

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## After-school child enrichment program expands eligibility

Qualifying families can receive a \$1,000 credit per child to put toward after-school activities such as day camps, music lessons and tutoring through the Ohio Afterschool Child Enrichment (ACE) program, the Ohio Department of Education announced last month. Designed to expand access to educational and enrichment activities for students who experienced learning disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic, ACE educational savings accounts are now available to any child ages 6-18 whose family income is at or less than 400% of the federal poverty level; who participate in Medicaid, SNAP, Ohio Works First or any other income-based benefits program; or who reside in a district identified as experiencing high rates of chronic absenteeism. An application for the program, as well as materials educators can use to promote it to their school community, are available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ohio/ace>.

## Association kicks off school board candidate campaign

School board elections are this year. To support its members, OSBA has created the Get on Board campaign to increase the number of qualified candidates running for open seats. All too frequently, board member vacancies are filled via appointments rather than through the electoral process. OSBA's campaign aims to reverse this trend by offering resources to community members who might be interested in running for a school board seat. These resources include information on school board roles and responsibilities, time commitments, structuring a campaign and where to receive candidate training. To learn more, visit [www.getonboardohio.org](http://www.getonboardohio.org).

## Free supplement for English learner educator toolkit available

The makers of the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21) are offering a supplement to their English Learner Educator Toolkit at no cost to Ohio educators through May 31. The supplement includes information to help gauge English learning needs in the classroom; tip sheets for assisting students who are new to the U.S. and their families with the transition into U.S. schools; questionnaires for families to help teachers understand each new student better; and reports on the demographics and education backgrounds of students arriving in Ohio from Ukraine, Afghanistan and Central America. After the free availability ends, the toolkit will be available for purchase from ELPA21 through the Ohio Department of Education. For more information visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ohio/newcomers>.

May 8, 2023

Volume 55 Issue 9

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## Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Principals
- Communication specialists
- Transportation supervisors

### OSBA offering a reduced rate for your summer training

OSBA is offering its members discounts on facilitated training opportunities this summer. Retreats and customized workshops occurring between June 1 and Aug. 15 will be discounted up to \$200 for a full-day workshop, while half-day sessions will receive a \$100 discount. Call (614) 540-4000 to schedule a training session for your board or district.

### Student Achievement Fair performing group deadline approaching

Does your district have a performing group you'd like to see on stage at the OSBA Capital Conference this year? May 17 is the deadline to nominate a group to perform at the Student Achievement Fair in November. Performing groups from each of the association's five regions

will be featured during the fair. Previous groups have included choirs, cheerleaders, bands, orchestras and percussion ensembles. Each group will perform for up to 20 minutes. A nomination form is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/99508>. For more information,

contact **Amanda Husmann** at [ahusmann@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:ahusmann@ohioschoolboards.org) or (614) 540-4000.

### OSBA online

● [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

OSBA offers comprehensive strategic planning and goal-setting services for school districts.

Looking ahead to the future is a critical part of school district leadership, and board members and administrators are often called upon to envision what the district will look like two, five or even eight years down the road. OSBA's strategic planning model has proven highly successful for more than a decade and includes expert guidance from our board and management services consultants to help you tailor the process to your district's specific needs. Learn more about how these services can benefit your district by visiting [www.ohioschoolboards.org/strategic-planning-and-goal-setting](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/strategic-planning-and-goal-setting).

### Fourth-grader inspires school nurse to write book

**Nancy Rook**, the nurse at **Findlay City's** Wilson Vance Intermediate School, also is an author who was inspired by a fourth-grader at her school. **Gunner Hartley** has spina bifida, a condition that affects the spine.

Through her children's book, "Just Like You!," Rook wants other students to see that Gunner's disability doesn't make him different.

"This is my second year with him," Rook told a local newspaper. "I see him every day, and we just have conversations. ... And I just thought in that time, I've gotten to know quite a bit about him."

The book focuses on the things Gunner has in common with other children despite being in a wheelchair, such as having friends and a favorite color.

Source: The Courier



## Briefcase

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Leading the way as the respected voice of Ohio public education.



# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

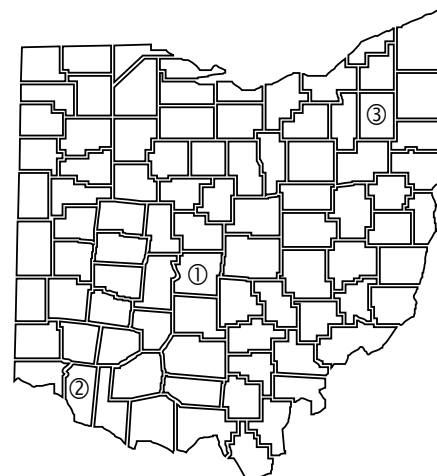
## OSBA executive searches

### Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
① Groveport Madison Local (Franklin)	May 12	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② New Richmond EV	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

### Superintendent

③ Kent City	May 19	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
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## Other Ohio searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Bath Local (Allen)	May 14	Craig Kupferberg, superintendent, Allen County ESC, (419)222-1836, ext. 104

## National searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Victoria, Texas	May 17	Dr. Marian Strauss, senior consultant, Texas Association of School Boards, (512) 467-3690
Superintendent	Mazomanie, Wis.	May 22	Daniel Nerad, search services consultant, Wisconsin Association of School Boards, (920) 655-7313

## Board changes

Joseph Badger Local (Trumbull) appointed William Burns to the board effective immediately. He replaced Linda Walton, who moved out of the district. ••• Miamisburg City Board of Education member Timothy Lewis announced his resignation effective April 7.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

Clinton-Massie Local (Clinton) Superintendent Matt Baker announced his resignation effective July 31. ••• Fairport Harbor EV hired William C. Billington as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Dr. Domenic A. Paolo, who is retiring. Billington is currently middle school principal at Buckeye Local (Ashtabula). ••• Fort Recovery Local (Mercer) hired high school principal Anthony Stahl as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Larry C. Brown, who is retiring. ••• Waverly City hired Interim Superintendent Bill Hoover as superintendent immediately.

## Sympathies

Former Parkway Local (Mercer) Board of Education member Robert Olen Ransbottom died April 11. He was 80.



## INFORMATION

by Wanda Bloch, marketing and trade show manager

### Take advantage of summer savings on custom workshops and planning sessions

For many school administrators and board members, summer provides an opportunity to finish projects and manage details necessary for closing the books on the current academic year.

The slightly slower pace and lighter schedule allows time for leadership teams to have deeper discussions about better board governance, problem-solving and communication improvements. Board self-assessment, plans for new initiatives, goal setting, performance objectives and general team dynamics can be part of a board's productive summer agenda.

Discussions on creating or renewing the district's strategic

plan are often a key summer initiative. Launching a formal and community-oriented strategic planning process helps districts gain clarity on how best to use current resources and build investments well into the future.

OSBA is pleased to present discounted facilitated workshops in these areas this summer. Retreats and customized workshops held between June 1 and Aug. 15 will be discounted as follows:

- full-day (six hours) retreat facilitation: \$1,800 (regularly \$2,000);
- customized half-day (three hours) workshop: \$800 (regularly \$900).

"For many districts, board agendas are somewhat shorter during the summer and the calendars a little less crowded," said **Cheryl W. Ryan**, OSBA director of board and management services. "June, July and August provide a chance for boards and school administrators to delve into planning, training and goal setting that can benefit and improve district processes. Summer workshops can help boards move forward into the new school year."

To schedule your board's summer workshop or retreat, call OSBA's board and management services division at (614) 540-4000.



Ohio School Boards Association

# PLANNING FOR SUCCESS



### 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.

# EPA's Clean School Bus Program School Bus Electrification

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, May 10

Time \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Virtual

## Key takeaways:

- Discuss what to expect in the next round of the Clean School Bus 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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)



OSBA 2023  
**COFFEE  
- CHAT -**

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

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

## Key Takeaways:

- Learn about various insurance programs used by Ohio school districts.
- Gain a better understanding of insurance pools.
- The cost of employee benefits continues to rise. This webinar will show how use of insurance pools may help stabilize processes and expenses.

For more information and to register: [www.ohioschoolboards.org/events](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)

# OSBA FORUM

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

Date	Time	Cost
May 23	11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Free

Save the date for this upcoming virtual event. OSBA Forums tackle the critical issues facing public education today. We discuss and provide insights and strategies to assist you in today's challenging environment.



Register at: [www.ohioschoolboards.org/events](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)

## Human Capital Essentials Training with ODE

**Wednesday, June 21 | 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. | Columbus**

Districts are well-equipped to serve and support students when they hire, grow and retain quality staff. In this training, we will build principal capacity in the following areas:

- human capital system and organizational alignment;
- recruitment, branding and communication;
- hiring practices;
- employee engagement.



This training addresses standards in all four domains of Ohio's Principal Standards. Participants will receive an e-badge and six contact hours.



For more information and to register: [www.ohioschoolboards.org/events](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)



Ohio Council of School  
Board Attorneys (OCSBA)

# School Attorney Workshop

## Date

Friday, June 9

## Time

8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

## Location

OSBA offices and virtual

## Cost

\$180

## Register

[www.ohioschoolboards.org/  
events](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)

**8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**

**9 a.m. First Amendment overview**

In this session, we will discuss how recent First Amendment decisions affect districts on a day-to-day basis and what school board attorneys can expect in the future.

**10:30 a.m. Levy guidance for school board attorneys**

Representatives from the state auditor's office will join OCSBA to review the new guidance document on levies for public officials, including school district officials and employees.

**11:30 a.m. Lunch**

**12:15 p.m. Student discipline issues for the legal practitioner**

In addition to specific requirements for disciplining K-three students, transfer students and students with disabilities, unions have begun to focus on student discipline and how it is managed during negotiations. This session will delve into the legal aspects of student discipline and provide some solutions for practitioners.

**1:30 p.m. Media and the schools: How to be active and proactive**

This session will cover how your clients should be proactive with media and how to react when they're featured in or become the story.

**2:40 p.m. Ethics and school board officials**

In this session, the speakers will discuss some of the Ohio Ethics Commission's recent advisory opinions affecting school board officials and employees.

**3:40 p.m. Business meeting**

**4 p.m. Adjourn**



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

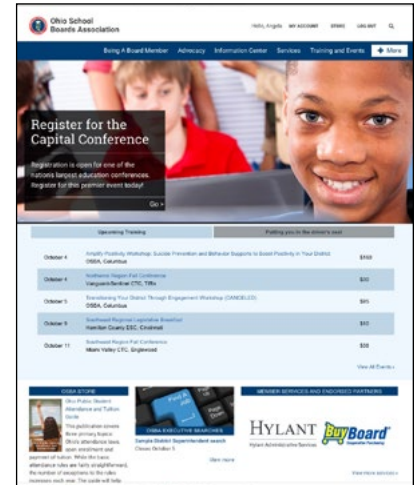
Register at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)

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.



**Hello SUMMER!**

*Summer special*

**Save up to \$200 on customized board development workshops scheduled with OSBA this summer!**

Summer is a great time for district leadership teams to plan new initiatives, discuss governance topics, kick off the district’s strategic plan and review how to best to use current resources and build investment well into the future.

OSBA is offering a discount on customized workshops and retreats offered June 1 through Aug. 15. Districts can save \$100 on a half-day workshop and \$200 on a full-day workshop.

Call OSBA at (614) 540-4000 to schedule your workshop!





# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Nicole Piscitani, lobbyist

## Ohio House sends biennial budget to Ohio Senate

The Ohio House passed House Bill (HB) 33, the biennial budget bill for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and 2025, by a bipartisan vote of 77-19. Speaker **Jason Stephens** (R-Kitts Hill) said regarding the passage of the bill: "We passed a balanced budget that is focused on everyday Ohioans. We focused on tax cuts for middle income Ohioans. We've improved education funding on all fronts for Ohioans. We're investing in our future on all fronts, and it is a really good day for Ohio, and I was really pleased with support throughout the House."

The education-related provisions of the budget include both state funding and policy changes. The Ohio House continued the implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP), a methodology to fund both traditional school districts and joint vocational school districts using local and state data. This budget continues years three and four of the six-year phase-in – with 50% in FY24 and 66.7% in FY25. Additionally, the budget includes an update to the base cost inputs from FY 22, which includes teacher salary and benefit data, among other inputs. The base cost input update is an important

change due to the state share data (property valuations and income) already being updated, and the formula working off two different years of data. The change in base cost inputs will rebalance the FSFP.

The funding for Educational Service Centers (ESCs) for FY 24 and FY 25 will use the same formula for calculating state operating funds as previous budgets and will use the same general phase-in percentage as for traditional school districts.

The minimum state share for transportation funding will increase to 37.5% in FY24 and 41.66% in FY25. Additionally, the Ohio House extended the FY 2022-23 school bus purchase fund program until the end of FY 25 due to supply chain issues that can cause districts a 12-18 month wait to receive a school bus. The Ohio House also made several transportation policy changes, including requiring ODE to determine penalties for noncompliance based on the number of students affected rather than the total daily transportation payment amount. A pupil transportation pilot program was established which will select up to five ESCs to provide transportation to

students enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, and chartered nonpublic schools in the 2023-24 school year, in lieu of the students receiving transportation from their resident school district. ODE, in collaboration with the Ohio ESC Association (OESCA) Program Cabinet, will evaluate the pilot program and issue a report of its findings and recommendations by July 1, 2024.

The Ohio House passed budget contains other education-related funding and policy provisions, including but not limited to the following:

- Funding for Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA), phased in at the same year three and year four rates;
- Funding for a comprehensive study to determine the needs of economically disadvantaged students;
- Continuation of the guarantee structure under current law so no school or district will receive less state aid than it received in FY21;
- Continued funding for Student Wellness and Success Funds, but with changes to the use of those funds;
- Requirements on ODE to

*Continued on page 10*

provide reimbursements for free breakfast and lunch for all students who are eligible for reduced-price meals;

- Permanent implementation of the pilot program for dropout prevention and recovery (DOPR) e-schools;
- Removal of the School Resource Officer funding provisions, as introduced in Gov. DeWine's budget;
- Elimination of the authority of local governments to levy replacement property tax levies, beginning with elections held on or after Jan. 1, 2025;
- Establishment of the Accelerated Appalachia School Building Assistance Program;
- Extension, from 13 to 16 months, of the time during which the voters of a school district must approve bond and tax levies related to a school facilities project after the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission grants conditional approval of the project.

The Ohio House passed their biennial budget without the incorporation of HB 11, the backpack scholarship program, which would have provided universal vouchers in the form of educational savings accounts to all students in any type of school in Ohio including chartered non-public, homeschool, and non-chartered non-public schools. Instead of HB 11, the income eligibility thresholds for EdChoice Expansion vouchers were increased from 250% to 450% of

the federal poverty level. Gov. **Mike DeWine's** introduced version of the bill had increased the income eligibility to 400%. The bill also increases the amounts for the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship and raises its funding cap from \$27,000 to \$30,000.

In addition to the increases in funding to the voucher programs, the Ohio House made two policy changes. The first is that ODE would be required to develop rules for measuring the academic performance of voucher students so parents can compare performance with public schools. Secondly, a private school would be prohibited from asking family income of voucher students during the admissions process.

HB 33 includes several education-policy changes including, but not limited to, the following:

- Elimination of student retention under the law known as the third grade reading guarantee, beginning with the 2023-24 school year, and requirement of only one annual administration of the third-grade ELA assessment;
- Removal of the provision requiring that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) be completed as a graduation requirement and instead requires that financial literacy instruction include information on the FAFSA;
- A requirement that school

districts and chartered nonpublic schools transmit a transferring student's school records within five school days of receiving the request;

- Change in the grade band licensure from grades preK-5, 4-9, or 7-12 to grades preK-8 and 6-12;
- Changes to the Ohio Teacher Residency program, as in HB 9;
- A requirement for a coach to take a mental health course approved by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

The Ohio Senate started budget testimony the week of April 27 and will continue to hold hearings during the month of May, with the goal of passing the Senate's version by the second week of June.

## THE OHIO SCHOOL ETHICS GUIDE

A comprehensive discussion of Ohio laws that define the ethical conduct of school board members and administrators. The book includes financial disclosure filing requirements, how to avoid conflicts of interest and a guide to compatibility of public offices.

Cost: \$15



Purchase this and other publications at:  
[www.ohioschoolboards.org/catalog](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/catalog)



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

## New program boosts attendance at Youngstown school

A teacher at **Youngstown City's** East High School has created a new program to boost attendance rates.

So far, it's working, science teacher **Venus Cataldo** told a local TV station.

"I went off of my experience when I was in high school, and I wanted to be there," she said. "I based this idea off of what I experienced in high school, and I created the Bear Bucks."

Students receive Bear Bucks for

attendance, good grades, athletics and overall performance in school. Students can then trade Bear Bucks for snacks or school clothing and other gear.

The Bear Bucks bank account also teaches students financial responsibility, Cataldo said.

"It's making responsible decisions," she said. "Like, once this money is gone, you can't get it back. So that's what this is about."

Assistant Principal **Adam Loudin** said it brings the school

joy to see Cataldo go above and beyond in creating this program, which already is having a positive effect.

"From March, our buildingwide attendance increased by two percentage points and our chronic absenteeism reduced by 9.7%," Loudin said.

Cataldo is encouraging local businesses and organizations to sponsor the program or donate items for students to purchase.

Source: WDTN-TV



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

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



Scan me!

Scan code to learn more.

**May 2023**

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

- 16 Coffee Chat: Employee Benefits — Life insurance programs specifically for schools ..... Virtual
- 18 Northeast Regional Spring Open House ..... Burton
- 23 OSBA Forum ..... Virtual
- 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 — RC 3319.02(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 ..... Columbus and virtual
- 17 Northeast Region Lake County Captain's Game Fundraiser ..... Eastlake

- 21 Human Capital Essentials Training with ODE ..... Columbus
- 27 OSBA Forum ..... Virtual
- 30 2022-23 school year ends — RC 3313.62; end of third ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).

**July 2023**

- 1 2023-24 school year begins — RC 3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching and nonteaching employees of succeeding year salaries — RC 3319.12, 3319.082; treasurer must certify available revenue in funds to county auditor — RC 5705.36(A)(1); deadline for superintendent to notify the Ohio Department of Education about the implementation or cessation of a blended learning or online learning model in the district — RC 3302.41, 3302.42.
- 10 Last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to election); last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of education — RC 3319.15.
- 15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1).
- 22 Pre-Board Candidate Webinar..... Virtual
- 31\* Last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio.