

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Ohio House weighs substitute state budget bill, school-funding plan

The Ohio House Finance and Appropriations Committee introduced a substitute version of the two-year state budget bill — House Bill (HB) 59. The committee made changes to Gov. **John Kasich's** proposed budget, including its school-funding plan. OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials said April 9 in a news release that their initial impressions of the substitute bill were positive, but further analysis was needed. See the "Legislative Report" in this *Briefcase* issue for more information.

ODE releases simulations for state's new school report card system

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has released spreadsheets showing how schools and districts would have performed under the state's new, more rigorous report card system in school year 2011-12. The A-F report card system will be implemented in August 2013 and the simulations released are designed to be informative, not predictions of future performance. To view simulations or learn more about the new report cards, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/84000>.

President Obama proposes new funding for pre-K in federal budget

President **Barack Obama** has proposed a \$3.77 trillion federal budget that includes new funding to expand preschool programs to low- and middle-income children. According to CNN, the plan includes a new federal tax on cigarettes to fund expanded access to preschool education, which would cost \$66 billion, and expanded home visits and care for infants and toddlers, which would cost \$11 billion. The budget proposal has proved contentious and Congress will determine its fate.

OSBA launches online tool to help districts with transportation needs

OSBA has created an online transportation forum to help school and pupil transportation administrators share ideas, ask questions and create an information network. The resource, www.osbaschoolbus.org, is available to all members, but you must register to be able to post to the site. For more details, contact **Pete Japikse** at (800) 589-OSBA or pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org.

Say 'thanks' by celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week in May

Teachers serve on the front line of public education and make a difference every day. To honor their dedication and contributions, the National PTA has set aside May 6-10 as National Teacher Appreciation Week. PTA has a wealth of resources on its website to help schools celebrate their educators. Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/38768> to find out more.

April 22, 2013

Volume 44 Issue 8

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Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrative assistants
- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Assistant treasurers
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Special education instructors

OSBA blog keeps you in the loop on key legal issues

OSBA's legal division maintains a blog, "The Legal Ledger." The blog features weekly updates on the newest cases, hot topics and legal developments in state and federal laws, statutes and regulations. Recent blog posts include information about public records cases, nonrenewals and changes to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. To subscribe, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/wpmu and click on the "subscribe to posts" button. Blog subscribers will receive the latest updates as they are published.

State issues reminder to schools about fire safety requirements

The Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of State Fire Marshall and Board of Building Standards recently issued a

Veteran school employee named bus driver of the year

Larry Warner has been rolling out the red carpet for students on his school bus for 50 years. The longtime **Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking)** bus driver received some star treatment of his own when he was named the National Express Bus Driver of the Year in London, England.

The bus company paid for Warner, 73, to be picked up in a limousine and flown to the recent black-tie award ceremony. "I was flabbergasted," Warner told a local newspaper. "I couldn't believe it. For a bus driver from Johnstown, it's just unreal."

The school district's bus drivers, custodial staff and board office staff attended a send-off celebration for Warner to honor his accomplishment.

Source: *Newark Advocate*

reminder to schools to ensure their fire safety training programs and building safety features are up-to-date. The advisory statement, which includes some of the most important fire safety concepts, is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/38827>.

Moderators needed for OSBA Capital Conference

There's still time to enhance your Capital Conference experience by signing up to serve as a breakout session moderator. The moderator's role is to introduce presenters, collect evaluation forms and act as a liaison between the audience and speakers. School board members who serve will earn five OSBA Award of Achievement credits. If interested, contact **Judy Morgan** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org. The deadline is May 31.

OSBA online

- facebook.com/OHschoolboards
- twitter.com/OHschoolboards

Join others in following OSBA online. The association added 2,002 new followers on Twitter during the past year, an increase of 143%. During the same period, OSBA added 127 new "likes" on Facebook, an increase of 50%.



Briefcase

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.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District

❶ Winton Woods City

Deadline

April 29

Contact

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

Treasurer

District

❶ Tipp City EV

❷ Celina City

Deadline

April 25

Contact

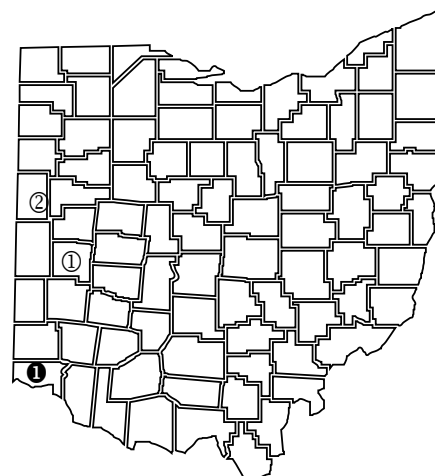
OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

May 8

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

❶ = Superintendent

❶ = Treasurer



Other searches

Position

Superintendent

District

Monroeville Local (Huron)

Deadline

May 22

Contact

Mandy Martin, personnel & licensure,
North Point ESC, (419) 627-3908

Special services director

Fairfield City

April 26

Lisa McCune, personnel secretary,
Fairfield City, (513) 829-6300

Board changes

Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking) appointed Alan Benton to the board effective April 1. He replaced Roger Montgomery, who resigned last month. ●●● Manchester Local (Summit) Board of Education member LeAnn Nichols announced her resignation effective immediately. She is moving outside the district. ●●● Medina City Board of Education member Charley Freeman announced his resignation effective March 26. Thomas Cahalan was appointed to the board effective March 27. Cahalan replaced Dr. Rob Wilder, who resigned in February. ●●● Middletown City appointed Christi Delloma to the board effective April 8. She replaced Chris Fiora, who moved outside the district. ●●● Morgan Local (Morgan) appointed Carl Raines to the board effective March 26. He replaced Clint Kuntz, who resigned. ●●● Whitehall City appointed Darryl Hammock Jr. and Joy Bivens to the board effective March 28. They replaced Ronda Howard and Brandon Howard, who resigned.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Clyde-Green Springs EV hired David W. Stubblebine as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim

Editor's note

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

Superintendent Dr. **Laura Kagy**, who will resume her role as assistant superintendent. Stubblebine is currently the superintendent at **Monroeville Local (Huron)**. ●●● **Hudson City** Superintendent **Steven L. Farnsworth** announced his retirement effective Aug. 1. ●●● **James A. Garfield Local (Portage)** Superintendent **Charles Klammer** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Marion City** hired **Gary A. Barber** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. **James S. Barney**. Barber is currently the assistant superintendent at **Big Walnut Local (Delaware)**. ●●● **New London Local (Huron)** Superintendent **Carol A. Girton** announced her retirement effective Dec. 31. ●●● **Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City** Superintendent Dr. **Will R. Folger** announced his retirement effective in May 2014. ●●● **Whitehall City** hired **Brian D. Hamler** as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace **Judyth Dobbert-Meloy**, who is retiring. Hamler is currently the director of certified personnel for **South-Western City**.

Treasurers

Greenon Local (Clark) hired **Pamela Mustovich** as interim treasurer effective April 2. She replaced **T. Ryan Jenkins**, who took the treasurer position at **Pickerington Local (Fairfield)**. Mustovich will continue in her current position as treasurer at **Springfield-Clark Career Technology Center**. ●●● **Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City** Treasurer **Don Breon** announced his retirement effective Dec. 31. ●●● **Wapakoneta City** hired **Angie Sparks** as treasurer effective June 1. She will replace **Susan Rinehart**, who is retiring. Sparks currently works for the regional state auditor's office.

Sympathies

Former **Barnesville EV Board of Education** member **Roy George Cozad** died March 28. He was 95. ●●● Former **Bethel Local (Miami)** Board of Education member **Kenneth E. Stevens** died March 29. He was 97. ●●● Former **Cardington-Lincoln Local (Morrow)** Board of Education member **Robert Briggs** died March 25. He was 95. ●●● **John Vickroy**, a member of the former **Homer Union** and **Morgan County** boards of education in Morgan County, died April 3. He was 100. ●●● Former **Mariemont City** and **Great Oaks ITCD Board of Education** member **Josephine Terese Lakeman** died Feb. 25. She was 93. ●●● Former **Minford Local (Scioto)** Board of Education member **Hayes Hayward** died April 4. He was 78. ●●● **Ray F. Butz**, a member of the former **Mount Sterling Board of Education** in Madison County, died April 6. He was 99. ●●● **Walker J. Huffman**, a superintendent of the former **Muskingum Area Vocational School District** (now the **Mid-East Career and Technical Centers**), died April 1. He was 87. ●●● **William Irwin "Bill" Rhodebeck**, a member of the former **New Washington Board of Education** in Crawford County, died March

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Learn how you can save time and money with these webinars

BoardDocs is the exclusive eGovernance partner of OSBA. Join OSBA for any of the free informational webinar demonstrations on the dates and times listed below. The webinars will showcase BoardDocs's cloud-based solutions and demonstrate why it is the eGovernance leader, not only in Ohio, but across the nation. Participants will learn how to save money, time and be more effective with BoardDocs.

Want to learn more? Join OSBA and BoardDocs for an informative webinar. It's quick and easy to register — just choose the date and time you wish to view the webinar:

Information for current users

Tuesday, May 7, from 9 a.m.–10 a.m.

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/790277921>

Information for districts considering paperless board meetings

Tuesday, May 21, from 1 p.m.–2 p.m.

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/426197360>

Once registered, you will receive an email confirming your registration with the information you need to view the webinar. For questions about these webinars, contact **Amanda Finney**, OSBA senior marketing coordinator, at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or afinney@ohioschoolboards.org. For more information about BoardDocs, visit www.boarddocs.com.



Bulletin Board, continued from page 4

24. He was 77. ●●● Former **Northwestern Local (Wayne)** Board of Education member **Alice I. Zimmerman** died March 30. She was 74. ●●● **Ed Conrad**, a member of the **Perry Local (Allen)** and former **Allen County** boards of education, died Feb. 14. He was 85. ●●● Former **Talawanda City** Board of Education member **Jack L. Tincher** died March 30. He was 85. ●●● Former **Upper Scioto Valley Local (Hardin)** Board of Education member **Robert U. "Bob" Preston** died April 2. He was 83.



NEWS

by Crystal Davis, editor

ESC, school-funding questions dominate legislative conference

Gov. **John Kasich's** proposed school-funding plan, the third-grade reading guarantee and changes to ESC funding and governance were hot topics at the March 20 State Legislative Conference.

The annual conference, hosted by OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO), returned to a popular location and format this year, which drew close to 170 participants.

"It has been seven years since we held the conference in the Statehouse Atrium, primarily because it is a hard place to schedule," said **Damon Asbury**, OSBA director of legislative services. "This year, you could feel the excitement of being back in the 'people's house,' and at one point, the governor even strolled through."

The daylong event featured sessions with key House and Senate legislators, followed by updates from association lobbyists.

Attendees were encouraged to eat lunch with their legislators, and a member of the governor's staff spoke in the afternoon. The event wrapped up with a half hour of region roundtable discussions.

"Last year's conference had an evening reception, but we switched back to a daytime reception because we feel this format is more successful," Asbury said.

The morning session kicked off with a panel discussion with Rep. **Debbie Phillips** (D-Albany) and Rep. **Bill Hayes** (R-Harrison Township), members of the House's Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee. They discussed the governor's proposed school-funding formula, which is part of the biennial budget plan, and answered questions from the audience.

Phillips said there are several problems with the formula, including, "where the foundation amount is set, the proposed level of educational service center funding, a parent trigger that

needs more meaningful measures and a change in the local share charge-off." She also expressed concerns on expanding school vouchers, the lack of accountability for charter schools and with "distributing significant resources to charter schools."

"It's interesting that the charts didn't come out the way the governor thought they would when the formula was first proposed," Hayes said. "We (legislators) are continuing to work on revising the formula, and I can assure you that what you're seeing will not be the end product."

"There are some good charters," he said. "I don't want to debate the (public versus charter schools) issue, I want to solve it. The way charters are set up now isn't working."

After Phillips and Hayes finished their 45-minute session, Senate President **Keith Faber** (R-Celina) stepped up to the podium and talked about the third-grade reading guarantee, the

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value of a vocational/career-tech education and accountability for all schools — charter and public.

"I believe firmly in peer review," he said. "I believe in preparing superintendents with the skills to manage districts better. The quality of leadership in a school is the number one determining factor in success.

"Other successes need to be factored into the overall picture of how well our schools are serving students."

As an example, Faber shared how his brother attended a vocational school and now is very successful.

"Success shouldn't be measured just in who goes to college," he said.

In preparing students for

college, Faber supports the third-grade reading guarantee, which is designed to prevent young students from falling behind in reading.

"We can't sustain losing 22,000 kids before graduation in 2011 because they can't read," Faber said. "Students are four times more likely to drop out if they can't read by the third grade."

After Faber wrapped up his comments and answered questions, OSBA, BASA and OASBO lobbyists provided a legislative update. They discussed pending legislation that could impact school districts, offered tips for meeting with the legislators and encouraged attendees to continue their grassroots efforts.

"Don't be afraid to approach

your legislators, because they're listening more and more to our collective voices," said **Michelle Francis**, OSBA deputy director of legislative services. "Your grassroots advocacy efforts work. They need to hear from you."

The event recessed for lunch, and attendees were encouraged to eat with the many legislators and aides who stopped by.

"You could see lively and productive conversations going on between legislators and district representatives," Asbury said.

Following lunch, **Barbara Mattei-Smith**, the governor's assistant policy director for education, talked about the school-funding formula and the third-grade reading guarantee before

Continued on page 7

School data from across the state at your fingertips

Download the OSBA School District Directory mobile app today!

The OSBA School District Directory mobile app makes it quick and easy to access up-to-date information about public schools throughout Ohio.

App features include:

- driving directions and maps to locate school districts and buildings;
- website, phone, fax and other contact information for schools;
- names and contact information for school administrators;
- information about local districts, including student enrollment, report card ratings and expenditures per pupil.

The OSBA School District Directory app is available now for iPhone, iPad, iPod touch and Android devices. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/mobile to watch a short video explaining the app and its wide range of features.



Download the app today — it's only free for a limited time. **Beginning May 1, the app will be sold for 99-cents on the Apple iTunes and Google Play store.** Scan the QR code to download the app on your mobile device or simply visit your app store and search for "OSBA," then select OSBA School District Directory.



Board Leadership Institute

Organizational leadership for tomorrow's schools

April 26-27, 2013 • Hilton Columbus/Polaris, north Columbus

Benefits:

- ◆ Participate in a program designed exclusively for and by board members
- ◆ Experience a comprehensive two-day training event
- ◆ Hear nationally acclaimed speakers
- ◆ Strengthen board governance skills
- ◆ Choose from 18 breakout sessions
- ◆ Network with other board members
- ◆ Receive a CD with all of the handouts from this board member-only event

Good decisions require informed decision makers

As a member of your school district's governing body, you are called at every meeting to make decisions. Some decisions are easy; others complicated. So, what can be done to improve board member development?

Almost all board members agree they could use more training in tackling school district problems. When asked how, board members say they want training that is highly task-oriented, takes a short period of time and is done in small groups led by outstanding instructors.

To meet these requests, OSBA worked with board members across the state to develop the 12th annual Board Leadership Institute. The two-day workshop is specifically designed for board members and will focus on a wide range of topics. Participants will have the opportunity to hear keynote speakers, choose from among 18 breakout sessions and network with each other.

Twenty points will be awarded for attendance at the institute, which may be applied toward receiving OSBA's Award of Achievement and Master Board Member award.

Keynote speakers set the tone for BLI

OSBA has invited Ohio Attorney General **Mike DeWine** to kick off on Friday, April 26. A former U.S. representative, U.S. senator and Ohio lieutenant governor, DeWine recently created the Attorney General's School Safety Task Force, made up of educators, school associations and local law enforcement and first responders. OSBA is part of the task force, which will make recommendations on school safety policy.

State Board of Education President **Debe Terhar** will close BLI on Saturday, April 27. Hear an update on state education reform efforts and what they mean to local school boards.



DeWine



Terhar

Registration and location details

BLI will be held in Columbus on April 26 and 27. Cost for the institute is \$240, and includes continental breakfast and lunch on both days and materials. To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

The Hilton Columbus/Polaris will be the site of the 2013 Board Leadership Institute. The Hilton is in north Columbus and is easily accessible from I-71, offers free parking and is close to many dining opportunities.

For more details, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/board-leadership-institute.

Arming staff: how to approach the topic

Wednesday, May 1

Cost is \$35

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

webinar

This webinar will open the door to discussion among administrators and board members on the topic of arming staff. Participate in this webinar to learn vital information on both sides of the issue.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- learn from an OSBA senior consultant and nationally recognized expert on this topic;
- find out how we got to this point;
- interact with other participants in a facilitated conversation;
- offer insight, share strategies and ask questions.

OSBA Senior School Board Services Consultant Dr. **Richard J. Caster** will facilitate this webinar. Prior to joining OSBA, he served for five years as the executive director of the National Association of School Resource Officers. He also coauthored the course “Active Shooter Response for the Single Officer,” which is used today.

To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. You can register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.



ESC Workshop

Monday, May 13

9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

OSBA office, 8050 N.
High St., Columbus

Cost is \$150

Board members and
administrators are invited



Plan to attend this annual event. This year's program will include topics and information you need in these challenging times, including:

- Budget and resources — challenges, opportunities and legislative issues.
- ESC sustainability through program and process assessment, collaboration and best practices.

Register by contacting **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

OSBA Transportation Workshop

Putting you in the driver's seat

Date and location: Thursday, May 30
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbus-Worthington,
Columbus

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$150, includes lunch



This seminar will focus on three specific aspects of Ohio school transportation — school bus purchase and leasing (installment purchase) options, computerized routing and on-board recording technology.

Transportation vendors will explain the options and technology in an interactive presentation and review the advantages for Ohio schools. They also will be available for one-on-one discussions about their specific products.

Join OSBA to learn how you can afford to buy a new bus (or buses), successfully implement a high-tech routing solution and place recording devices where they can see the occupants of your buses, as well as the motorists passing them. This workshop meets the administration training requirement in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-83-06.

Tentative agenda:

| | | | |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| 8:30 a.m. | Registration | 12:30 p.m. | Routing software and technology |
| 9 a.m. | Bus leasing vs. purchase | 1:30 p.m. | Networking break |
| 10 a.m. | Networking break | 1:45 p.m. | Lighting innovations |
| 10:15 a.m. | On-board and out-board recording technology | 2:30 p.m. | How do we know what we need, buy what we need and buy what is best? |
| 11:15 a.m. | Networking break | 3 p.m. | Table-top demos, meet and greet, and sales opportunities |
| 11:30 a.m. | Buffet lunch | | |

This event will include displays by participating vendors and opportunities to meet with them and ask questions. Participating vendors include:

School bus manufacturers

Cardinal Bus Sales, Blue Bird School Buses
Rush Bus Centers, International School Buses
Edwin Davis and Son, Thomas Built School Buses
Myers Equipment, Thomas Built School Buses

On-board recording

Rosco
Angeltrax
REI

Routing

Edulog Logistics
Transfinder
Tyler Technologies/Versatrans

Event sponsors

Cardinal Bus Sales, Blue Bird School Buses
Rush Bus Centers, International School Buses
Edwin Davis and Son, Thomas Built School Buses
Myers Equipment, Thomas Built School Buses

Lighting

Weldon, a division of Akron Brass

To register for the workshop, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Board Leadership Institute

☐ April 26-27, Columbus, \$240

Arming staff: how to approach the topic webinar

☐ May 1, \$35

Criminal records checks:

Who needs to be checked and when webinar

☐ May 9, \$35

ESC workshop

☐ May 13, Columbus, \$150

OSBA Transportation Workshop

☐ May 30, Columbus, \$150

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name _____ Workshop date _____

Attendee name _____ Title _____

Daytime phone _____ Email _____

District/firm _____ County _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ or P.O.# _____ to cover _____ registration(s). Make checks payable to OSBA and mail to 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481; fax to (614) 540-4100; or email Laurie Miller, senior events manager, at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. Include a purchase order number with fax or email.



_____ Please check here if you require special accommodations. Contact us or attach a written description of needs.

Please photocopy this form for each person

OSBA workshop registration procedures

OSBA sends email confirmation of registration if an email address is provided. Registration is open to all boards and staff of OSBA members. "Walk-in" registrations are welcome on a space-available basis only. Please call OSBA to check the status of registration before you arrive at the workshop. To register, you must have a purchase order number or a check payable to OSBA and a completed registration form. You may register with a purchase order number by phone, fax, email or Web page 24 hours a day.

Award of Achievement/LPDC

Most workshops entitle members to Award of Achievement credits. Local Professional Development Committee certificates of attendance will be issued to all workshop attendees.



Mail



Phone
or fax



OSBA
8050 N. High St.,
Suite 100, Columbus, OH
43235-6481

OSBA Registration Hotline,
(614) 540-4000, ext. 300;
toll free (800) 589-OSBA,
ext. 300; or fax us at
(614) 540-4100.

Email registrations can be
sent to Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.
Please include a purchase
order number.

You may register on our website at
www.ohioschoolboards.org. Events are listed at
the bottom of the page. You will need a username
and password.

Cancellation and refund policy

- Cancellations received by OSBA at least five workdays before the date of the workshop will receive a full refund or no charge to the district.
- Cancellations received less than five workdays before the date of the workshop will be charged half of the registration fee.
- No-shows and cancellations the day of the workshop will be charged the full registration amount.

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discussing proposed changes to ESC governance and funding.

When questioned about the large number of districts that will be on a guarantee with the new school-funding formula, Mattei-Smith said, "Close to the number of districts that have been put on a guarantee in the past are now." However, she said, the Kasich administration is going to work with the House to improve the funding model.

"We're not serving the needs of students if we put a half billion into guarantee funds instead of serving their needs. We're not anticipating all of the guarantees will be gone, but we need a plan to better address the needs of students."

Throughout her comments, Mattei-Smith repeatedly underscored the importance of districts using their dollars in the most effective and efficient ways possible.

"We have to get to a reality where the funding is based on a formula and not what the district received in funding 10 years ago," she said.

When asked about the rationale behind the proposed reduction in ESC funding, Mattei-Smith said that although the shared services provided by ESCs can be great cost-savers, districts should not be forced into the expense of an ESC.

"The thought is that your district is accountable and responsible for student performance. You should be able to make the choice from what ESC

or something else that you want to spend your money on."

Mattei-Smith also explained why she thinks the governing structure of ESCs needs to be changed so members are appointed, not elected.

"The governance in place doesn't work because people are being elected from local districts that are no longer members of the ESC," she said. "If there is a vacant seat, you can't just add someone from another county, you currently need to elect them. ... If members are appointed, it will provides ESCs with the flexibility and opportunity to choose what

will work for them."

After Mattei-Smith finished, region roundtables began, and participants had time to chat and let all the speakers' messages sink in. To wrap things up, OSBA lobbyists reminded attendees they always need input from board members and district administrators.

"It's hard to get this kind of face-to-face contact with legislators, and our members took advantage of it to the fullest," Asbury said. "Together, we need to constantly work to keep public education issues on legislator's radars."

Criminal records checks: Who needs to be checked and when

Thursday, May 9
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Webinar cost is \$35

Due to popular demand, the OSBA Division of Legal Services is repeating this webinar that was originally held on Feb. 27.

In 2008, House Bill 190 required districts to conduct criminal records checks for job applicants and employees. Subsequent criminal records checks are required every five years for certain school employees. This year marks the first time these checks must be updated. But which employees are subject to criminal records checks, what checks do they need, when should they occur and how are they accomplished? This webinar will review the answers to these questions and include practical resources to help districts comply with the law.

To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. You can register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.





FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

by Angela Penquite, senior communication design manager

Honoring student script writers

The VSA Playwright Discovery Competition invites middle and high school students to examine how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of script writing. Students may write from their own experience and observations, or create fictional characters and settings. Scripts can be comedies, dramas or musicals. Young writers with and without disabilities are

encouraged to submit a script. Entries may be individual or group works.

Maximum awards: \$2,000

Eligibility: students in grades six to 12

Deadline: June 1

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/90063>

Supporting student achievement

The NEA Foundation provides grants to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S.

public schools in any subject area. The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem-solving activities that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter.


Maximum awards: \$3,000

Eligibility: pre-K through 12th-grade public school teachers or support professionals

Deadlines: June 1 and Oct. 15

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/69492>

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Celebrate the stars in your district at the

OSBA Student Achievement Fair

Nov. 12, 2013 • Greater Columbus Convention Center

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding initiatives from school districts across the state. OSBA is seeking fresh, innovative programs or practices your district is willing to share with thousands of Ohio school district representatives. One hundred programs and practices will be selected based on creativity and impact on student achievement. The fair will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, during the OSBA Capital Conference.

Five performing groups from across Ohio will be selected to entertain attendees during the Student Achievement Fair. To be considered, you must submit an audio or video recording of the performing group. DVDs or CDs can be mailed to OSBA or a video or MP3 can be submitted with the online application.

OSBA is now accepting nominations for district programs and performing groups. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions.

Nominate your district at www.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations. The nomination deadline is May 24.

Funding Opportunities, continued from page 8

Rewarding the parent group of the year

PTO Today Inc. invites members of a school parent group to enter the Parent Group of the Year contest. Entrants may choose from eight categories, including outstanding family event, outstanding community service Project and outstanding new group. Applicants may use this as an opportunity to showcase their hard work while giving their schools the chance to win cash and

prizes.

Maximum awards: \$3,000

Eligibility: elementary and middle school parent groups, including PTO, PTA, HSA and PTC

Deadline: June 3

Contact: www.ptotoday.com/pgy

Funds to support school wellness programs

Fuel Up to Play 60 is helping schools increase awareness of and access to nutrient-rich foods and physical activity opportunities

for students. The grants can be used for a variety of activities and tools, such as food service materials and equipment, education materials and staff development.

Maximum awards: \$4,000

Eligibility: K-12 schools that are enrolled in the Fuel Up to Play 60 program and participating in the National School Lunch program

Deadline: June 4

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/68555>



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Damon Asbury, director of legislative services

House introduces substitute budget bill

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee accepted a substitute version of Gov. **John Kasich's** proposed budget, House Bill (HB) 59. The House version of the budget includes many changes to Gov. Kasich's proposal, including Medicaid expansion, income and sales taxes reform and school funding. It is anticipated that Substitute HB 59 will be voted out of the House on April 18. The Senate is expected to begin initial hearings before the House takes final action.

The most contentious aspect of the governor's budget was the proposed Medicaid expansion. Under the terms of the original

bill, Medicaid eligibility would have expanded to cover 275,000 additional Ohioans. According to the governor, this expansion would have provided federal funds in the amount of \$2.6 billion over the next decade, and would have meant an additional \$400 million for the state budget during the biennium. Although polling shows that most Ohioans support the expansion, ultra-conservative forces successfully stopped the legislation. House Speaker **William G. Batchelder** (R-Medina) characterized his caucus as having 20 votes for, 20 votes against and 20 who do not even want the issue to come up for a vote. Threats by the Tea Party to run challengers

against incumbents who dare to vote for "Obamacare" purportedly helped reduce the number of supporters in the Republican caucus. It appears, at present, that Democratic votes will be necessary if expansion is to occur.

Another feature of Gov. Kasich's proposal was a recommendation to cut personal income taxes by 20%; reduce small business income taxes by 50%; and cut the sales tax rate by 0.5%, from 5.5% to 5%. At the same time, he proposed significantly expanding the categories subject to the sales tax, while increasing the oil and gas severance tax. The House eliminated these proposals.

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Legislative Report, continued from page 9

Instead, representatives proposed an immediate and retroactive income tax cut from 20% to 7%. It did not include any action on the small business tax cut, sales tax or severance tax proposals. Key opponents to the proposed sales tax included the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and other business groups, while the oil and gas industry lobbied against any increases in the severance tax.

The changes advanced by the

House have significant implications for school funding, as they could reduce the total amount of money available for the budget. Presently, the House indicates that it will deal with the revenue problem through the rainy day fund and higher revenue projections. Batchleder and House Finance and Appropriations Committee Chair Rep. **Ron Amstutz** (R-Wooster) indicated that they expect tax reform and

Medicaid expansion to be ongoing topics of interest.

The education community is primarily interested in the changes proposed to Gov. Kasich's "Achievement Everywhere" school-funding formula and education policy reform. Important changes include a revised funding formula using a base funding level of \$5,732 per pupil, as compared to the \$5,000 per pupil included in the governor's bill. However, the new formula amount includes funds for pupil transportation and career-education

that were funded outside the governor's proposal. Thus, it is not entirely clear if the budget proposed by the House contains more or less funding than the governor's.

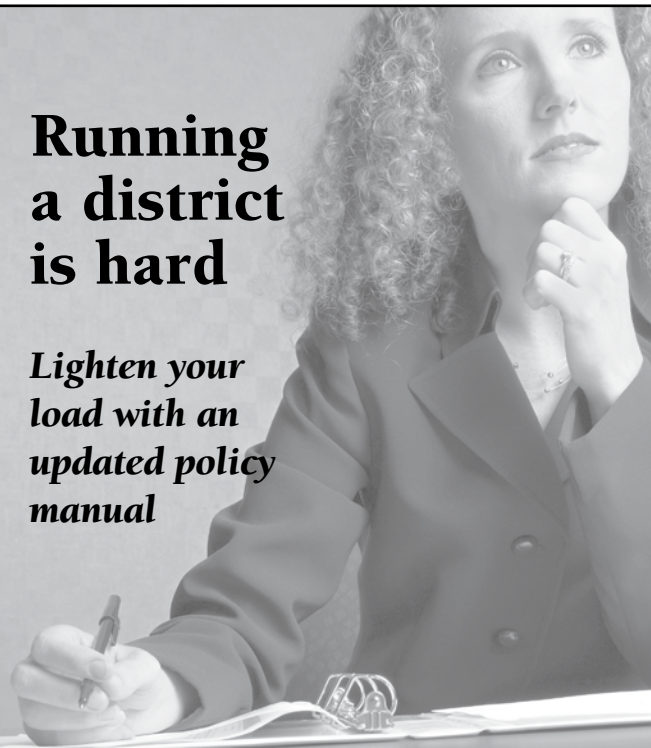
The House followed the "footprint" laid down by Gov. Kasich, using a core opportunity grant and a set of Tier 2 targeted resources. A very important change is included in the special education funding provisions, where 15% of the district's special education funds will no longer be deducted for the Catastrophic Fund. Instead, the Catastrophic Fund will be funded outside the formula at \$40 million for each year of the biennium. Restoring ESC funding was also a significant improvement.

A positive aspect of the House proposal is the significant reduction in the number of districts on the guarantee. There will only be 175 districts on the guarantee as compared to 398 in the governor's proposal, as the amount of dollars distributed to low-wealth districts increases. However, the House did apply caps of 6% on any increases in both years of the biennium, with the number of capped districts swelling from 63 to 364. The application of the cap is a difficult pill for the low-wealth districts, where there is still a significant opportunity gap for students. It also poses significant issues for districts that have experienced large increases in student

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Running a district is hard

Lighten your load with an updated policy manual



You need an up-to-date policy manual to run your district effectively. OSBA can help. Our policy specialists will assist in updating your manual, ensuring your district's policies are current and up-to-date with the Ohio Revised and Administrative codes.

Call Jeannette Radcliff, senior administrative assistant of management services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA, to begin updating your manual today.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

Akron City students learn lessons by building, racing boats

Akron City students recently participated in an educational activity that floated their boats — literally.

Students from 39 teams constructed cardboard boats and participated in an annual boat race, which is part of a pre-engineering program led by the district's science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) schools.

The race challenged middle school students, high school

students, principals and Akron City school board members to compete against each other in a timed race in Firestone High School's swimming pool.

Each team was given a consistent set of materials to construct their boat, including a cardboard box, a roll of duct tape and eight ounces of glue.

"The beauty of this is they had the same background, the same material," **Dan Spak**, project leader for Akron City's STEM

events, told a local newspaper.

The boat race activity teaches students about buoyancy, center of balance and basic construction.

"It really ties in to what we teach at our school, which is teamwork and collaboration," said **Ed Garcia**, a teacher with National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM School.

Akron City's STEM program also organizes robotics and bridge-building tournaments.

Source: *Akron Beacon Journal*

Legislative Report, continued from page 10

population.

In addition to funding changes, the House dropped several policy features of the governor's proposal, including changes to ESC governance and the expansion of the parent-trigger provision. Gifted education also was modified, returning to unit funding.

The proposed expansion of vouchers remains in the House version of the bill. The budget continues to include provisions to create income-based vouchers and vouchers for students attending schools that fail to achieve the third-grade reading guarantee. It is critical that our concerns with these matters continue to be

expressed to legislators.

Among other interesting changes to governor's proposal are:

- reduces the Straight A fund to \$150 million and limits application to schools and districts;
- modifies average daily membership (ADM) reporting from annual to monthly;
- allows home-schooled and nonpublic students the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities in their districts of residence;
- directs the State Board of Education to revise academic grade card benchmarks at least every three years;
- funds a Get Ready For

Kindergarten program and a New Leaders for Ohio Schools pilot; ● eliminates the College Credit Plus language in the bill, preserving postsecondary education programs.

OSBA will continue to bring our concerns to the Senate, and you are encouraged to contact your legislators, in person, by phone or email, and offer testimony on these and other significant issues facing public education.

For the latest legislative updates, contact the OSBA legislative division at (800) 589-6722.

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of April 15.

April 2013

- 26-27 OSBA Board Leadership Institute Columbus
- 28 OSBA Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting Zanesville
- 29 Last day to submit certification for August income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).
- 30 Last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to re-employ teachers — RC 3319.11(D)(1); and nonteaching employees — RC 4141.29(I)(1)(e).

May 2013

- 1 Arming staff: how to approach the topic webinar
- 3 Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor for August election — RC 5705.194, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the election).
- 7 BoardDocs webinar: Information for current users
- 7 Primary/Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).
- 8 OSBA Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting TBD

- 8 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 — RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to the election).
- 9 Criminal records checks: Who needs to be checked and when webinar
- 13 OSBA ESC Workshop Columbus
- 17 OSBA Capital Conference Planning Task Force Meeting Columbus
- 17 OSBA Executive Committee Meeting Columbus
- 18 OSBA Board of Trustees Meeting Columbus
- 21 BoardDocs webinar: Information for districts considering paperless board

- meetings
- 30 OSBA Transportation Workshop: Putting You in the Driver's Seat Columbus

June 2013

- 1 Last day to take action to nonrenew contracts of administrators other than superintendent and treasurer — RC 3319.02.
- 9 Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting Bowling Green
- 14 OSCBA Spring Seminar Columbus
- 21 OSBA Sports Law Workshop Columbus
- 30 2012-2013 school year ends — RC 3313.62.

July 2013

- 1 2013-2014 school year begins — RC 3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching and nonteaching employees of succeeding year salaries — RC 3319.082, 3319.12; board may adopt appropriation measure, which may be temporary — RC 5705.38(B); treasurer must certify available revenue in funds to county auditor — RC 5705.36(A)(1).