

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



National Assessment of Educational Progress shows declines in math and reading scores during the pandemic

Nationwide, math and reading scores for 9-year olds underwent their sharpest decline since 1990 during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, know as the “Nation’s Report Card,” an annual assessment conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics. Although scores declined across percentile categories, already-struggling students were the hardest hit, with reading and math scores among the 10th percentile falling by 10 and 12 points, respectively. Further analysis showed that lack of access to remote learning resources was a major factor in the trend. You can view the results of the study in detail at www.nationsreportcard.gov/highlights/ltt/2022.

Applications open for Purple Star Schools program

The Purple Star designation recognizes schools that display a major and purposeful commitment to pre-K-12 students and families connected to our nation’s military. School administrators can apply from Nov. 1 to Dec. 15 at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/ohio/purple-star>. Applicants are evaluated by an advisory board representing the Ohio departments of Education, Higher Education and Veterans’ Services as well as the state adjutant general (Army and Air National Guard).

Consortium of State School Boards Associations seeks executive director

The Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit formed this year, has announced an opening for its first executive director. COSSBA’s aim is to facilitate a national, nonpartisan network that supports, promotes and strengthens state school boards associations. The executive director will be responsible for the general management of the organization under the supervision of a national board of directors. The position will be fully remote but will involve significant national travel. More information, including a detailed position announcement, is available at www.cossba.org.

OSBA membership survey emailed to members

OSBA’s commitment to its members and public education has stood firm. With that commitment, we would like to remind you that we are here to support you, our board members and the districts that you serve. Your membership offers benefits you cannot find elsewhere. We’re conducting our biennial member survey, and your input would be appreciated. The survey was sent to members by **Mark E. Bobo**. Please complete the survey. We look forward to hearing from you!

Nov. 14, 2022

Volume 54 Issue 21

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Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Principals
- Communication specialists
- Transportation supervisors

Register for 2023 COSSBA National Conference

COSSBA's 2023 National Conference, which will include myriad professional development activities for school board members and district leaders, will be held March 30-April 2 in Tampa, Fla. Keynote speakers include generational studies expert **Chuck Underwood**, Digital Wellness Collective co-founder **Amy Blankson** and journalist **John Quiñones**. Visit www.cossba.org/cossba-inaugural-national-conference and register before Jan. 1 to receive special discounted rates on the event.

OSBA president in the 1980s dies at 91

Judy B. Howard Rhode, OSBA's 1989 president, died Oct. 9 at the age of 91. Rhode, a longtime **Bucyrus City** board member, was widely respected as a powerful advocate for public education.

Shhh! Reading time brings quiet to Port Clinton

If a visitor walks into **Port Clinton City's** Port Clinton High School at just the right time, they might notice an eerie silence.

For 14 minutes, three times a week, every student and staff member pulls out a book and reads for pleasure as part of the RED Block initiative. RED stands for Read Every Day.

For those few minutes, the normally bustling school settles down as everyone focuses on a world found only in the pages of a book.

"The whole school is quiet," **Jan Gluth**, director of student, staff and community development, told a local newspaper.

The RED Block initiative was the brainchild of Resource Intervention Specialist **Lori Scalf**, who recognized a need to address reading and vocabulary deficiencies in high school students.

Source: Port Clinton News Herald

Renew your subscriptions to continue to receive the latest news from OSBA

Membership renewal time is a perfect time to begin a newsletter subscription to enhance your team's knowledge base. The Briefcase, as always, is free in electronic form to all members,

or \$155 in paper form for up to 15 subscribers. School Management News, which covers current events affecting day-to-day school operations, is \$210 in its paper edition for up to 15 subscribers, or \$150 for the same number if all choose to receive the publication electronically. For subscription information, call (614) 540-4000 or refer to your membership renewal materials.



Briefcase

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OSBA Chief Executive Officer: **Richard C. Lewis**, CAE

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Layout and design: **Jennifer Rowe**, communication design manager

Assistant editor: **Scott Gerfen**, senior communication manager

A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$150 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email. For more information, contact Susie Cinadr at the address or fax number above or email scinadr@ohioschoolboards.org. Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association.

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OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

If you're attending the OSBA Capital Conference, you'll want to make the most of every learning session. Many sessions include digital handouts, available at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/handouts> or through the OSBA Capital Conference App. The handouts are a great way to catch up on sessions you missed or review points you want to remember.



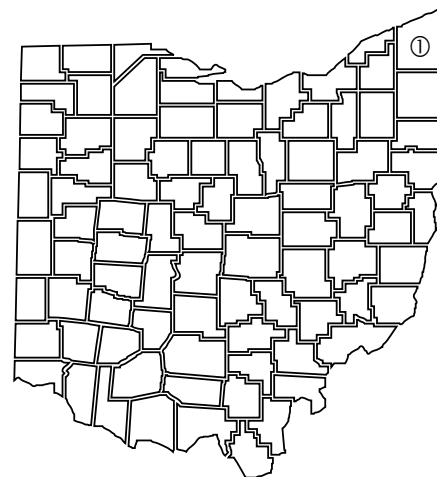
BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
① Ashtabula Area City	Jan. 11	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



Other Ohio searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Reynoldsburg City	Nov. 28	Dr. Wade Lucas , client services representative, ESC of Central Ohio, (614) 440-1978
Treasurer	Strasburg-Franklin Local (Tuscarawas)	TBD	Vince Lindsey , superintendent, Strasburg-Franklin Local, vince.lindsey@strasburgtigers.org

Board changes

Chillicothe City Board of Education member **Kelly Dennis** announced his resignation effective immediately. ●●●
 Middletown City appointed **Verlena Stewart** to the board effective immediately. She replaced **Michelle Novak**, who resigned in September.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Holgate Local (Henry) Superintendent **Kelly Meyers** announced her retirement effective Aug. 1, 2023. ●●●
 Reynoldsburg City hired Chief Academic Officer Dr. **Jocelyn Cosgrave** as interim superintendent effective immediately. She replaced Interim Superintendent Dr. **J. Daniel Good**, who resigned.

Editor's note

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

Treasurers

Lima City Treasurer **Shelly Reiff** announced her resignation effective Jan. 6. ●●● **Marlington Local (Stark)** hired **Robert Foss** as treasurer effective Dec. 1. He will replace Dr. **Patty Ann Main**, who is resigning. Foss currently is a fiscal consultant with the Ohio Department of Education. ●●● **Pickerington Local (Fairfield)** hired **John M. Walsh** as treasurer effective Nov. 14. He will replace **Ryan Jenkins**, who took the treasurer position at **Olentangy Local (Delaware)**. Walsh previously was treasurer at **Whitehall City**. ●●● **Van Wert City** Treasurer **Michelle M. Mawer** announced her resignation effective Nov. 16. She has taken the treasurer position at **Celina City**, replacing Interim Treasurer **Tom Sommer**.

Sympathies

Former **Elyria City** and **Sylvania City** Superintendent **Lester H. Schultz** died Oct. 5. He was 76. ●●● Former **Jackson Milton Local (Mahoning)** Board of Education member **Joseph L. Yochman** died Oct. 8. He was 63.

WINTER FINANCE WORKSHOP

Join us for an annual update of timely topics impacting Ohio K-12 schools, with presentations from the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Auditor of State, Ohio Education Policy Institute and education associations.



Date

Friday, Dec. 2

Time

8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

Location

Virtual or in-person
OASBO Conference Center
98 Commerce Park Dr.
Westerville, OH 43082

Cost

\$120

For more details or to register, visit:

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



Ohio School Boards Association

Master of Transportation Administration Program

OSBA offers this training curriculum to support administrators who are responsible for student transportation. This program meets and exceeds the requirement in the administrative code for annual transportation in-service training.

These half-day workshops — offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is \$105, or you can purchase an MTA subscription for \$700 to attend all six sessions in the series. Contact **Doug Palmer**, OSBA senior transportation consultant, for subscription information. All workshops will be offered virtually and in-person at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, 43235.

Upcoming workshop dates:

- **Dec. 7: Rules and laws governing Ohio student transportation**
Review various regulations that transportation administrators need to know. A key takeaway from this class will be the handout of the operating rules, an index to look up regulations that are pertinent. Learn how the pieces fit together to ensure your transportation is safe, dependable and compliant.
- **Jan. 25: Driver records, background checks and compliance needs**
Ohio's regulations governing school bus driver requirements are among the most detailed in the nation. This seminar will present methods to maintain compliance. Driver audit forms, onboarding checklists and task calendars will be provided and reviewed.
- **Feb. 22: Emergency transportation planning**
This class will help identify what should be included in an emergency plan, how to develop the action plans and how to write a plan that anyone can follow. This session will help you create the document, which will include not only the major events that we hope will never happen, but also routine incidents that occur, such as breakdowns, sick children and minor accidents.
- **March 29: Fleet compliance**
This course will review the Ohio school bus construction standards, approved options for school buses, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards requirements and the need to keep your fleet compliant with both sets of standards. We also will delve into the value of a preventive maintenance plan, bus purchasing, using data to determine an effective vehicle replacement plan and how to make the best use of the driver pre-trip inspection to meet the need for safety checks and state patrol motor vehicle inspections.

To view class details and register, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/master-transportation-administration.



School architecture: Creating inspirational places in a changing world

Date _____
Wednesday, Dec. 7

Location _____
Virtual

Time _____
9 a.m.-10 a.m.

Cost _____
Free

Join Triad Architects/Triad Facility Solutions and Jeff LeRose, director of facilities for Westerville City Schools, for a roundtable conversation. Topics include: What challenges do you face to keep students engaged? What have you successfully implemented to inspire students in your community? How do your buildings fit into your district vision?



Reasonable Suspicion Training



Wednesday, Dec. 14 • 10 a.m.–noon • Virtual • Cost: \$60

Reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol training is the responsibility of all employers who manage drivers with commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) to ensure their staff is trained. OSBA's training is tailored specifically to school district needs. Completion of this course meets the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration U.S. Department of Transportation requirements. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion. Best practice is that each district have at least two individuals on staff trained.

To register, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops



Searching for a new superintendent or treasurer?

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

- Professional search consultants with school board experience
- Customized to your district's needs
- Affordable and competitive pricing
- 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
(614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

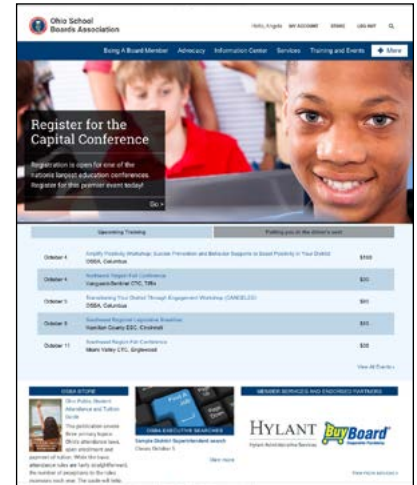
Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

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.



COFFEE CHAT

Accelerant Culture – creating a space where everyone gets to get better

Tuesday, Dec. 13 • 8:30 a.m.–9 a.m. • Virtual • Free

Organizational culture is a hot topic. And with employee turnover at a record high and employee morale lower than any team leader wants, it’s a topic worth discussing. The problem is everyone’s focused on the “what,” not the “how.” We love talking about “the what” of culture: our core values, our vision statements, our “who we are” pages. Those are exciting conversations to be having, but they don’t necessarily get us any closer to actually achieving those things. What we need to be talking about is how we exercise those core values and get to that compelling vision. That’s where accelerant culture comes in. This is less about “the what,” because you get to design that for your staff and students, and more about “the how,” the specific mindsets, behaviors and strategies that are going to get you to your “ what.” Join us for an exploration of accelerant culture and start creating space for all students and staff to thrive and grow.

To register, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/events



INFORMATION

by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

New staff members join association’s communications division

OSBA has welcomed three new staff members — an editorial manager, communication design manager and events manager — to its communication services division.

The association strives to reach its members through a wide array of platforms, including the Journal magazine, Briefcase newsletter, videos, social media channels, brochures and more.

Katherine Gregor, whose primary role is overseeing content for the Journal magazine, Briefcase newsletter and other OSBA publications, was hired in June as editorial manager after spending the last several years as an

independent web content writer and editor for a U.K.-based firm, The Marketing Junction.

Gregor, who majored in English at Otterbein University and graduated from **Olentangy Local (Delaware) Schools**, has also done academic editing for researchers and students since 2018.

The avid writer, who’s currently working on a science-fiction novel, received Otterbein’s Quiz & Quill annual writing award and Denison Book Award, both for creative nonfiction.

Hired in August, Events Manager **Scott Clay** brings to OSBA nearly two decades of

experience in catering, sales and the hospitality industry. He previously was the statewide event planner for BioOhio.

Clay plans the association’s educational workshops, webinars and other professional development opportunities and assists members with registration and event details.

OSBA offers as many as 100 events annually, including the Capital Conference, which draws more than 6,000 attendees to the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Clay, who’s actively involved in local theater, earned his digital

Continued on page 6



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.

Information, continued from page 5

events specialist certification in 2020 and is a certified pandemic adviser and tourism ambassador. He earned a Bachelor of Science in business management at Franklin University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in vocal performance at Ohio State University.

Communication Design Manager **Jennifer Rowe** has worked with a variety of large

corporate businesses, small businesses and nonprofit organizations over the past 20 years.

She spent the last six years as a freelance graphic designer working with companies, such as the Columbus Regional Airport Authority, The Wexner Foundation, Brandeis University and Bloomberg Studio. She also

worked as a graphic designer for Navicor Agency, The Motorists Insurance Group and OhioHealth.

Hired in August, Rowe earned a Bachelor of Fine Art from Otterbein University.

Members can reach Gregor, Clay and Rowe at (614) 540-4000 or at kgregor@ohioschoolboards.org, sclay@ohioschoolboards.org or jrowe@ohioschoolboards.org.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ohio EPA offering recycling and litter prevention grants

Is your school interested in starting or expanding its recycling program? Are you looking to replace your running track or walking paths with asphalt comprised of ground tire rubber? Is your K-12 school thinking of upgrading your drinking fountains to include water bottle refilling stations? The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is offering two grants — the Academic Institution Grant and the Scrap Tire Grant — to assist in recycling and sustainability projects.

Public and private K-12 schools, colleges and universities may receive funding for recycling efforts as well as outreach and education, recycling equipment and conference sponsorships. In addition, schools and other

organizations can receive grants to establish and implement recycling and litter prevention programs and recycling infrastructure improvements. Grantees have 12 months to complete the project. The grant period is 24 months for scrap tire/civil engineering projects.

Here are some examples of recently funded projects:

- **Dublin City's** Dublin Jerome High School implemented a Grind2Energy initiative to divert five tons of food scraps from the landfill.
- The **James A. Garfield Local (Portage)** School District expanded recycling on its campus, including athletic events, by installing recycling stations, increasing recycling by four tons.
- The **New Miami Local**

(Hamilton) School District started a recycling program in the district and collected nearly nine tons of recyclables.

● The **Triad Local (Champaign)** School District upgraded its track and walking paths using an asphalt mixture including ground tire rubber.

Ohio EPA will hold a webinar at 10 a.m. on Jan. 5 to review the application process, funding opportunities and eligible project activities. Register for the webinar at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/EPAGrantwebinar>.

Applications for the 2023 Academic Institution Grant and the Scrap Tire Grant are due Feb. 3, 2023, at 3 p.m. View details at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/EPARECyclinggrants>.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Cincinnati partnership expands to address teacher shortage

As school districts across the nation struggle to retain teachers, a partnership between **Cincinnati Public** (CPS) and Miami University to address the shortage is expanding, with the hope of also increasing diversity among educators.

TEACH Cincinnati, or Transformative Educators Advocating Change, is an initiative that creates a pipeline and support system for diverse teachers.

The program provides

academic, social and financial support for students interested in pursuing a teaching career, beginning in high school.

“Having worked in education for almost 30 years, first as a teacher, I’m incredibly excited for this step in our partnership with Miami University,” CPS Superintendent **Iranetta Wright** said in a news release.

“The expansion of the program allows CPS students to not only have the opportunity to immerse

themselves in meaningful, continued education at Miami University but also gain the experience needed to ensure they are prepared to successfully return to [CPS] as our next generation of teachers.”

The program, first piloted at Aiken High School, will expand to all district high schools over the next five years, giving more students the opportunity to explore education as a career field.

Source: Cincinnati Public



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your leadership team's
performance
with the Achiever

Recruit and retain the best with the Achiever Leadership Assessment.

The Achiever measures cognitive skills and personality dimensions, providing relevant data to enable you to make the right leadership decisions for your district.

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- maximizing potential;
- streamlining the hiring process;
- enhancing decision-making.

Learn more at www.ohioschoolboards.org/achiever or contact **Teri Morgan** at (614) 540-4000 • (800) 589-OSBA • tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org



**Ohio School
Boards Association**

November 2022

30 *Deadline to file consolidated school mandate report — RC 3301.68.*

December 2022

- 2 Winter Finance Workshop..... Columbus and virtual
- 7 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration: Rules and laws governing Ohio pupil transportation..... Columbus and virtual
- 7 School architecture: creating inspirational places in a changing world..... Virtual
- 7 OCSBA Mindfulness for School Attorneys Workshop with Claire Parsons..... Virtual
- 13 Coffee Chat: Accelerant culture — creating a space where everyone gets to get better Virtual
- 14 Reasonable Suspicion Training ... Virtual
- 31 *Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date for the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.*

January 2023

15 *Deadline for boards of education of city, exempted village and local school districts to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; last day for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts*

- 17 *to adopt tax budgets for the coming school fiscal year — RC 5705.28(A)(1).*
- 17 Coffee Chat: Electric Market Update..... Virtual
- 20 *Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.*
- 23 *Last day to submit certification for income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation for May election — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).*
- 25 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration: Driver records/ background check/ compliance needs Columbus and virtual
- 27 *Last day to submit emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for May election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219(C) (95 days prior to election).*
- 31 *Deadline for joint vocational school districts and educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; deadline for secondary schools to provide information about College Credit Plus to all students enrolled in grades six through 11 — RC 3365.04(A); annual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures from the last day reflected in the previous report through*

Dec. 31, 2022 — RC 3517.10(A)(3).

February 2023

- 1 *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 May election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for May election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy or renewal of conversion levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219(G); last day to submit emergency levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to election).*
- 21 Coffee Chat: Purchasing 101 – What Board Members and School Districts Should Know Virtual
- 22 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration: Emergency transportation planning Columbus and virtual