

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## Don't miss this year's Spotlight Sessions at the Capital Conference

The Spotlight Sessions always stand out among the many professional development offerings at OSBA's Capital Conference, held Nov. 12-14 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The 2023 Spotlight Sessions include "Leadership that matters: Helping students impacted by poverty," presented by Dr. **Donna Beegle** on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Beegle will explain how school boards and administrations can make a difference for the 1 in 5 students nationwide whose families struggle to afford basic needs. On Monday at 10 a.m., generational strategy expert **Chuck Underwood** will expand on his General Session presentation in "Gen X, Millennials and Gen Z ... oh my! Exploring generations," helping attendees respond to and benefit from the perspectives of different generational groups. Other Spotlight Sessions will include "OSBA legislative update" and "OEPI examines school funding and taxation." Take advantage of the group registration rate at [conference.ohioschoolboards.org](http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org) to bring these important learning opportunities to an unlimited number of your district staff members.

## Remember to complete literacy instructional survey by Oct. 6

House Bill (HB) 33 requires that all public school districts complete a survey about their core literacy curriculum. Superintendents should have received a link to the survey Aug. 28 and must complete all required sections by Oct. 6. The survey will be used to allocate funds, provided within HB 33, for curriculum and reading intervention supports. For technical help with the survey website, email [support@ohio-k12.help](mailto:support@ohio-k12.help).

## Study shows potential shortcomings of summer school

Data from a study encompassing eight school districts around the country suggests that expanded summer school programs may not adequately address COVID-19 learning loss. The study, conducted by a cooperative of researchers from Harvard University, the American Institutes for Research and NWEA, found no statistically significant progress in closing reading skills gaps among students who attended summer school in 2022. They theorize that low participation rates and short program durations may be behind the lack of effectiveness. You can read the study in full here: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/summer-school-shortcomings>.

## Update calamity day plans to reflect change in statute

New state requirements for school calamity day plans take effect Oct. 3, allowing schools to use online days as an alternative to making up required hours of instruction missed due to hazardous weather, disease or other unforeseen temporary

**Sept. 11, 2023**

Volume 55 Issue 17

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## Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Principals
- Communication specialists
- Transportation supervisors

circumstances. The Ohio Department of Education encourages districts to adopt any new or amended plans for using online days by Nov. 1. Information about the new guidelines is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ohio/online-days>.

### October is National Bullying Prevention Month

Next month, schools across the country will renew their commitments to address and prevent bullying by celebrating National Bullying Prevention Month. Bullying is a critical issue for student safety and success, and the observance provides a perfect opportunity for educators to update their knowledge and share the latest research with colleagues and parents in their districts. Find toolkits, policies and strategies for working with community partners at [www](http://www.stopbullying.gov).

### Oak Hills teacher wins Manilow music award

A Cincinnati-area educator had an unforgettable concert experience during **Barry Manilow's** appearance at the Heritage Music Center in August.

Manilow has a tradition of singling out one teacher from his audience as the recipient of the prestigious Manilow Music Teacher Award.

**Oak Hills Local (Hamilton)** music teacher **Alex Moore** was met with a standing ovation as he was recognized on stage.

A thrilled Moore had VIP seating and got to personally meet Manilow when he was presented with a \$10,000 prize, with half going to the school to purchase musical instruments and half going to Moore.

Source: WLWT-TV

[stopbullying.gov](http://stopbullying.gov), [www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm](http://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm) and <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/23931>.

### Virtual meeting series seeks to reach families of English learners

The Family Leadership Institute has asked school district leaders to

promote a series of six virtual meetings, beginning Oct. 5, to Spanish-speaking families in their district. The program is meant to supplement district outreach to families for whom English is a second or additional language by providing information on how they can support their children's academic achievement. The registration form is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/zoom/fli-webinar>. For more information, contact **Consuelo Martin** at (888) 354-4747 or email [consuelo.e@easleadership.com](mailto:consuelo.e@easleadership.com). To obtain promotional fliers in English and Spanish, contact [donna.villareal@education.ohio.gov](mailto:donna.villareal@education.ohio.gov).

### OSBA online

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

This year's VendorBook, an extensive guide to products and services for all your district's needs, is available online at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/2023VendorBook>.



## 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

## Ohio searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Treasurer	Mid-Ohio ESC	Sept. 29	<b>Jennifer Reed</b> , director of human resources, <b>Mid-Ohio ESC</b> , reed.jennifer@moesc.net

## National searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Sanford, North Carolina	Sept. 18	<b>Sam Thorp</b> , assistant legal counsel for superintendent searches, North Carolina School Boards Association, (919) 747-6706
Superintendent	Aransas Pass, Texas	Sept. 20	<b>Butch Felkner</b> , executive search services director, Texas Association of School Boards, (800) 580-8272
Superintendent	Lexington, North Carolina	Sept. 25	Sam Thorp, assistant legal counsel for superintendent searches, North Carolina School Boards Association, (919) 747-6706

## Board changes

Painesville City Local (Lake) Board of Education member **Patricia Brown** announced her resignation effective Aug. 14.  
 ••• Yellow Springs EV Board of Education member **Dr. TJ Turner** announced his resignation effective Aug. 10.

## Administrative changes

**Treasurer**  
 North Canton City hired Director of Special Projects **Tim Walker** as treasurer effective Jan. 1. He will replace **Tim Tolson**, who is resigning.

## Sympathies

Former Mount Vernon City Board of Education member **Regina "Rene" Vath Smythe** died Aug. 17. She was 97. •••  
 Former Steubenville City Board of Education member **William Evans Rhinehart** died July 29. He was 99.



# COMMUNICATIONS

by Marcia Latta, communications consultant

## Are you partnering with students for their success?

The role of public schools is to educate children, and taxpayers should know that their resources are being used wisely.

Districts report this return on school investment through several measures of success and accountability, including test scores, graduation rates, attendance, college readiness and workforce skills training programs. They also continue to introduce new initiatives and programs to seek better results.

Success is often shown in small gains. A graduation rate that goes from 88% to 90% can represent a big leap of progress. When schools move the needle upward in measures such as graduation rates, it is cause for celebration in the district, but the number may seem small to the community at large. When coupled with news about issues like chronic absenteeism, negative perceptions may affect community confidence.

### Measuring progress

One solution for school improvement may be greater input from students. Progress is easier when a whole team is working toward the same goal. Students must be part of the team if we want them to achieve.

More and more, student success is based on student engagement and motivation. New initiatives and programs are less likely to work if students don't understand them and how they connect to larger goals.

### Generational differences

In previous generations, students were more likely to do what was asked of them, even if they didn't see a direct connection to their futures or feel connected to the instructional programs. Today's students may be different.

Referred to as the "pragmatic generation," Generation Z (Gen Z) includes current high school- and college-age students. Researchers believe that Gen Z wants to ensure that their work is connected to outcomes they care about. According to a study by Stanford University, Gen Z students "can be very frustrated by what appear to them to be outdated and often irrelevant ways of doing things."

Other factors that have affected student attitudes are the disruption caused by the pandemic, the rise of mental health issues among young people, and changes in attitudes about college enrollment based on concerns about student debt.

For years, college has been the postsecondary end goal. Emphasized through the public education system, students have been encouraged to pursue an advanced degree. Trends suggest that today's students are questioning that path based on the high cost of tuition and the prospect of more years in a traditional school setting. Gen Z students are hesitant to enroll in college without a clear path to a career.

### Checking in with students about school programs

Most students don't have the experience or perspective to be able to take control of their own curricular needs, and the adolescent brain is still developing through the mid-20s. It isn't rational to say that students should control their school experience, but it is reasonable to say that students should be communicated with to ensure higher engagement and better outcomes.

Student input may help with chronic issues like low attendance and graduation rates. Are there things schools can do to remove barriers to regular school

*Continued on page 9*



# Sports Law Workshop Series

## Why attend

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Hosted over four weeks, the redesigned OSBA Sports Law webinars focus on key topics facing district athletic programs: safety at athletic events, funding your athletic programs, addressing Title IX issues in K-12 sports and Ohio's ethics laws for coaches.

## Location

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Virtual

## Cost

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\$110 for the series or \$70 per session

## Dates

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### Module 1: Sept. 8, 2023

School safety plans and athletic facilities

### Module 2: Sept. 15, 2023

Funding your fields: Reviewing financial issues for athletic administrators

### Module 3: Sept. 22, 2023

Title IX updates in athletics

### Module 4: Sept. 29, 2023

Conflicts for coaches

## Time

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10 a.m.-11 a.m.



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ASSOCIATION

**Register today!**

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





# Master of Transportation Administrator Series



## Student transportation administrator training program

The safety, reliability and efficiency of a district's bus service are maximized when the school transportation manager has the specific knowledge and skills needed to manage the service effectively. The goal of the Master Transportation Administrator (MTA) program is to provide learning opportunities in the many key areas affecting transportation.

OSBA brings its depth of resources in safety practices, fleet management, federal regulations, and state codes for student transportation together to support this training curriculum. This program exceeds the requirement in Ohio Administrative Code for annual transportation in-service training.

### Curriculum

The complete curriculum includes classes in each of three proficiencies – compliance, operations management and governance (including policy and fiscal matters). Each year of the curriculum focuses on just one of these proficiencies.

Complete all three-modules and the district project framework question form, to be acknowledged as a Master Transportation Administrator by OSBA.



### MTA Module 1

Routing and technology  
Sept. 20, 2023



### MTA Module 2

Personnel management  
Oct. 18, 2023



### MTA Module 3

Transportation rules and regulations  
Nov. 29, 2023



### MTA Module 4

The transportation handbook  
Jan. 24, 2024



### MTA Module 5

Public relations and working with the media  
Feb. 21, 2024



### MTA Module 6

Designing your operational plan, and building keys for success  
March 20, 2024





# Public Schools Cybersecurity Symposium

## Why attend

Public schools are facing increasing cyber threats, making it hard for school leaders to keep their data and systems secure. Districts will also be facing new challenges and opportunities with the growing impact of artificial intelligence. Without a solid understanding of current cybersecurity trends and best practices, districts are leaving themselves vulnerable to data breaches that can be incredibly costly and damaging.

The Public Schools Cybersecurity Symposium is the perfect resource for school district leaders looking to gain insight into the latest strategies and tools for protecting their data and for specific strategies districts may want to consider to position schools and their students for future success in the age of artificial intelligence.

## Date and time

Tuesday, Sept. 26  
8 a.m.–4 p.m.

## Location

**Virtual or in person at:**  
OASBO Conference Center  
98 Commerce Park Drive | Westerville

## Cost

\$175

## Register

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



**OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS  
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[www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)  
8050 N. High Street, Suite 100 | Columbus, Ohio 43235



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

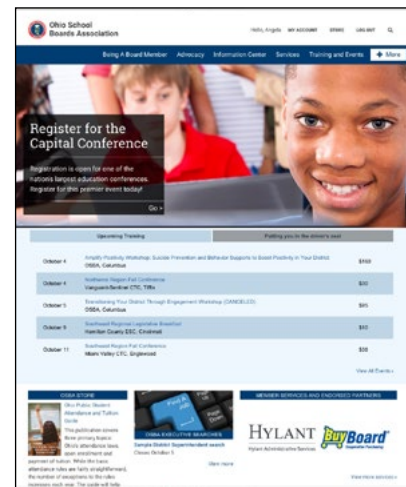
Register at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)

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.



OHIO SCHOOL  
BOARDS ASSOCIATION

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FAIR 2023

### Nominate a student program or artwork

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and fresh, innovative initiatives from school districts across the state. The fair will be held during the OSBA Capital Conference.



**DATE**  
Monday, Nov. 13

**TIME**  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**LOCATION**  
Greater Columbus  
Convention Center

**NOMINATION DEADLINE**  
Friday, Oct. 27

### Student Achievement Fair district programs

The Student Achievement Fair showcases exemplary programs that improve student achievement. Examples of district programs in the Student Achievement Fair include photography, agricultural, environmental, science and transition-to-work programs.

### Student digital art display

The Student Achievement Fair features a digital student art show. Outstanding artwork by students from school districts across the state will be on display.

### Have questions? Contact:

**Amanda Husmann**  
[ahusmann@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:ahusmann@ohioschoolboards.org)

**Kim Miller-Smith**  
[kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org)

(614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA

Scan the QR code for booth details or to nominate a student program or artwork.





Communications, continued from page 4

attendance? It could be that some students simply need an alarm clock. Or maybe a staff check-in would help them know that someone is keeping them accountable. A surprising finding in the Stanford study was that students prefer direct in-person communication.

**Connecting school performance to career opportunities**

To realize better student outcomes — a universal goal that helps the school brand and students themselves — schools should consider gathering data from students. Asking students

what they believe and value could help make program improvements that would have a significant impact on results.

A project by EdSurge journalist **Rebecca Koenig** included interviews with several students about their beliefs and aspirations. She said there is “a disconnect between teenagers’ aspirations and the college paths and job training programs they’re encouraged to pursue.”

Schools and employers recognize the need for students to obtain additional training, skills, degrees or credentials for a successful career path. To help more students choose those paths,

schools should understand that student beliefs and values may not be aligned with the current system.

According to Koenig, “Services really need to be built around the input and the needs of the young people they are trying to serve rather than basing their program design on economic data alone. They have to incorporate the daily realities of young people... Adults designing these programs find that they have more success when young people are at the heart of the design of the program.”

*Source: Washington State School Directors’ Association*

# OSBA CAPITAL CONFERENCE

JOIN US FOR OHIO’S PREMIER EDUCATION CONFERENCE!

**INSPIRING  
KEYNOTE  
SPEAKERS**



**CHUCK UNDERWOOD**  
First General Session



**MARY STEENBURGEN**  
Second General Session



**SAM GLENN**  
Monday Conference Luncheon



**STUDENT PERSPECTIVES**  
OSBA Black Caucus Dinner

NOV. | 12-14 | 2023

CONFERENCE.OHIOSCHOOLBOARDS.ORG



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Nicole Piscitani, lobbyist

### Redistricting will be the focus in September

The Ohio Redistricting Commission will have a tight deadline to draw and approve maps for the General Assembly House and Senate districts. The members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission include Gov. **Mike DeWine**, Rep. **Jeff LaRe** (R-Violet Township), Senate Minority Leader **Nickie J. Antonio** (D-Lakewood), Senate Majority Floor Leader **Rob McColley** (R-Napoleon), House Minority Leader **C. Allison Russo** (D-Upper Arlington), State Auditor **Keith Faber** and Secretary of State **Frank LaRose**.

The commission will meet on Sept. 13 to organize and begin the process of drafting new legislative district lines. However, the commission will have to work expeditiously: LaRose issued a

letter to the Ohio Redistricting Commission members that advised them to complete the new maps by Sept. 22, 2023.

While the next General Assembly election won't occur until Nov. 2024, candidates for the House and Senate must file their petitions by Dec. 20, 2023 to be included on the March 2024 partisan primary ballot. Prior to the December filing date, the boards of elections must update and prepare their systems with the new legislative map information.

The redrawing is required due to a federal court decision in April 2022 that directed the Ohio Redistricting Commission and the Ohio Supreme Court to work through their impasse by May 28, 2022. Since the Ohio Redistricting

Commission and the Ohio Supreme Court could not resolve the mapmaking impasse, the federal court directed the use of the third set of legislative maps to be used only in the 2022 elections. The federal court did not provide a determination on the validity of the third set of maps but recognized that, due to the county board of elections' need for the information, those responsible for implementing the data must be able to successfully meet required deadlines. Thus, the court decision limited the use of the third map and required the commission to reconvene and redraw legislative districts.

Meanwhile, a group called Citizens Not Politicians has filed a proposed amendment to further

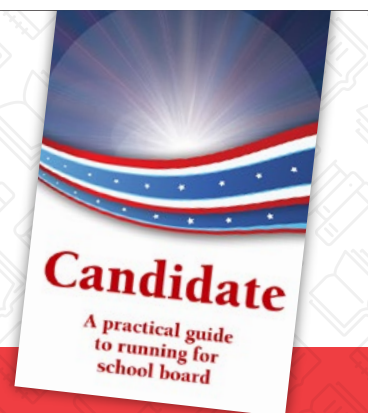
*Continued on page 11*

## CANDIDATE

### A practical guide to running for school board

This OSBA publication answers commonly asked questions related to getting started as a candidate. Topics covered include management of the campaign committee, financial reporting and ethical issues.

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





## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

### Brunswick launches leadership program for student athletes

**Brunswick City** recently launched its Student Athletic Leadership Team, aimed at cultivating leadership attributes among student athletes during the school year.

Athletic Director **Jim Kovi** told a local newspaper that the program arose from his desire to foster unity among the district's diverse sports programs.

Through periodic meetings, students learn and enhance life skills. Seminars also are geared

toward parents.

"We're embarking on a new endeavor, but I'm genuinely enthusiastic about providing this caliber of programming for our student athletes and expanding upon this framework," Kovi said. "These are the very skills we employ daily in our professions, skills these young individuals already possess, often without realizing it."

Kovi collaborated closely with varsity coaches to pinpoint

students best suited for the program. Nearly every varsity sport offered at Brunswick is represented by a student delegate.

An essential program objective is to harness the skills honed through sports participation and apply them to various facets of students' lives.

"Our aim is to help them recognize and reinforce these skills," Kovi said.

Source: The Gazette

*Legislative Report, continued from page 10*

change the redistricting process in Ohio. The proposal could potentially be on the November 2024 ballot. The proposal would create a Citizens Redistricting Commission comprising five Democrats, five Republicans and five independents and would prohibit current and former politicians, candidates and lobbyists from serving on the new panel. State Attorney General **Dave Yost** rejected the summary language and stated that his office identified "omissions and misstatement that, as a whole, would mislead a potential signer as to the actual scope and effect of the proposed amendment." The

group has indicated that they will continue to modify their petition and plan to resubmit.

DeWine, a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission made the following remarks regarding the proposed amendment, "I have made it pretty clear that I think the current system didn't work very well. It was well intended. Democrats and Republicans both supported it. It just did not work." He further stated that, "I don't think the governor should be on there and I don't think the legislators should be on there either." As to how the Ohio Redistricting Commission may handle the redrawing of the

legislative maps, the governor said, "We are in kind of a situation ... where we now have an obligation to draw the lines again. So, these lines are going to be drawn under our current system, and we'll see if we can get this done."

The Ohio Redistricting Commission is also in charge of the congressional district maps; however, those maps are still working their way through the legal system. The Ohio Supreme Court is reexamining the previously invalidated map following the June 2023 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Moore v. Harper*.

**September 2023**

- 11 Urban Boards Symposium..... Columbus
- 13 Ohio Buses & Clean Air (OBACA) Meeting ..... Columbus and virtual
- 15 Sports Law Module 2..... Virtual
- 19 Coffee Chat: Hot Topics in Risk Management..... Virtual
- 20 Central Region Fall Conference ..... Columbus
- 20 MTA 2023-24 Module 1: Routing and Technology..... Columbus and Virtual
- 22 Sports Law Module 3..... Virtual
- 26 OSBA Forum ..... Virtual
- 26 Public Schools Cybersecurity Symposium..... Westerville
- 28 Southeast Region Fall Conference ..... Albany
- 29 Sports Law Module 4..... Virtual
- 30 *Last day to file business advisory council plan with the Ohio Department of Education — RC 3313.821.*

**October 2023**

- 1 *Last day for board to adopt annual appropriation measure — RC 5705.38(B).*
- 4 Northeast Region Fall Conference ..... Wadsworth
- 6 Administrative Professionals Workshop ..... Columbus and virtual

- 10 *Last day for voter registration for November election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to election).*
- 12 Southwest Region Fall Conference ..... Wilmington
- 15 *Last day for certification of licensed employees to State Board of Education — RC 3317.061; last day to provide immunization status reports to the Ohio Department of Health — RC 3313.67(D).*
- 17 Coffee Chat: Arming Your People on the Front Lines: Crisis Communications Best Practices ..... Virtual
- 23 Auditorium Stage Equipment Maintenance 101, Public Schools Edition ..... Virtual
- 24 OSBA Forum ..... Virtual
- 25 MTA 2023-24 Module 2: Personnel Management..... Columbus and Virtual
- 26 Northwest Region Fall Conference ..... Fostoria
- 26 Auditorium Stage Equipment Safety 101, Public Schools Edition..... Virtual
- 26 *Pre-general election campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates appearing on the ballot (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures made from the last day reflected in the previous report to the close of business on Oct. 18, 2023 (12 days before election) — RC 3517.10(A)(1).*

- 31 *End of first ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).*

**November 2023**

- 7 *General Election Day; Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).*
- 12-14 OSBA Capital Conference ..... Columbus
- 12 Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 12 Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 12 Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 13 Central Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 29 MTA 2023-24 Module 3: Transportation Rules & Regulations ..... Columbus and Virtual
- 30 *Deadline to file consolidated school mandate report — RC 3301.68; last day for the board of education to submit 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.*