

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## Ohio districts, communities honoring school board members in January

Serving as a school board member can sometimes be a thankless job, but not this month. That's because it's School Board Recognition Month in Ohio. School districts and communities around the state honor their board members each January for their year-round commitment to Ohio's 1.8 million public schoolchildren. OSBA also is recognizing Ohio's nearly 3,500 board members and sent personalized certificates and recognition month posters to all member districts. In addition, an electronic resource kit with other ideas for honoring board members is available on the OSBA website at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/52515>.

## Lorain City to get CEO, new academic distress commission

Lorain City will become the second school district in Ohio, after Youngstown City, to come under the authority of a new academic distress commission and a CEO as prescribed in an amendment added to House Bill 70 in 2015. Lorain's current academic distress commission was formed in 2013. The amendment, which was rushed through the legislature, authorizes a state takeover of districts deemed "failing." The law removes the locally elected school board's control and transfers it to an appointed CEO with the power to delegate responsibilities to the school board, close schools or convert them to charter schools and override parts of union contracts, among other capabilities. The transition is expected to begin in March.

## It's time to start planning Black History Month activities

February is Black History Month, a time to recognize the valuable contributions millions of African-Americans have made to the U.S. and the world. There are many outstanding resources to help schools incorporate Black History Month into the classroom curriculum and other activities. They include: <http://dbs.ohiohistory.org/africanam>; <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/13054>; <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/30586>; <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/64343>; and <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/73879>.

## Bonnie Eddy, former OSBA president, dies at 81

Bonnie Eddy, who served as OSBA president in 1993 and 1994, died Dec. 21. She was 81. Eddy, a former board member at Napoleon Area City and Four County Career Center, was the only OSBA president to serve more than one term. As 1993 president-elect, she became president in July of that year when President Ray L. Hicks, Newton Falls EV and Trumbull County JVSD, resigned from his boards to take a job out of state. She finished Hicks' term and served her own in 1994. A dedicated public servant, Eddy earned Master Board Member status in 2000.

Jan. 9, 2017

Volume 48 Issue 1

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### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Board officers
- ☐ Newly appointed board members

## OSBA SW Region seeking awards nominations

The OSBA Southwest Region will recognize outstanding contributions to education at its March 14 spring conference. Districts are urged to nominate staff in the following categories: administrators; classified staff; faculty; superintendent; treasurer; and public relations professionals. Other categories include outstanding board members from a neighboring district, now called the Warren Stevens Award, and outstanding community business leaders. Nomination forms were mailed to superintendents and are available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/76768>. The nomination deadline is Feb. 8.

## Deadline for Award of Achievement approaching

The deadline for submitting Award of Achievement and Master Board Member applications is Jan.

## Middle school helps promote healthy breakfast video

Students at **Jonathan Alder Local's (Madison)** Canaan Middle School are the stars of a video that promotes healthy breakfast smoothies.

The American Dairy Association Mideast selected the middle school as the shooting location for the video, which can be viewed at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/80724>.

**Tonya Grove**, the district's food service director, received a \$5,000 grant last summer through the dairy association and the National Football League's Play60 program to purchase blenders. She wanted to offer fruit and milk smoothies as a breakfast treat.

One in 4 students eats breakfast at school, according to national statistics.

Source: The Madison Press

20. The program recognizes Ohio school board members who work hard to improve their skills by participating in workshops, volunteering with OSBA and working on behalf of their own boards. Applications are posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085>.

## OSBA supporting initiative to reduce social isolation

OSBA is supporting Sandy Hook Promise in promoting Start With Hello Week, Feb. 6-10. The goal is to reduce children's social isolation, which can lead them to hurt themselves or others. Sandy Hook Promise is a national nonprofit organization based in Connecticut. It is led by relatives of children killed in the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012. Free resources are posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/60741>.

## OSBA online

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

OSBA is now on LinkedIn, the business and employment-oriented social networking site. Be sure to follow us at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/19530> for news about the association, professional development and public education and to network with colleagues.



## Briefcase

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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	Deadline	Contact
① Warren County Career Center	Jan. 16	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Pleasant Local (Marion)	Jan. 27	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

### Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
① Deer Park Community City	Feb. 16	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Cuyahoga Falls City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



## National searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Yuma, Ariz.	Feb. 1	Steve Highlen, executive search & senior policy consultant, Arizona School Boards Association, (602) 254-1100

## Board changes

Licking Heights Local (Licking) appointed **Paul Johnson** to the board effective Dec. 15. He replaced **Matt Satterwhite**, who resigned. ●●● McDonald Local (Trumbull) appointed **Wendy Higgins** to the board effective Dec. 20. She replaced **Kevin O'Connell**, who resigned. ●●● Steubenville City appointed **Thomas Timmons** to the board effective Dec. 14. He replaced **Edward Littlejohn**, who resigned effective Dec. 14. He is moving out of the district.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

Loudonville-Perryville EV Superintendent **John E. Miller** announced his retirement effective Aug. 1.

### Editor's note

Job postings must be received six weeks before the application deadline to ensure timely publication.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Treasurers

Crestview Local (Columbiana) hired **Emma Nappi** as assistant treasurer. She replaced **Janet L. Muntean**, who has taken the treasurer position at **Poland Local (Mahoning)** effective Jan. 1.

### Sympathies

Former Chesapeake Union EV and Ironton City Superintendent Dr. **Scott Howard** died Nov. 20. He was 63. ●●● Former Trimble Local (Athens) Board of Education member **Fred F. Cavey** died Dec. 15. He was 81. ●●● Former Upper Arlington City Board of Education member Dr. **Robert Mark Arkin** died Dec. 12. He was 66.



## COMMUNICATIONS

by Casey White-Zollman, director of communications, InterMountain Education Service District, Pendleton, Ore.

### Community surveys: audience-driven communication planning

Your district has a monthly newsletter, a phone notification system and sends all of its news to a local radio or TV stations — good for you! But are they really the best way to reach your community? Rather than basing communications on assumptions, why not base it on evidence?

Audience-driven communication planning can help your district determine the best ways to communicate with your community. Why put time and effort into a monthly newsletter if parents don't even read it and it ends up in the recycle bin? That's not to say newsletters aren't effective ways to communicate — for some districts they are. Still, it would be more effective to learn exactly how your community wants to receive information and the types of information they want to receive and respond appropriately.

Community communication surveys are an effective way to find out what your community really wants to know and how they want to receive the information. It's also a great way to gauge community sentiment toward your district and the issues it finds particularly important.

Here are ideas for question topics to get you started:

- Who is taking the survey?

- ◆ Are you a parent, staff member or community member? Do you have children in school?

- ◆ What school(s) does your child attend?

- If community members frequent your buildings, having information available inside your schools may be an effective way to reach them.

- ◆ How long has it been since you've been in a school building in the district?

- What are people hearing? List topics like good teachers or staff; high student achievement; low dropout rate; clean or safe schools; respectful students; good school lunches; or low rate of crime, drugs or gangs.

- ◆ What are some positive things you've heard about our schools?

- ◆ On the flip side, ask about negative things they've heard as well.

- How do people get their information?

- ◆ What are your main information sources? List your website; local media, including newspapers, radio and TV; social media; students; newsletters; parent notification systems; and key communicator network.

- ◆ What sources do you rely on most to receive information about the schools?

- Ask about other sources of

information about your schools.

- ◆ Do you volunteer in the school, rely on word-of-mouth information and observations, attend parent organizations or school board meetings or see reader boards?

- Ask how often the respondent visits your district and/or school websites. If they're not visiting often, it could mean your district isn't providing enough new information to keep them coming back frequently.

- List all of your local newspapers, radio and TV stations, and ask respondents which ones they use most. Make sure to provide space to list additional media outlets.

- Ask if the respondent has a Twitter and/or Facebook account, and if they do, ask if they "like" or follow your district's account if applicable.

- Ask if respondents have access to the internet at home. This will let you know if accessing your district's website or emails may be difficult.

- Ask if they own a smartphone with access to the internet and mobile apps. This could help you determine if a mobile app is right for your district.

- Ask about the frequency of which the respondents want to

*Continued on page 5*



# Get up to speed quickly!

## Don't miss the New Board Member Workshop



**Saturday, Jan. 21 • 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**  
**OSBA office, Columbus • Cost is \$165**

School board service is more complex and demanding than ever. To carry out their leadership duties effectively, new school board members must move as soon as possible from the role of an involved citizen to that of responsible elected official. High-quality board member education, designed specifically for new board members, can help you become a more effective educational leader in your community.

This intensive workshop will focus on the world of boardmanship; communicating effectively; board policy 101; Ohio public school funding; transportation, policy and employee relations issues; and open meetings and public records laws.

Cost for the workshop is \$165 per board member. Four books are included with workshop tuition: “Boardmanship,” “Board-Treasurer Partnership,” “Board-Superintendent Partnership” and “Board-Legislature Partnership.”

### Agenda

<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Registration and continental breakfast</b> (provided)	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>School finance update</b> <i>OSBA legislative services division</i>
<b>9 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>
<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Boardmanship — roles and responsibilities</b> <i>OSBA school board services division</i>	<b>1 p.m.</b>	<b>Policy</b> <i>OSBA management services division</i>
<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Legislative and lobbying</b> <i>OSBA legislative services division</i>	<b>2 p.m.</b>	<b>Legal update</b> <i>OSBA legal services division</i>
<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Closing remarks and questions</b>

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

# Become a better board leader

## *Attend the Board Officers Training*

Two dates and four locations to choose from:

● **Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Findlay or Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South in Miamisburg**

● **Saturday, Feb. 11, at the OSBA office in Columbus or Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown**

**The workshops run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. • Cost is \$170**

These workshops, led by experienced OSBA staff, will present the tools you need to improve your boardmanship skills and effectively lead your district. You don't have to be a board officer to attend; board members looking to increase their leadership skills also can benefit.

School board officers serve critical leadership roles in their districts. The president is the visible leader of the board and responsible for the efficient and legal operation of board business.

Unfortunately, too many board officers attempt to fulfill these roles by going it alone. They believe on-the-job training is all they need to responsibly lead the board, but it is crucial for you to be well-informed and have the skills to carry out your leadership duties effectively. Bring your questions about leadership roles.

Topics to be covered include legal duties and responsibilities; planning a productive board meeting; practical parliamentary procedure; public participation at board meetings; open meetings and executive sessions; successful communications; responding to media requests; building team relationships; consensus building; indicators of an effective board; and effective facilitation.

Cost for the workshop is \$170 per board member and includes a copy of the "Board Presidents' Handbook."

### **Agenda**

<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Registration and continental breakfast</b>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>
<b>9 a.m.</b>	<b>Leading the governance team</b> <i>OSBA school board services division</i>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Management and policy matters for 2017</b> <i>OSBA management services division</i>
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>2:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Questions and wrap up</b>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Keeping it legal: What board officers need to know</b> <i>OSBA legal services division</i>	<b>3 p.m.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>



Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

# OSBA MASTER OF TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (MTA) PROGRAM

This series of workshops will help those involved in student transportation better understand and perform day-to-day operations.

These half-day workshops — offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is scheduled twice; participants may sign up for either session. Each class is \$90 or you can purchase an MTA subscription for the workshop series. All workshops will be at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, 43235. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs) to learn about the MTA certification program.

## Workshop dates and descriptions

### Feb. 1 or 7 — Driver records/background check/compliance needs

Ohio's regulations governing school bus driver requirements are among the most detailed in the nation. Learn strategies to maintain compliance, and review driver audit forms and hiring checklists.

### April 5 or 11 — Emergency transportation planning

Transportation departments are required to have a viable emergency plan in place. Review what an emergency plan should include, how to develop action plans and how to write a plan that anyone can follow, even in your absence.

### May 3 or 9 — Fleet compliance

Learn about bus maintenance and safety checks, Ohio State Highway Patrol motor vehicle inspections and how to make the best use of the driver pre-trip inspection. Review preventive maintenance plans, bus purchasing and using data to determine an effective vehicle replacement plan.

Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops). You also can purchase a subscription plan for all the workshops in this series. For questions about the program or to register, contact **Diana Paulins**, OSBA senior administrative assistant of policy services, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [mta@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:mta@ohioschoolboards.org).



## Looking for a new superintendent or treasurer? Look no further.

Finding and hiring the right superintendent or treasurer for your district will be among the most significant decisions you make as a board. The long-term impact and importance of this process and decision cannot be underestimated.

For more than 30 years, the OSBA search process has proven successful in nearly 1,000 executive searches for Ohio's diverse school districts and other related organizations. No one does it better!

For information on Ohio's best executive search team, call OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



Executive Search Service  
Ohio School Boards Association



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## New Board Member Workshop

☐ Jan. 21, Columbus, \$165

## Board Officers Training

☐ Jan. 28, Findlay, \$170

☐ Jan. 28, Miamisburg, \$170

☐ Feb. 11, Columbus, \$170

☐ Feb. 11, Rootstown, \$170

## OSBA MTA Program

☐ Feb. 1, Columbus, \$90

☐ Feb. 7, Columbus, \$90

☐ April 5, Columbus, \$90

☐ April 11, Columbus, \$90

☐ May 3, Columbus, \$90

☐ May 9, Columbus, \$90

## 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](mailto: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 online 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.

You may register on our website at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops). You will need a username and password.



Mail

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



Phone  
or fax

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](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). Please include a purchase order number.

### 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.



Communications, continued from page 4

receive information from your district: daily, weekly or monthly?

- Ask how the respondent would prefer to receive information: email; district website; social media; phone calls; flyers or newsletters sent home with students or via mail; local media; mobile app; and/or in-person.
- Ask about the types of information the respondents would like to receive from your district: student achievement news; board meeting updates; new policies or procedures; staff changes; statewide education issues; new, interesting district programs; upcoming events; awards; or parenting issues.
- Finally, ask respondents to provide an updated email address and/or phone number so your district can update its system.

The answers to these questions can help your district develop a comprehensive communications plan that will reach a wide audience in the most effective and efficient ways possible. The best part? When you respond with the communication the community asked to receive, your community will know your district really listened and cares about what they have to say. That goes a long way in developing trust between your district and the community.

There are three primary ways to query your community: online or phone surveys and community forums.

### Online surveys

There are several useful online survey companies. SurveyMonkey

([www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com)) is one of the most popular sites. It has several options that range from free to several hundred dollars annually, depending on how many surveys you'll conduct each year and how many questions you want to ask. Your district may want to conduct surveys throughout the year to gauge community interest in a particular board decision, get a feel for staff

morale or measure other internal communications.

Online surveys allow you to create and customize a survey, even using your district's colors and logo. They allow participants to receive and respond to the survey in multiple ways. The traditional mode of sending out an online survey is to either provide a link to the survey on your website

*Continued on page 6*

## **Ohio School Boards Association's** **Award of Achievement**

### **The Award of Achievement will inspire and challenge you!**

The OSBA Award of Achievement recognizes board members for their willingness to enroll and participate in workshops and conferences, volunteer for service to their association and work on behalf of their own board. The Award of Achievement is a special honor and distinction available only to Ohio school board members.

### **Award of Achievement is a commitment to learning**

To earn the Award of Achievement, you must complete an application that documents you have obtained 100 credits toward the award. These credits must be earned within a two-year period. To achieve the Master Board Member award, a board member must earn 300 credits over a four-year period. Once a board member receives the Master Board Member honor, the distinction is recognized for life.

Board members can confirm the OSBA committees they have served on and workshops they've attended by visiting the OSBA website ([www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)). You must log in, then click on "My Account" at the top right of the page to see a list of workshops attended, upcoming training and 2016 committees and roles. If you do not have a username or password, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

The 2016 Award of Achievement and the Master Board Member Award will be presented at the 2017 OSBA spring regional meetings. For more details and an online application, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085>.

**Application deadline: Jan. 20**

*Communications, continued from page 5*

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or embed the survey on your website.

SurveyMonkey, for example, provides a link to embed your survey onto your district's website with a simple copy-and-paste procedure. This allows your community to take the survey via your website, a place they are ideally visiting regularly. You can send emails to parents and community members announcing the survey's availability on your district's website or notify them of the survey through your district's parent notification system.

You also can embed the online survey link into an email that your district sends out to all parents or at least to those for whom you have email addresses. This allows recipients to participate in the survey without having to take the extra step of going to a website. Embedding the survey onto your district's Facebook page is another option. Many parents are on Facebook regularly, so rather than waiting for them to come to your district's website to take the survey, your district can go to them.

### **Phone surveys**

The other type of survey is a phone survey, and there are numerous companies that provide this type of service. These surveys can be costly but can provide your district with more scientific results and potentially reach community members who might not take an online survey. Check with neighboring school districts to see if they have companies they can

recommend. Make sure whichever company your district chooses has experience surveying for schools.

Phone surveying companies often will help your district develop the right questions for your survey. After all, these companies spend their time surveying people, so they are the experts at framing questions to acquire the type of information your district needs.

Phone survey results most often will come with an executive summary as well as question-by-question results and open-ended responses. Ask the survey company representative to go over these results with your district's administration and board. They may even be willing to attend a board work session in person or via phone conference. Sometimes phone survey results can be difficult to decipher, so having someone available to answer your questions is important in understanding what your community wants.

### **Community forums**

Face-to-face communication is always effective. Allowing your community to meet with the district's school board and administrators is a great way to gather information. Some districts call these community forums "listening sessions."

Listening sessions can be set up in several ways. Either have your board and administration available to answer questions in a large group setting or set up several tables and divide your board and

administrators among these tables. Community members can ask questions and talk with district officials.

Have your board members and administrators ask survey questions to acquire the information you're looking for. Not only will you find out how your community wants you to communicate, but you'll also be able to answer additional questions your public may have about your schools. These listening sessions demonstrate your district's willingness to listen to the community and its desire to improve.

No matter how your district decides to survey your community about communication issues, make sure you use the results to develop a plan your district will implement. Your public will appreciate knowing your district listened.

### **OSBA survey service**

OSBA offers a survey service to help your district collect community and staff input necessary for strategic decision-making. OSBA staff will work with you to create customized survey questions, disseminate the survey and collect the data. Additionally, a team of communication and board services professionals can analyze survey results, provide customized recommendations and deliver a final report as well as suggested actions after the survey. Contact OSBA Director of School Board Services **Cheryl W. Ryan** at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

### Student soap creations raise funds for Haitians

French students at **Chagrin Falls EV's** Chagrin Falls Middle School have been learning how to make and market soap. The fundraiser is helping students 1,600 miles away in Haiti.

Students have been making organic glycerin soap bars in three aromas, including citrus, lavender and peppermint. They used the school's 3-D printer to make soap molds. They also created a business name, Savon D'Espoir, which means "Hope Soap," and

designed a logo.

The project began out of a partnership between Chagrin Falls Middle School French teacher **Christine Briggs** and sculptor **David Shankland**, who is opening an art school in Port Au Prince, Haiti. The country is recognized as one of the poorest in the Americas.

"I was just amazed watching Chagrin students fly into action," Shankland told a local news website. "One table in the art room is the art department for the

venture. Another table is where the soap is made. And, yet, a different group is working on marketing at the board."

Mirroring their peers in the U.S., Haitian art students plan to sell the art they create to visitors from abroad and learn the same business and creative skills, Shankland said.

Each bar of soap is wrapped in a bow and includes a tag explaining the story behind Savon D'Espoir.

Source: [cleveland.com](http://cleveland.com)



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

compiled by Angela Penquite, managing editor

### Braitmayer Foundation supports K-12 education

The foundation encourages innovative programs to enhance the quality of pre-collegiate education. Of particular interest are curricular and school reform initiatives and the preparation of and professional development opportunities for teachers, particularly those which encourage people of high ability and diverse background to enter and remain in K-12 teaching.

**Maximum award:** \$35,000

**Eligibility:** public schools

**Deadline:** March 15

**Contact:** [www.braithmayerfoundation.org](http://www.braithmayerfoundation.org)

### Win a playground makeover

The Healthy Weight Commitment Foundation, Discovery Education and Playworld Systems Inc. are sponsoring the Healthy Playground Makeover Sweepstakes. This year, there are three grand prizes. One grand prize drawing will be chosen from among all eligible entries; the

second will be from among all eligible entries whose schools qualify for the Title I Schoolwide Program; and the third is for a military base or installation. In addition, three schools will receive grants to improve school wellness programs.

**Maximum award:** \$30,000 and a new playground

**Eligibility:** K-12 schools and community groups

**Deadline:** March 24

**Contact:** <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/39249>

## January

- 15 Deadline for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational 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 to adopt tax budgets for the coming school fiscal year — RC 5705.28(A)(1).
- 17 Last day to submit certification for May conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days prior to election).
- 20 Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.
- 21 New Board Member Workshop.....Columbus
- 23 Last day to submit certification for May income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).
- 27 Last day to submit May emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for May election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219 (95 days prior to election).
- 28 Board Officers Training .....Findlay
- 28 Board Officers Training .....Miamisburg
- 31 Deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; annual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain

candidates, political action committees, caucus committees (legislative campaign funds) and political parties (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures from the last day reflected in the previous report through Dec. 31, 2016 — RC 3517.10(A)(3).

## February

- 1 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Driver records, background check and compliance needs.....Columbus
- 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, conversion levy or renewal of conversion levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219(C) and (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).
- 7 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Driver records, background check and compliance needs.....Columbus
- 7 Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting .....TBD
- 11 Board Officers Training .....Columbus
- 11 Board Officers Training .....Rootstown
- 12 Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting .....Logan
- 27 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop.....Miamisburg

## March

- 1 Last day to take action and deliver written notice of nonrenewal of superintendent's contract — RC 3319.01; last day to take action on and deliver written notice of nonrenewal of treasurer's contract — RC 3313.22; deadline for secondary schools to provide information about College Credit Plus to all students enrolled in grades six through 11 — RC 3365.04(A).
- 2 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop.....Findlay
- 3 Special Education Law Workshop.....Columbus