of Board and Management Services at (800) 589-OSBA to get started today.

# Register today for the 2023 Board Leadership Institute!

#### April 28-29, 2023 | Join OSBA for this two-day event

#### **Keynote speakers**

#### Friday, April 28

Join Dr. Kathy McFarland, former Division I athlete, teacher, principal and mother of three, while she shares her insight on why your position in public education is imperative to the success of students. She will provide practical takeaways that you can implement immediately to make you a better leader.

#### Saturday, April 29

OSBA Director of Legislative Services Jennifer Hogue and Lobbyist Nicole Piscitani lead the advocacy efforts of the Ohio School Boards Association. Guided by the OSBA Legislative Platform, developed and voted upon by OSBA-member school boards, Hogue and Piscitani meet with Ohio legislators to encourage legislative activity that supports success for all students in Ohio's public schools.

Hogue and Piscitani will review recent activity at the Statehouse. Topics to be discussed include the biennial budget and important education-related bills that are pending or have passed in the Ohio General Assembly.

#### Cost

The cost to attend this intensive two-day institute is \$315.

#### Registration

Register online at http://links.ohioschoolboards. org/BLI or contact Scott Clay, events manager, at sclay@ohioschoolboards.org.

#### Earn credits for the OSBA Training Award

Board members attending BLI can earn 20 credits for the OSBA Training Award. Board members who earn 200 points within a three-year period will be recognized. Learn more at www.ohioschoolboards. org/training-award.

For more details or to register, visit: www.ohioschoolboards.org/events



# Join us as we discuss the current issues in public education.

Date April 25 **Time** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. <mark>Cost</mark> Free

Hear from the leadership of OSBA, OASBO, OESCA, and BASA on pressing issues impacting public education in the state of Ohio and new initiatives sponsored by the associations.



#### Register at: www.ohioschoolboards.org/events



### **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY FOR SCHOOLS

### MAY 16 | 8:30 a.m.-9 a.m.

Key Takeaways:

- Learn about the insurance program and the benefits offered.
- Gain an understanding of the advantages of purchasing in large numbers to offer guaranteed rates.
- Find out why over 300 districts participate.

For more information and to register: www.ohioschoolboards.org/events



### Searching for a new superintendent or treasurer?

Ohio School Boards Association has provided fully customized executive searches for more than 40 years.

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- OSBA guarantee

Our guarantee is simple. In the unlikely circumstance you are unable to successfully appoint a candidate, OSBA will reopen the search and work with you until the right choice is made. Board members have many obligations, but one of the most critical is choosing the district's next educational and financial leaders. OSBA understands the importance of allowing the board to own its search process. Our search consultants expertly guide the board as it makes key decisions. We handle details and communications, so your board can focus on selecting a candidate and ensuring a smooth transition to new leadership.

OSBA provided much more to our district and board than simply advertised. They brought a wealth of experience and expertise that aided the board every step of the way, from gathering and organizing information for the initial posting to involving staff and community members with the process and, ultimately, allowing us to select the right person for the job.

#### **Blake Regan**

Alexander Local (Athens) board member



OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Let us share how we can help your board.

www.ohioschoolboards.org/osba-search-services 8050 N. High Street, Suite 100 | Columbus, Ohio 43235

# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

#### Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

OSBA members can access member-only information, including workshop registration, by logging in to the OSBA website.

#### How to log in

Click on "Log in to your account" on the top right of the website. Log in using your email address on file and your password. Click "Reset your password" if needed.

If it says "We could not find your email address," or if this is your first time logging in to the site, click "Create new account." At the username prompt, enter your email address, select your affiliation and school district, and click "Submit." Create a password and add your job title on the next screen. An email with a link to activate your account will be sent to you. Click on the link to activate your account, and you will be directed to a home screen.



# EPA's Clean School Bus Program School Bus Electrification

#### Key takeaways:

- Discuss what to expect in round 2 of the Clean Bus School Program: How is the program likely to be structured and what will you need to demonstrate to win funding?
- Hear what you should know about electric school bus deployment, including creating the most compelling application.
- Learn what materials you should start compiling now to plan a competitive application.

#### For more information and to register: www.ohioschoolboards.org/events

Date Wednesday, May 10 Time 10-11 a.m. Location Virtual

# NEWS

#### by Katherine Gregor, editorial manager

#### Legislators meet Ohio's public school leaders at annual State Legislative Conference

Vouchers, property tax valuations and the restructuring of the State Board of Education (SBOE) were among the key issues discussed at the 2023 State Legislative Conference, which was held March 21 at the Sheraton on Capitol Square.

The conference provides school board members and district leaders an opportunity to meet their legislators in person and share questions and concerns about education policy. This year, the conference opened with a welcome speech from Gov. Mike DeWine, in which he thanked school board members for their service and discussed investments in education within his office's current budget plan, describing the focus of his administration as ensuring "every child... and adult in Ohio lives up to their potential." The plan is currently awaiting revision in the House.

These investments include an expansion of the Help Me Grow early childhood assistance program, \$516 million in "wellness dollars" over the biennium for school health services, a proposed \$200 million for career technical education, and expanded scholarship eligibility for state and community college students. He described the budget process as "on track and on schedule."

DeWine said that the budget also seeks to address the state's relatively low third grade literacy — about a third of Ohio's thirdgraders read below grade level. In DeWine's budget plan, each district would receive funds for "science of reading aligned" instructional materials and professional development stipends for teachers to train to use them.

These measures tie into the governor's vision for the state's overall economy. Ohio is an "attractive" state for supply chain businesses, he said, and investing in students who might work for those businesses "happens to coincide with what is the right thing for this state."

Following the governor's speech, lobbyists from OSBA, the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) reviewed bills affecting education which are being decided in the current legislature.

**Nicole Piscitani**, OSBA lobbyist, provided an overview of House Bill (HB) 33, the biennial budget. Piscitani outlined the proposed funding formula changes as well as the proposed education policy changes in the bill. She also highlighted the need to have the inputs in the funding formula updated to Fiscal Year 2022 data and the need for a comprehensive study on the needs of Ohio's economically disadvantaged students.

OASBO Deputy Executive Director **Katie Johnson** spoke on HB 1, which proposes modifying Ohio's property and income tax laws to lower income tax and raise many types of property taxes, shifting costs and changing how residential and agricultural properties are valued for tax purposes. Johnson explained that this will affect school districts differently, with district residents seeing either an increase in their property taxes or a loss of local funding for the district.

Dr. **Paul Imhoff**, director of governmental relations at BASA, presented information on the three bills proposing changes to the EdChoice voucher program, all of which OSBA, OASBO and BASA oppose. Imhoff drew applause with a succinct rationale for this opposition: "We cannot expand vouchers any further until we fund the 90% of students in this state *Continued on page 10* 

#### *News, cont. from page 9*

who attend public schools." He also stressed the importance of transparency in both public and private schools and families' ability to make informed decisions about their children's education. Current law does not require the same documentation, such as report cards, yearly audits and five-year forecasts, of private schools as public schools.

OSBA Director of Legislative Services **Jennifer Hogue** reviewed the companion bills Senate Bill (SB) 1 and HB 12. These bills seek to roll back the involvement of the SBOE and create a governorappointed cabinet department, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW), to oversee most decisions related to Ohio's education system.

Hogue explained that if the bill becomes law, elected SBOE members would select the state superintendent and issue teacher's licenses but — despite a few amendments requiring more public engagement in the DEW appointment process — the current highly public and transparent process of state education policymaking would be lost.

While some provisions of the bill, such as those designed to create more opportunities for career-technical education, are aligned with OSBA positions, Hogue explained that the importance of locally elected voices in statewide education decisions supersedes these, and as such OSBA opposes the bill.

The lobbyists answered several

questions from attendees about funding and gave examples of how to discuss the issues brought up with legislators.

Senate President Matt Huffman (R-Lima) provided a briefing on current Senate activities. This mainly addressed SB 1 and the intent behind it. He characterized the bill as a continuation of previous Senate bills and an attempt to complete what those bills started: a streamlining of the state education system that proponents hope would make education regulations more flexible. Huffman said the proposal stemmed from concerns about the restrictiveness of the current SBOE bureaucracy on districts and educators.

The House briefing was delivered by House Speaker **Jason Stephens** (R-Kitts Hill), who reflected on the importance of education and stressed that divisions on education issues merely stem from "different opinions on how to achieve the same objective." He praised attendees for the work they do, saying that "school board members are the ears of the community and their voice in the legislature."

This year's legislative panel consisted of:

Sen. Andrew O. Brenner
 (R-Delaware), chair of the Senate
 Education Committee;

• Rep. Adam Bird (R-New Richmond), chair of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee;

• Sen. Catherine D. Ingram (D-Cincinnati), ranking member of

the Senate Education Committee;
Rep. Phillip M. Robinson Jr.
(D-Solon), ranking member of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee.

The panel walked board members through current bills and shared their legislative priorities. Brenner plans to introduce a bill promoting deregulation of public schools but agreed with Bird that it was "difficult to support HB 1 in its current form." Bird also discussed the need for better public school funding and the importance of balancing that with the interests of charter, private and religious schools.

Ingram opened her remarks by saying that "There are no cookie cutter answers to what needs to be done." She drew attention to a need for specificity when promoting career-technical education to ensure that all students are receiving the same opportunities for both career training and higher education. Robinson said he would like to accelerate the Fair School Funding Plan phase-in and update it to reflect FY 2022 data so that its provisions would be more effective. He too criticized the voucher bills, saying, "We're not against choice, but it needs to not be at the expense of traditional public schools."

The panel went on to address questions about teacher shortages, the budget and improving charter school accountability. Afterward, attendees had an opportunity to meet and greet legislators over lunch.

# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

Wayne County student's chick donation inspires learning

A student at **Northwestern Local**'s **(Wayne)** Northwestern High School probably deserves some "egg-stra" credit.

Senior **Harper Flores**, who raises chickens at her parents' Wayne County farm, donated 73 fertilized eggs to second-graders at Northwestern Local's Gorrell Elementary School. She also brought along one of her roosters, Bruno, and a hen, Jessica, to show the students.

Over several weeks, students

watched as the eggs incubated and hatched, with the chicks slowly beginning to peck at the shells until they cracked.

"It takes a lot of energy, and they will be tired," Flores told students.

Flores wanted to give other students the opportunity to experience the process of raising chickens and inspire them, she told a local newspaper. Her father, **Bob**, introduced Flores to chickens and raising them after she struggled in school. "The chickens were her outlet," her mother, **Amanda**, said. "I've never seen anyone tame chickens like her."

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Flores is a member of Northwestern Local's National FFA Organization club and participates in cross country and track. She plans to attend the University of Akron after graduation and become a veterinary technician. Source: The Repository



# Peace of mind in a volatile energy market ...

Contract renewals coming in late April with fixed **pricing 30-40% below** rates starting in June!

4 SCHOOLS



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#### April 2023

- 30 Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting Zanesville

#### May 2023

- 1 Last day to submit certification for income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation for August election — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).
- Special Election Day; Primary Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after first Monday).
- 3 Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting ...... Wadsworth and virtual
- 5 Last day to submit emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor for August election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the election).
- 7 Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting .......Findlay

10 School bus electrification: What's involved, and how to win — Round 2 of the EPA's Clean School Bus Program

10

Virtual Last day for school district to file resolution of necessity, resolution to proceed and auditor's certification for bond levy with board of elections for August election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for August election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for August election to board of elections

- RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy for August election to board of elections - RC 5748.02(C); last day to submit emergency levy for August election to board of elections - RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for August election to board of elections (August election available only if district is under a fiscal emergency) - RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to the election).

15 Last day for certain board members and all administrators to file 2022 financial disclosure statements with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02(A)(4)(a).

- Burton
- 23 OSBA Forum ...... Virtual 31 Last day for the board of education to
- 31 Last day for the board of education to submit update of its five-year projection of operational revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year and the ensuing four fiscal years to the Ohio Department of Education – RC 5705.391; Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3301-92-04.

#### June 2023

1

- Last day to take action to nonrenew contracts of administrators other than superintendent and treasurer - RC3319.02(C); last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to reemploy teachers - RC 3319.11(D); last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to reemploy nonteaching employees (Note: This requirement does not apply to municipal school district employees as defined in RC 3311.71) - RC 4141.29(I) (1)(f).
- 9 OCSBA School Attorney Workshop
   21 Human Capital Essentials Training
  - with ODE ...... Columbus