Report: Zero tolerance, high-stakes testing fuel ‘school-to-prison pipeline’

A study by the Advancement Project says that the punitive aspects of zero tolerance and high-stakes testing policies have turned schools into alienating environments for many youth, especially those from minority and low-income groups. In what it called the “school-to-prison pipeline,” the report said that students who are expelled or held back under those policies often fall behind, drop out and end up in the criminal justice system. To download the report, which also offers recommendations to reverse this trend, see [http://links.osba-ohio.org/81253](http://links.osba-ohio.org/81253).

Board Leadership Institute offers quality training all board members need

The OSBA Board Leadership Institute, April 23-24 in Columbus, features in-depth training for every level of board experience. Designed exclusively for board members, this annual event offers keynote speakers, a comprehensive curriculum, networking opportunities and more. Featured presenters are motivational speaker and author Harvey Alston and Superintendent of Public Instruction Deborah S. Delisle. BLI’s new location for 2010, the Hilton Columbus/Polaris, features special room rates, free parking, easy access and nearby shopping and dining. For details and to register, visit [www.osba-ohio.org/seminars/BLI.htm](http://www.osba-ohio.org/seminars/BLI.htm) or call OSBA.

ODE looking for summer food program sponsors, sites

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is seeking sponsors and sites for the Summer Food Service Program. School districts that offer summer activities to low-income youth or to children living in low-income areas are encouraged to apply for the 2010 program. The program is funded through ODE by the federal government, which will reimburse sponsoring agencies. Districts must complete a survey by March 15 to be eligible. The survey and more details are posted at [http://links.osba-ohio.org/87475](http://links.osba-ohio.org/87475).

Education Tax Policy Institute launches statewide membership campaign

The Education Tax Policy Institute kicked off its 2010 membership drive with a complimentary newsletter sent to all Ohio school board members and administrators. An independent research organization founded by OSBA, ETPI analyzes Ohio tax structures and policy issues and their effect on public school districts and taxpayers. It is funded by financial support from its member organizations. For information on ETPI successes, benefits and membership, visit [www.etpi-ohio.org](http://www.etpi-ohio.org).

Want Obama to speak at your commencement? Here’s your chance

Like to land that extra-special graduation speaker? President Obama has offered his services in the “Race to the Top High School Commencement Challenge.” Schools that
enter the challenge must show why they could be a model for others around the U.S. The White House and U.S. Department of Education will select six finalists to feature on the White House Web site, where the public can vote for the three schools best meeting Obama’s goal. He will select a winner from these three finalists and visit that school to deliver the graduation address to the class of 2010. The deadline to apply is March 15. For details, visit http://links.osba-ohio.org/91877.

Capital Conference workshop nominations deadline nears
The deadline for proposals for Capital Conference workshop presentations is 5 p.m., March 19. With more than 100 sessions, the conference is a great place to share your expertise on a statewide stage. Suggested topics, selection criteria and a nomination form are available in this issue of the Briefcase. Online nomination forms are posted at http://links.osba-ohio.org/91952. The conference runs Nov. 7-10 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

This month in OSBA history
The topic of labor negotiations was a hot one in 1966. In March, OSBA brought the nation’s top public employment experts to Columbus for the Personnel Negotiations Conference, which drew 300 school board members and administrators. One result of the conference was a model negotiations instrument developed by OSBA to help guide Ohio school boards in conducting labor talks.

OSBA online
● www.osba-ohio.org
OSBA has expanded the offerings on its Ohio Education NewsClips Web site. Members can now subscribe to the electronic news service via e-mail and RSS feeds that are updated daily. Simply click on the Ohio Education NewsClips link in the Hot Topics section on the OSBA home page, then click on one or both icons in the blue Subscribe box. Another valuable addition, links to social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and others, provides members a number of sharing options.
OSBA executive searches

**Superintendent**

District | Deadline | Contact
---|---|---
① West Geauga Local (Geauga) | March 19 | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Mohawk Local (Wyandot) | March 26 | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
③ Greene County Career Center | March 31 | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
④ Xenia Community City | April 2 | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑤ Butler Technology and Career Development Schools | April 9 | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑥ Warrensville Heights City | TBD | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑦ Waterloo Local (Portage) | TBD | OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

① = Superintendent

Other positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director of human resources</td>
<td>North Olmsted City</td>
<td>until filled</td>
<td>Gary Novak, director of human resources, North Olmsted City, (440) 779-3559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school principal</td>
<td>Chagrin Falls EV</td>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Robert W. Hunt, assistant superintendent, Chagrin Falls EV, (440) 247-4346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school principal</td>
<td>Copley-Fairlawn City</td>
<td>until filled</td>
<td>Dr. Roger L. Saurer, superintendent, Copley-Fairlawn City, (330) 664-4801</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National searches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Amelia, Va.</td>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Gina Patterson, assistant executive director, Virginia School Boards Association, (434) 295-8722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Tappahannock, Va.</td>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Gina Patterson, assistant executive director, Virginia School Boards Association, (434) 295-8722</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Editor’s note

Job postings must be received six weeks before the application deadline to ensure timely publication. Thank you for your cooperation.
Board changes
The Seneca County Juvenile and Probate Court appointed Kelly Teill, Ryan Hull and Leslie Hunker to the Bettsville Local (Seneca) Board of Education effective Feb. 15.

Administrative changes
Superintendents
Clark-Shawnee Local (Clark) Superintendent Debbie Finkes announced her resignation effective June 30. ●●● Hillsboro City Superintendent Arthur Reiber announced his retirement effective July 31. The board hired Rick Earley, the district’s high school principal, to replace him effective Aug. 1. ●●● Mansfield City hired Ed Swartz as interim superintendent effective immediately. He replaces Dr. Lloyd D. Martin, who resigned effective Jan. 5. ●●● McDonald Local (Trumbull) Superintendent Michael F. Wasser announced his resignation effective July 31.

Treasurers
Big Walnut Local (Delaware) hired Felicia Drummey as treasurer. She replaces Ben Streby, who took the treasurer position at the Career and Technology Educational Centers of Licking County. Drummer previously was the treasurer at Northridge Local (Licking). ●●● Springfield Local (Summit) hired Christopher Adams as treasurer effective immediately. He replaces Don Gambal, who retired effective Jan. 1. Adams also is treasurer at Mogadore Local (Summit). The two districts will share his services. ●●● Kenston Local (Geauga) Assistant Treasurer Geraldine Kanieski announced her resignation effective immediately. The board hired Shari Bean as interim assistant treasurer effective immediately.

Sympathies
Former Central Local (Defiance) Board of Education member James Stinehelfer died Feb. 15. He was 65. ●●● Former Colonel Crawford Local (Crawford) Assistant Treasurer Dorothy Hamilton-Kurtz died Feb. 8. She was 88. ●●● Former Deer Park Community City Superintendent Louis Manning died Jan. 6. He was 83.

OSBA Information Services Specialist position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is seeking an Information Services Specialist. Primary responsibilities include network administration, developing and maintaining databases, web application development, video production and training. Platforms and software include Macs, PCs, server software, FileMaker Pro, SQL, PHP, Drupal, Apache and Microsoft Office Suite. College degree related to information/computer systems required. This is a full-time position that may require some evening and weekend work.

Send resume and cover letter by March 12, 2010, to: Ohio School Boards Association, Information Specialist, 8050 N. High Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481. EOE
Back to basics:  
Negotiations 101 for board members

Thursday, March 11  
OSBA office, Columbus  
Cost $75

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Why do schools bargain with employee unions? How do negotiations work? What are the differences between traditional bargaining and interest-based bargaining? What happens at impasse? If any, or all, of these questions are on your mind, this workshop is intended for you. Back to basics: Negotiations 101 is designed for anyone unfamiliar with collective bargaining in Ohio’s public schools. We will cover negotiations from beginning to end. Our focus will be on the entire context of negotiations, from Ohio law and the State Employment Relations Board through team selection, proposal/counterproposal development, at-the-table negotiations, impasse procedures and different bargaining methods. There will be ample time for questions and answers. Whether you are an administrator or board member, if collective bargaining is new to you or you don’t understand all parts of the process, this workshop will improve your knowledge and skills in this complex area. Presenters will be Van Keating, director of management services, and Renee Fambro, deputy director of labor relations, OSBA. Dinner will be provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to collective bargaining in Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Getting started: selecting your team, issues and bargaining method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>At-the-table strategies and techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Impasse: mediation or fact-finding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Finance in Ohio: a primer for school board members

Friday, March 26, OSBA office, Columbus  
Cost is $120

School finance is a complicated subject! As board members, it is important to know the basics. After 20 years of controversy over its school-funding system, Ohio now has a new method for providing funding to its public schools. Enacted as part of the 2010-2011 state budget, the Ohio Evidence-Based Model (OEBM) is designed to fund strategies that promise students the best chance to learn.

Learn from the experts about state and local funding, levies and details on the future of school funding. Become your district’s expert and find out where we have been, where we are and where we are going!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and continental breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Education finance overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Five-year forecasts and other local issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Levies, levies, levies!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Overview of the Ohio School Funding Advisory Council (OSFAC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OSBA is bringing you a dynamic day of professional development. From nuts and bolts to academics, this workshop will provide ESC board members, administrators and others with the resources they need to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.

**Agenda**

8:30 a.m. **Registration**

9 a.m. **Welcome and opening remarks**

_Craig Burford_, executive director, Ohio Education Service Center Association (OESCA); and _Kathy LaSota_, deputy director of search services and board development, OSBA

9:15 a.m. **Legislative update**

_Jennifer Economus_, legislative specialist, OSBA

10 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. **The Ohio Leadership Advisory Council**

In March 2007, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) formed the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council (OLAC). This partnership brought together distinguished leaders from across the state, representing diverse perspectives and roles, to begin tackling the challenge of what it means to be a leader and the knowledge and skills it takes to successfully lead. _Deborah Telfer_, executive director, ODE Center for School Improvement, and _Patti Brenneman_, project director, OLAC

11:15 a.m. **Ohio Superintendent Evaluation Standards**

Twenty-first century student demands will be great, and Ohio’s schools will need strong leaders to provide direction and support for Ohio’s educators and students. Ohio’s superintendent standards and the evaluation tool will serve as guidance to help superintendents evaluate their knowledge and skills and help higher education institutions evaluate their educational leadership training. _Kathy Lowery_, director of membership, BASA

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1 p.m. **Ohio School Funding Advisory Council update and implications for ESCs**

The Ohio School Funding Advisory Council was established to examine the various components of the new Ohio Evidence-Based Model for funding schools. Additionally, the council has been charged with studying Ohio’s ESC system and making recommendations about the regional delivery system. Learn about the work of the council and implications for ESCs. _Dr. Richard Murray_, superintendent, Muskingum Valley ESC and Ohio School Funding Advisory Council member, and _Craig Burford_

1:30 p.m. **Ohio Ethics Law update**

The Ohio Ethics Commission promotes ethics in public service. The commission was established as part of the Ohio Ethics Law in 1973, which created new ethical standards for public officials and employees by requiring personal financial disclosure; creating new restrictions upon unethical conduct with criminal sanctions; and establishing uniform review of ethics issues by statewide commissions of the three branches of government. This session will provide the latest information of interest to ESC and school district board members. _Susan Willeke_, education coordinator, Ohio Ethics Commission

2:30 p.m. **Ohio Sunshine Laws and Open Meetings Act**

Ohio’s Open Records and Open Meetings laws give Ohioans access to government meetings and records. The attorney general’s office helps public officials and citizens understand their rights and responsibilities under these laws. Speaker TBD, Ohio attorney general’s office

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**
OSBA invites your school district to:
● Showcase an outstanding performing group!
● Showcase the exemplary programs that are improving student achievement in your district!
● Show us your best programs and tell us about your best practices!

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding initiatives from school districts across the state. OSBA is seeking another round of fresh, innovative programs or practices your district is willing to share with thousands of Ohio school district representatives. Programs and practices will be selected based on creativity and impact on student achievement. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions.

Performing groups also will be selected to entertain attendees during the Student Achievement Fair. To be considered, submit an audio or video recording of the performing group.

Student Achievement Fair application
Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010  11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

____ Enclosed is a concise title and description of our student achievement program in 25 words or less, including what we think others will learn from our booth. (You may submit additional material that describes your program.)

Will you need electricity?  Yes       No       (please circle one)

____ Enclosed is a title and description of the performing group that we would like to showcase at the Student Achievement Fair. (Include an audio or video recording of the performing group.)

Title of program or performing group: ______________________________________________________________
Description:___________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Submitted by: ______________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
(Please inform the contact person as to your submission.)

Daytime phone: ( ) ________________________________ E-mail: ________________________________
(Please print)

Contact person: ________________________________ Title: ________________________________
(Please print)

Daytime phone: ( ) ________________________________ E-mail: ________________________________
(Please print)

Superintendent: ________________________________ E-mail: ________________________________
(Please print)

School district: ________________________________ Address: ____________________________________
City: ____________________________________________ Ohio  ZIP: ________________________________

If selected, your district’s program will be showcased in a 10x10-foot booth that can accommodate up to five people. (More details to follow).
Applications may be submitted online at cc.osba-ohio.org, or mail student achievement program applications to Kathy LaSota, deputy director of search services and board development, OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Mail your completed performing group application, with recording, to Al Meloy, deputy director of search services and board development, at the above address. Visit www.osba-ohio.org/sa.htm for specific details regarding the Student Achievement Fair. Application deadline is Friday, April 23, 2010.
OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show
Nov. 7–10, 2010 • Columbus

Share your expertise and experience. OSBA invites you to submit a presentation overview for the 2010 OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show. OSBA’s Conference Planning Committee will evaluate and select presentations based on criteria such as high interest and relevance; creativity and innovation; success supported by positive results; and solid, practical, how-to information. Creative formats and student involvement in programs are encouraged. Final selections will be made in May. To nominate a speaker or propose another topic, please use the form on the next page. Duplicate the form if you would like to make multiple nominations. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to, those listed below. Learning tracks are in bold.

## Selected learning tracks

### 21st century learning
- Education from a global perspective
- Educational futurists
- Governor’s Institute on Creativity and Innovation in Education
- Using social media for learning

### Administration
- Board/administration relationship
- Disciplining your own growing administrators
- How to build leadership
- Superintendent/treasurer evaluations
- Superintendent/treasurer standards

### Board development
- Board members on the bargaining team
- Boardmanship basics
- Conflict resolution
- Goal setting and annual retreats
- Governance models
- How to advocate for your child while serving as a board member
- How to be relevant
- Mock board meeting (role play)
- Parliamentary procedure

### Career education/ESC
- Effectively using business advisory councils
- ESC funding
- Job placement in a difficult economy
- JVSD to college-bound
- Role of the ESC
- Tech prep

### Community relations
- Collaboration with the business community
- Dealing with special interest groups

### Finance/facilities
- Beyond stimulus funding
- Board’s role in school construction
- Dealing with special interest groups
- Establishing foundations
- LEED projects
- Ohio Evidence Based Model spending
- Ohio School Funding Advisory Council
- Ramifications of ARRA
- (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act)
- Understanding bonding projects/agents

### Hot topics
- Biennial budget outlook
- Changes in retirement programs — STRS and SERS

### Instruction
- Character education strategies

### Human resources
- Aspiring superintendent skills
- Best practices in health care programs
- Early buyout incentives
- Growing your own administrators
- Issues with makeup days and limited calamity days
- Ohio Leadership Advisory Council
- Performance incentives and differential compensation
- Pros and cons of retire/rehire
- Recruiting/interviewing/retention
- Student/teacher recognition programs

### Legal
- Changes in teacher licensure
- Conflicts of interest/ethics
- Current issues
- Issues related to student expulsion
- Public records related to directory information
- Public records related to searches
- Restraint and seclusion
- Self-policing — when board members or administrators are in trouble
- Teacher licensure/tenure/dismissal changes
- Texting, social networking and blogging — First Amendment issues

### Organizational outlook
- School Employees
- Health Care Board
- Best practices update

### Safety and wellness
- Food allergies
- Gangs in schools
- Going green
- Jarod’s Law — what now?
- Nutrition legislation/issues
- Safety policies
- Sharing best practices from your wellness committee

### Student achievement
- Benefits of all-day kindergarten
- Dealing with opportunities for accelerated students
- Does adequate yearly progress affect the Local Report Card?
- Effectiveness of preschools
- Impact of board work on student achievement (Lighthouse Study)
- Impact of parental involvement
- Race to the Top
- Senior projects as a requirement for graduation
- Student recognition
- Year-round school

### Student issues
- Dating/bullying (House Bill 16)
- Extended day
- Health and mental health issues
- Military opportunities for students (JROTC, recruiters, etc.)
- Misuse/inappropriate use of social media
- Student tragedies
- The Individualized Education Program (IEP) team/process

### Technology
- Effective use of digital technology and social media
- Social media policies and guidelines/case law updates
- Teaching in the digital age
We want you!
Speak and share your knowledge at the
2010 OSBA Capital Conference
Nov. 7–10 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center

Title of breakout presentation: ____________________________________________ (please limit to 40 characters)

Presentation format: panel open microphone dialogue debate role-play

Select a learning track from the list on the previous page that best describes the topic:

Main contact's name:__________________________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
Phone (cell): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

Please list all co-presenters' names and information:

Name:________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

Name:________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

Name:________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

Name:________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

In 50 words or less, describe the presentation and specific skills or knowledge participants will gain by the end of your session. OSBA reserves the right to edit the description for use in the Conference Guide. (Please feel free to submit additional material that describes your program.)

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Submitted by:________________________________________
District/firm: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, ZIP: ____________________________________________
Title: ________________________________________________
Phone (day): __________________________________________
Phone (cell): __________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

Rules for proposal submissions
1. Submit as many ideas as you wish. Just make sure each overview incorporates all the requested information (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary).
2. Your proposal must be complete (title, short description and up to two pages of supporting information) to qualify for consideration.
3. Proposals must be received in the OSBA office by 5 p.m., March 19, 2010. You are encouraged to submit your proposal as soon as possible. Use one form per topic. This page may be duplicated.
4. Speakers agree to supply handout material for distribution to attendees by Oct. 8, 2010.
5. Internet drops and computers will not be available for the presentation.
6. Presentations must be product- and vendor-neutral and include a member school district.
7. Selected presenters are required to register with their district or exhibiting company for the conference.

Please return this form to Judy Morgan, secretary of board development.
Please contact Rob Delane, deputy executive director and director of school board development, or Judy Morgan with questions.
Send to OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481 or fax to (614) 540-4100.
USE ONE FORM PER TOPIC/RECOMMENDATION. THIS PAGE MAY BE DUPLICATED.
The economy is a mess, unemployment is high and community members have lost jobs and are struggling to keep their homes. Fewer school levies were on the ballot last year than the previous five years, but nearly 61% of those levies passed. “How is that possible?” you ask. Through hard work, meticulous planning and creative strategies.

Come to the April 7 OSBA Levy University to learn how five Ohio school districts succeeded in very trying times. This workshop is for all administrators, school board members and levy chairs who are even thinking about conducting a levy campaign in the near future.

**Agenda**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Introductions/welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Ebright, APR, deputy director of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>communication services, OSBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Selling a complicated tax proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwestern Local (Clark) Schools passed a 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>earned income tax and an Ohio School Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commission bond issue on the first try.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hear how this rural district sold the two taxes on the November ballot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anthony T. Orr, superintendent, Northwestern Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Won by one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Every vote truly counted in Sidney City’s fourth try</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to pass an operating levy. Learn how the district overcame a vocal opposition to squeak out a win.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patrick J. O’Donnell, superintendent, Sidney City and Emily Doenges, communications coordinator, Sidney City and Shelby County ESC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Passing a substitute tax levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monroe Local (Butler) was the first school district in the state to pass a substitute property tax issue. Find out the reasons for picking this new taxing tool and the challenges of promoting it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kelley Thorpe, treasurer, Monroe Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Got organized opposition? Get strategic!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Despite organized opposition, after four previous levy defeats South-Western City Schools succeeded with a well-organized, grassroots, community-led campaign. Find out what they learned throughout the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandy Nekoloff, executive director of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>communications, South-Western City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Changes in campaign strategy worked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learn how Groveport Madison Local (Franklin) changed its levy campaign tactics to pass a 9.36-mill replacement levy last May. Direct voter contact was the key.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott McKenzie, superintendent, Groveport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Madison Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration is $120, which covers registration, materials, lunch and refreshments. For directions, visit www.osba-ohio.org/osbamap.htm.
A great working relationship with parents, businesses and the local community is the key to building support for your district. But what's the most effective way to reach out to these groups? Attend this workshop, and learn how to:

- work with the media to spread the word about the great things happening in your schools,
- tap into your parents’ power,
- develop successful school-business partnerships,
- connect with groups in your community,
- deal with opposition groups.

The cost to attend this workshop is $120, which includes lunch, refreshments and materials. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. For directions, visit www.osba-ohio.org/osbamap.htm.
OSBA sends e-mail confirmation of registration if an e-mail 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, e-mail 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.

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name ________________________________________ Workshop date __________________________
Attendee name _________________________________________ Title _________________________________
Daytime phone _________________________________________ E-mail _________________________________
District/firm ___________________________________________ County _________________________________
Enclosed is a check for $ ____ or PO.# ______________________ 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 e-mail Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. Include a purchase order number with fax or e-mail.

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

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

Back to basics:
Negotiations 101 for board members
☐ March 11, $75
ESC Workshop
☐ March 19, $120
School Finance in Ohio
☐ March 26, $120

MDS #1: Administrator salaries and retirement incentives
☐ March 30, $75
Levy University
☐ April 7, $120

Building Support for your Schools Communication Workshop
☐ April 14, $120

Workshop name ________________________________________ Workshop date __________________________
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Daytime phone _________________________________________ E-mail _________________________________
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Here we go again, speaking techno-talk. What is a “WebQuest”? OK, let me see if I can help explain this one.

According to Wikipedia, which we’ll cover later, a WebQuest, as implied by the name, is an inquiry-based, online learning activity. During this activity students work in groups, dividing assignments among each other, so that everyone participates in a group-assigned role. The objective is to promote transformative learning outcomes, accomplished by reading, analyzing and synthesizing Web-based information. WebQuests were invented by Bernie Dodge and Tom March at San Diego State University in 1995.

WebQuests are fantastic ways to promote project-based learning and improve social interaction among groups of students. As Don Tapscott reminds us in “Growing Up Digital: The Rise of the Net Generation,” social interaction places the teacher in a unique role. “The teacher is not an instructional transmitter,” Tapscott writes. “He is a facilitator to social learning whereby learners construct their own knowledge.”

WebQuests consist of six building blocks:

- the introduction: background knowledge that encourages the learner’s interest;
- the task: a detailed explanation of what the learner is expected to do;
- the purpose: steps that learners can take to complete the quest;
- the resources: Web sites and other resources for the quest;
- the evaluation: measures the quest’s impact on learning;
- the conclusion: teachers and learners reflect on and summarize the quest.

When a teacher assigns a WebQuest project, each student in the group is responsible for a part of the quest. Social interaction and team responsibility are honed as they work together to complete each of the six building blocks. The WebQuest encourages each student to be responsible and do his or her part for the team, working together to complete the project.

When students are engaged learners they begin to realize learning is a social experience. They are able to view their own ideas through the eyes of others, encouraging better evaluation skills, open-mindedness, fair play and even conflict resolution.

The Web site (www.webquest.org) is an excellent place to learn how to use WebQuests for classroom projects. The site contains a wealth of knowledge about how to prepare for and use a WebQuest with students from varied age groups, and includes templates, examples and links to hundreds of validated content.

Oh yes, I almost forgot to mention Wikipedia. How about completing a WebQuest of your own? Go to www.wikipedia.com, think of a word or phrase you’ve heard at a board meeting, enter it in the search box, click the arrow and see what pops-up!

**OSBA Contract Analysis Service**

OSBA provides a cost-effective professional analysis of certified and classified collective bargaining agreements. These written reviews serve as a critique of current contract provisions, suggest potential pitfalls regarding legal compliance and provide recommendations as you go into your next round of bargaining.

Contact Van Keating, director of management services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for more information.
House Bill (HB) 400, sponsored by Rep. John Adams (R-Sidney), would eliminate Ohio’s personal income tax over the next decade. OSBA, along with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials, presented joint testimony in opposition to the bill before the House Ways and Means Committee. We are very concerned about the proposal and the potential negative effect it could have on public education in Ohio.

Currently, the income tax makes up 44% of the state’s General Revenue Fund (GRF); and according to the Legislative Service Commission (LSC), a little over 40% of the state’s GRF goes to primary and secondary education.

HB 400 would completely eliminate the personal income tax without including any type of replacement mechanism for the loss of revenue that would occur. According to an LSC report on HB 400, if the income tax were to be eliminated, school districts could be facing 3.2% cuts in state funding the first year and 31.6% cuts when fully phased-in.

Our testimony states that “since the income tax makes up such a significant portion of the state’s GRF, we are concerned that the elimination of this revenue source will cause a major shift in tax burden to local residential property taxpayers. Ohio schools rely on state revenues to provide education services to their students. Without that support, districts would be forced to go back to the ballot even more often than they do today and to request higher millage amounts.”

Expert testimony on the effects of HB 400 was also provided by Dr. Howard Fleeter of the firm Driscoll

Continued on page 7

With OSBA search services, searching for the right superintendent, treasurer or building administrator has never been so easy!

The search was very professionally done. The consultant met with the board as requested and spent many hours with the community in focus groups. OSBA’s search services met all of our expectations in a timely manner at a reasonable cost.

— Mechanicsburg EV

For information on Ohio’s best administrative search team, call OSBA’s Rob Delane, Kathy LaSota, Kendall Lee, Al Meloy or Cheryl Ryan at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.
Public Schools Work!

by Peter P. Guerrera, superintendent, Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools

Real-life science is at work at Cuyahoga Heights Local

Science students at Cuyahoga Heights Local (Cuyahoga) Elementary School are no strangers to alternative energy. For the past two years they have been exploring how to produce clean, viable and economical energy.

This educational journey began when their teacher, Barbara Currey, was awarded a Jennings Grant, enabling the purchase of a small wind turbine. With parent and custodial help, the turbine was installed on the roof outside the science room and now powers four outlets in the classroom.

Last year, all third-graders were involved in a play titled, “Update Earth.” The play provided the springboard for students to learn about wind energy, solar energy and hydroelectric power. Students created T-shirts with slogans like “drive a hybrid” and “use wind, not coal.” These shirts became their costumes when they performed the play — first for the entire student body, and later for parents.

This year, the third-graders are exploring wind energy by building mini wind turbines in class. They will test these turbines using fans in the classroom and by taking them outside to capture the “real” wind. Finally, they will be asked to compare the output of their small turbine to that of the huge turbine at the Great Lakes Science Center. Whew! That’s a lot of hot air.

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

and Fleeter. He is a consultant for the Education Tax Policy Institute (ETPI), a nonprofit research organization dedicated to analyzing and reporting on public policy as it relates to education funding and the tax issues that generate revenues for schools. OSBA and the other school management organizations are members of ETPI and requested an analysis of HB 400 and its impact on state funding. Fleeter presented a summary of his analysis and findings to the committee. Some of the key data he shared include:

- Eliminating the income tax would put Ohio 50th in state taxes per capita.
- If the income tax were to be eliminated, Ohioans earning zero to $50,000 would save an average of $334 per year in income taxes. Those earning more than $250,000 would save an average of $27,621.
- Three of the nine states with no income tax — Florida, Tennessee and Nevada — have jobless rates equal to or higher than Ohio’s.

For a complete copy of our testimony and Fleeter’s testimony, visit www.osba-ohio.org/advocacy. For more information on ETPI visit www.etpi-ohio.org.

The committee also heard testimony from a local school district’s perspective. OSBA would like to thank Mason City Schools Superintendent Dr. Kevin Bright and Treasurer Dick Gardner for coming to Columbus to testify in opposition to HB 400. They shared the devastating effects the proposed legislation would have on their district if the income tax were eliminated.

OSBA will keep you informed if there are additional hearings on HB 400. For the latest legislative updates, please contact the OSBA legislative division at (800) 589-OSBA.

Editor’s Note: All information in this article was current as of Feb. 25, 2010.
### March 2010

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>OSBA State Legislative Conference</td>
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<td>OSBA Back to Basics: Negotiations 101 Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Last day for voter registration for May election</td>
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<td>OSBA South Central Region Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>OSBA Levy University</td>
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<td>10-12</td>
<td>NSBA 70th Annual Conference &amp; Exposition</td>
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<td>Last day for certain board members and administrators to file financial disclosure forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission</td>
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<td>23-24</td>
<td>OSBA Board Leadership Institute</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Last day to give written notice of intent to re-employ teachers</td>
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### May 2010

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<td>Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor</td>
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