

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Ohio moves on to the next level in Race to the Top

After Ohio was chosen as one of 16 finalists in the competition for federal Race to the Top funds, a team of education leaders prepared to head to Washington to personally present the state's proposal to the U.S. Department of Education. A review panel will pick the winners from among the finalists, with the Phase 1 awards being announced in early April. If Ohio is chosen, it could receive \$409 million to be divided among the state and participating local school districts. The funds are to be spent over four years. For more information on the finalists, visit <http://links.osba-ohio.org/83329>.

Deadline drawing near for special Board Leadership Institute hotel rates

March 30 is the deadline for discounted hotel rates for the OSBA Board Leadership Institute. Call the Hilton Columbus/Polaris at (614) 885-1600 by that date to reserve a room for just \$119 a night. The institute, set for April 23-24 in Columbus, offers keynote speakers, a wide range of breakout sessions, a networking reception and much more. For details and to register, visit www.osba-ohio.org/seminars/BLI.htm or call OSBA.

OSBA Legal Assistance Fund participates in victory for public schools

A case the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund (LAF) recently participated in resulted in a favorable ruling for Ohio public schools. The case involved a residency dispute between **Ottawa Hills Local (Ottawa)** and the parents of two children who attended school in the district. It was ultimately dismissed on jurisdictional grounds. For details on the case, visit <http://links.osba-ohio.org/82234>. Since 1977, LAF has participated in litigation of statewide significance involving member boards of education.

Nation's anti-bullying efforts appear to be paying off

A recent study funded by the U.S. Department of Justice found that the percentage of children who said they had been physically bullied over the past year had dropped from almost 22% in 2003 to below 15% in 2008. Professor **David Finkelhor**, lead author of the study, said the drop could be an indication that anti-bullying programs are working. Finkelhor, director of the University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center, also said there could be future benefits, such as lower rates of violent crime and spousal assault, as today's children become adults.

Celebrate Public School Volunteer Week in April

School districts across the nation will mark the 14th annual Public School Volunteer Week April 18-24. The week is set aside to honor school volunteers, who play increasingly vital roles in our public schools. Sponsored by Project Appleseed, the observance is designed to encourage parents and community members to volunteer in

March 22, 2010

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Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Community relations coordinators
- Human resources directors

their schools. For more information on the week and ideas on ways to celebrate, see the "Communications" article on page 5.

OSBA Southeast Region hosting 'mini' open house

The OSBA Southeast Region has scheduled a free Mini-Region Open House for Tuesday, April 20, at West Portsmouth High School in the Washington-Nile Local (Scioto) School District. The school's address is 15332 U.S. Highway 52, West Portsmouth. Refreshments will be served at the event, which runs from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The evening is designed for networking with neighboring school districts. For further information, contact **Paul Mock**, Southeast Region secretary, at (740) 385-5240 or pmock@ohioschoolboards.com.

Showcase your district at the Student Achievement Fair

Nominations are being accepted

Food drive efforts earn students homework reprieve

Two young **Fremont City** students recently spearheaded a food drive that won their classmates a night off from homework and helped the Sandusky County Food Pantry fill its shelves.

To generate interest in the food drive, Stamm Elementary School students and campaign co-chairs **Tyler Newell** and **Austin Jackson** set up a contest between teachers and students. Whichever group collected more goods would win a prize: for the students, a homework-free night for the entire school; for the teachers, a quiet lunch. The students won, hands down, and earned a night off.

Enough items were collected to fill two pickup trucks with food, bar soap, laundry detergent and paper products for the pantry. And the students learned a valuable lesson in leadership and giving.

Source: *The (Fremont) News-Messenger*

for the Student Achievement Fair at the OSBA Capital Conference in November. The fair highlights 100 of the state's most innovative student programs. To nominate a program, contact **Kathy LaSota** at (614) 540-4000 or kLasota@ohioschoolboards.com. Online nomination forms are

posted at cc.osba-ohio.org under the Nominations link. The deadline is April 23. The conference runs Nov. 7-10 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

OSBA online

● www.osba-ohio.org

Districts seeking school law attorneys in their area need look no further than the Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys (OCSBA) membership roster on the OSBA Web site. Simply visit <http://portal.osba-ohio.org/ocsbadir.php> to search by name, city, firm or e-mail. There's also a link to a full alphabetical listing of attorneys. OCSBA is an OSBA affiliate that provides a statewide forum on the legal problems school attorneys face, promotes closer relationships between school attorneys and their client school board members and improves legal services to school boards by collecting and sharing school law information.



Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 North High Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 — (800) 589-OSBA
fax: (614) 540-4100 ● www.osba-ohio.org

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A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$110 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by e-mail or by fax. For more information, contact Ann Herritt at the address or fax number above or e-mail to aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org.

Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association.

Postage paid at Westerville, Ohio. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Briefcase, Attn.: Mailroom, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481

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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 and creative solutions.



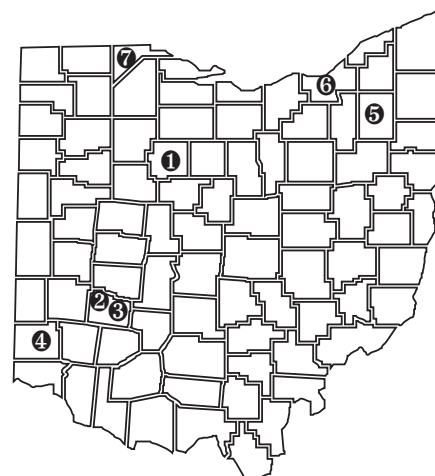
BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, secretary of communication and information services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Mohawk Local (Wyandot)	March 26	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❷ Greene County Career Center	March 31	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❸ Xenia Community City	April 2	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❹ Butler Technology and Career Development Schools	April 9	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❺ Waterloo Local (Portage)	April 23	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❻ Warrensville Heights City	April 30	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❼ Toledo City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



❶ = Superintendent

Other positions

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Conotton Valley Local (Harrison)	March 26	Kevin Spears, search consultant, East Central Ohio ESC, (330) 308-9939, ext. 203
Superintendent	Knox County ESC	March 30	Heather Darnold, treasurer, Knox County ESC, (740) 393-6767
Superintendent	Holgate Local (Henry)	March 31	Darren Jenkins, superintendent, Northwest Ohio ESC, (567) 444-4800, ext. 4646
Superintendent	Meigs Local (Meigs)	April 9	William L. Buckley, superintendent, Meigs Local, (740) 992-2153
Superintendent	Millcreek-West Unity Local (Williams)	April 9	Traci Stuckey, treasurer, Millcreek-West Unity Local, (419) 924-2366, option 2
Superintendent	Clearview Local (Lorain)	April 16	Dr. Thomas Rockwell, superintendent, Lorain County ESC, (440) 324-5777, ext. 1102
Superintendent	Crooksville EV	April 16	Dick Fisher, search consultant, (740) 407-6525

Editor's note

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

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Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Ottawa Hills Local (Lucas)	April 16	OHLS superintendent search, Lucas County ESC , 2275 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, OH 43620
Treasurer	Northridge Local (Licking)	April 9	Dr. Nelson McCray , superintendent, Licking County ESC , (740) 349-6089
Director	GOAL Digital Academy	April 1	Robert Alexander , superintendent, GOAL Digital Academy, (419) 946-1646
K-12 special needs principal	Cleveland Heights-University Heights City	March 25	Dr. Dave Kircher , Ohio Schools Council/ Finding Leaders, (216) 447-3100, ext. 106
High school-small school principal	Cleveland Heights-University Heights City	April 5	Dr. Dave Kircher , Ohio Schools Council/ Finding Leaders, (216) 447-3100, ext. 106
High school principal	Green Local (Wayne)	April 16	Larry Brown , superintendent, Green Local, (330) 669-3921
High school principal	Orange City	April 16	Gary Puntel , director of human resources, Orange City, (216) 831-8600, ext. 6622
Elementary school principal	Cleveland Heights-University Heights City	April 5	Dr. Dave Kircher , Ohio Schools Council/ Finding Leaders, (216) 447-3100, ext. 106

National searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Batesville, Ark.	March 19	McPherson & Jacobson, (402) 991-7031
Superintendent	Stafford, Va.	April 5	Gina Patterson , assistant executive director, Virginia School Boards Association, (434) 295-8722
Superintendent	Pawtucket, R.I.	April 8	Dr. Arthur Bettencourt , assistant executive director, New England School Development Council, (508) 481-9444

Board changes

Amherst EV Board of Education member **Nicholas Dimacchia** announced his resignation effective immediately. ●●● **Highland Local (Medina)** appointed **John Anthony CizMadia** to the board effective Feb. 28. He replaces Dr. **Nancy Wingenbach**, who resigned due to moving out of the district.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Bellevue City hired **Kim Schubert** as superintendent effective Feb. 26. She has been the district's acting superintendent since July. ●●● **Bettsville Local (Seneca)** Superintendent **Paul Orshoski** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Canton Local (Stark)** Superintendent **Teresa Purses** announced her retirement effective the end of the school year. **Kim Redmond**, the district's curriculum director, was hired as superintendent effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Carlisle Local (Warren)** hired **Larry R. Hook** as superintendent effective July 1. He replaces **Mike Griffiths**, who retired in November. Hook is a former **Springboro Community City** assistant superintendent. ●●● **Conotton Valley Union Local (Harrison)** Superintendent **Jeff Belininger** announced his retirement effective May 31. ●●● **Crooksville EV** hired **Don Halsey** as interim superintendent effective March 9. He replaces **Jeff Childers**, who resigned effective Feb. 23. ●●● **Delaware City** Superintendent **Mary Anne Ashworth**

Continued on page 7



2010 Student Achievement Fair

OSBA Capital Conference

Nov. 9, 2010

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: _____

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.**



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!

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

8:45 a.m. Education finance overview

Learn the fundamentals on the OEBM and the history of school funding in Ohio.

Kelly Weir, director of budget and planning, Ohio Department of Education

11 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. Five-year forecasts and other local issues

Hear from a seasoned treasurer on the importance of the five-year forecast and other local issues every board member needs to know.

Jeff McCuen, chief fiscal officer, Worthington City Schools

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Levies, levies, levies!

Everything you ever wanted to know about levies and more, including a historical perspective on levies and what it means to schools.

Dr. Howard Fleeter, Education Tax Policy Institute consultant; and Mike Sobul, section chief, Ohio Department of Taxation

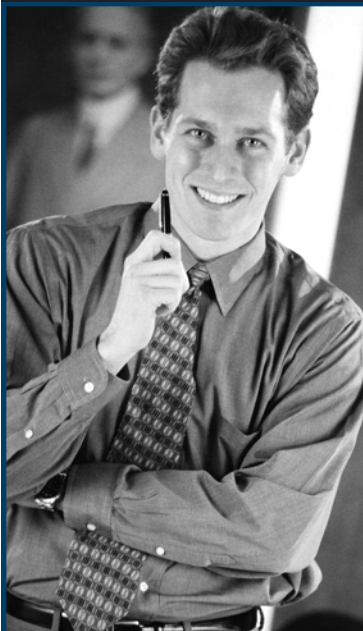
2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Overview of the Ohio School Funding Advisory Council (OSFAC)

This council is charged with reviewing OEBM and making recommendations to the legislature on the future of the new formula. Learn more about the group and what it is proposing.

Carey McDonald, coordinator, OSFAC

Free OSBA member benefit: Business travel/accidental death and dismemberment insurance



School board members traditionally receive very little compensation for their dedication and service, except the satisfaction of a job well done. OSBA thinks you deserve something more — so the association annually purchases \$50,000 accidental death and dismemberment policies for school board members. This valuable insurance program automatically covers each member of those school boards that join OSBA.

As OSBA members, you and your fellow board members are eligible to receive up to \$50,000 in accidental death and dismemberment benefits and up to \$5,000 in medical expense reimbursement, subject to a \$100 deductible. In addition, the accidental death benefit will be increased 10% if it is verified that the member was wearing a seat belt at the time of an accident in a private passenger auto.

This policy covers you while you are traveling to, attending and returning from meetings, workshops, school visits, and regional, state or national conventions. In short, coverage is effective anytime you are on school district business in your capacity as a board member. Benefits are payable directly to your estate or anyone you choose. Benefits are payable regardless of any other available insurance if the accident occurred during the performance of duties as a school board member.

For specific coverage information, contact Janice Smith, OSBA chief financial officer, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Management Development Series #1:



Administrator salaries and retirement incentives: current trends

Tuesday, March 30
OSBA office, Columbus
Directions: visit www.osba-ohio.org/osbamap.htm

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Cost is \$75

Two of the more confusing issues for boards of education are found in understanding administrators' salary structures and offering employees retirement incentives. Both topics are unique in that multiple options exist, yet boards continually search for something new, better or more effective. This workshop will focus on both the theory and practice of administrator salary schedules and look at new trends, such as incentive pay. Retirement incentives will be compared and contrasted, from early retirement incentives (ERIs) to "please leave" bonuses and everything in between. Attendees will fully participate in the discussions and have the opportunity to share unique questions or situations that exist in their district.

Presenters: *Jeffery C. Rahmberg*, partner, Rahmberg Stover & Associates; and *Van D. Keating*, director of management services, OSBA

Transportation Roundtable

you decide the topic

Date and location:

Thursday, May 6
OSBA office, Columbus

Cost:

\$35, includes lunch

Time:

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In this roundtable discussion, any attendee can offer a question or issue to be discussed by the entire group for whatever length of time is needed.

This is an opportunity for transportation supervisors and other school administrators to sit down and openly discuss various issues, as well as interact with individuals from other school districts to solve similar problems. Pete Japikse, associate director of the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Pupil Transportation, will be on hand to answer questions.

Directions: Visit www.osba-ohio.org/osbamap.htm



Passing a levy in difficult economic times

Levy University



Wednesday, April 7 9 a.m.–3:15 p.m.
OSBA office, Columbus Cost: \$120

Come to the April 7 OSBA Levy University to learn how five Ohio school districts succeeded in passing levies 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

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration opens**
- 9 a.m. **Introductions/welcome**
Scott Ebright, APR, deputy director of communication services, OSBA
- 9:05 a.m. **Selling a complicated tax proposal**
Northwestern Local (Clark) Schools passed a 1% earned income tax and an Ohio School Facilities Commission bond issue on the first try. Hear how this rural district sold the two taxes on the November ballot.
Anthony T. Orr, superintendent, Northwestern Local
- 10:05 a.m. **Won by one**
Every vote truly counted in Sidney City's fourth try to pass an operating levy. Learn how the district overcame a vocal opposition to squeak out a win.
Patrick J. O'Donnell, superintendent, Sidney City and Emily Doenges, communications coordinator, Sidney City and Shelby County ESC
- 11:05 a.m. **Break**
- 11:20 a.m. **Passing a substitute tax levy**
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.
Kelley Thorpe, treasurer, Monroe Local
- 12:20 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1 p.m. **Got levies? Get strategic by working with your community – including the opposition!**
The South-Western City Schools levy passed on its fourth attempt. The campaign was organized, grassroots and community-led. Find out, from a district communications perspective, how districts can better communicate with all stakeholders – from the lessons that can be learned from talking to opposition group leadership to the types of information the community is seeking to stay informed about its schools.
Sandy Nekoloff, executive director of communications, South-Western City
- 2 p.m. **Break**
- 2:15 p.m. **Changes in campaign strategy worked**
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.
Scott McKenzie, superintendent, Groveport Madison Local
- 3:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Tuition is \$120, which covers registration, materials, lunch and refreshments. For directions, visit www.osba-ohio.org/osbamap.htm.

Building support for your schools

Communication Workshop
Wednesday, April 14, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
OSBA office, Columbus

A great working relationship with parents, businesses and the local community is the key to building support for your district. But what are the most effective ways 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,
- find consensus among varying groups.



Agenda

8:30 a.m.

Registration begins

8:55 a.m.

Welcome

9 a.m.

Engaging families and communities

House Bill 1 identified family and community engagement as a key part of education reform in Ohio. Learn from an Ohio Department of Education (ODE) expert how ODE's Web-based School, Family and Community Partnership Framework can help district and school administrators, teachers and parent leaders develop a comprehensive system to support effective partnerships. *Jennifer Vargo, family and community engagement coordinator, ODE*

10 a.m.

Great things happening in your schools?

Work with the media to get that good news out

The news media can have a tremendous influence in shaping community attitudes about schools. Far too often the public does not hear about the great things schools are doing. In this session, a veteran broadcast journalist and former school district community relations coordinator shares strategies for spreading your successes throughout the community.

Lu Ann Stoia, news director, WTVN Radio, Columbus

11 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m.

Reaching across the divide

Part of building community support for your school system is working with those who disagree with the district's methods or direction. Hear how Mason City overcame differences of opinion to keep the focus on doing what is best for students.

Tracey Carson, public information officer, Mason City Schools

12:15 p.m.

Lunch

1 p.m.

Developing successful school-business partnerships

Learn how Tri-Rivers Career Center uses advisory committees to connect with local businesses. Committee members, who are active in the business community, provide up-to-date information about current and future education and skill needs to Tri-Rivers instructors, who impart that knowledge to the students.

Ellen Messenger, director of community relations, Tri-Rivers Career Center

2 p.m.

Break

2:15 p.m.

Tapping the potential of parent involvement

Getting parents involved in schools can have a powerfully positive impact. Learn more about the potential of parents when they are included in schools' decision-making processes and their children's education.

Rebecka Adams, District 6 advisor, Ohio PTA

3:15 p.m.

Adjourn

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.

Board Leadership Institute

Organizational leadership for tomorrow's schools

Benefits:

- ◆ Participate in a program designed exclusively for and by board members
- ◆ Learn from top experts during two days of comprehensive training
- ◆ Receive all of the handouts from this board member-only event
- ◆ Hear nationally acclaimed speakers
- ◆ Strengthen board governance skills
- ◆ Choose from 18 different breakout sessions
- ◆ Network with other board members
- ◆ Earn 20 Award of Achievement points

Good decisions require informed decision-makers.

As a member of your school district's governing body, you are called on 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 that 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 from across the state to develop the ninth annual Board Leadership Institute. The two-day workshop is specifically designed for board members and will focus on multiple topics. Participants will have the opportunity to attend general sessions, 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.

Registration and hotel details

BLI will be held in Columbus on Friday, April 23, and Saturday, April 24. Cost for the institute is \$225, and includes breakfast and lunch on both days, a networking reception and materials. To register, contact **Laurie Miller** at (614) 540-4000; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

The 2010 Board Leadership Institute will be held at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris. The Hilton is in north Columbus near the Polaris Fashion Place mall. This location is easily accessible from I-71, offers free

parking and is close to many shopping and dining opportunities. Also, OSBA secured a reduced hotel rate for BLI attendees: just \$119 per night if the room is booked by March 30. To reserve your room, contact the Hilton Columbus/Polaris at (614) 885-1600 and mention you are with OSBA.

Visit www.osba-ohio.org/seminars/BLI.htm to learn about the keynote speakers and view a full agenda for this event.



Ohio School Boards Association

April 23-24, 2010 • Hilton Columbus/Polaris, north Columbus

Cyberlaw

Technology and the Law Seminar

2 dates and locations:

Tuesday, May 11
Embassy Suites,
Independence

Wednesday, May 19
OSBA office,
Columbus

Each workshop is from
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Tuition is \$120



AGENDA

All sessions have built in question-and-answer time. Bring your questions!

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

9 a.m. **Teachers, technology and termination**

Join an experienced school law attorney to discuss recent cases of employee misconduct litigation, termination decisions and other examples of misconduct with a technology component.
Independence: *John E. Britton, Esq.*, Britton, Smith, Peters & Kalail Co. LPA, Cleveland
Columbus: *Patrick J. Schmitz, Esq.*, Scott, Scriven & Wahoff LLP, Columbus

10 a.m. **Responding to records requests in an electronic age**

Explore electronic records retention requirements, with practical guidance about using media to create and store records, address overly broad or vague public record requests and more.
Both locations: *Adam C. Miller, Esq.*, Ulmer & Berne LLP, Columbus

10:45 a.m. **Break**

11 a.m. **Emerging trends in school security**

Learn the latest developments in school safety measures, including the use and review of video surveillance and body scans. This session also will provide suggestions for working with administrators to implement appropriate safety and security measures in your district.
Independence: *Joe Palazzo*, coordinator of technology services, Cuyahoga Heights Local (Cuyahoga)
Columbus: *Sgt. Rodney Barnes*, Dublin Division of Police, Dublin, Ohio

11:45 a.m. **Lunch (provided)**

12:45 p.m. **Cell phone searches and discipline**

You will hear how new case law developments in this area impact your discipline procedures, with practical guidance on the law and your code of conduct and policy.
Independence: *Gary T. Stedronsky, Esq.*, Ennis Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati
Columbus: *C. Bronston McCord III, Esq.*, Ennis Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati

1:45 p.m. **Break**

2 p.m. **RU on Facebook? Dealing with students and social networking**

This interactive session will address new legal issues in navigating the changing landscape of student social networking as it relates to bullying, discipline and safety.
Both locations: *Thomas B. Allen, Esq.* Frost Brown Todd LLC, West Chester; and *Thomas E. Wheeler II*, Frost Brown Todd LLC, Indianapolis

3:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

For more information, visit www.osba-ohio.org/training.htm



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

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

Board Leadership Insitute

April 23-24, \$225

Transportation Roundtable

May 6, \$35

Cyberlaw: Technology and the Law Seminar

May 11, Independence, \$120

May 19, Columbus, \$120

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name _____ Workshop date _____
 Attendee name _____ Title _____
 Daytime phone _____ E-mail _____
 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 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

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.



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.



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

You may register on our Web page at www.osba-ohio.org. Select "Training."

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.



COMMUNICATIONS

compiled by Angela Penquite, communications specialist

Celebrate the volunteers in your district

Public School Volunteer Week is April 18–24. Created by Project Appleseed in 1997, the week focuses on opportunities for parents to volunteer in their local public schools. To date, seven million parents and family members in 10,000 schools and districts across the nation are involved in this effort.

Whether parents, business leaders, senior citizens or students, volunteers play an important role in a school district. Acting as mentors, tutors and classroom assistants, their efforts can boost student achievement.

Below are some ways your district can celebrate Public School Volunteer Week and honor the volunteers in your district:

- Host a series of breakfast forums on volunteering opportunities, higher standards, the school's curriculum, conflict resolution, dealing with peer pressure, or linking community art, museum and cultural resources with the schools.
- Kick off Public School Volunteer Week with a special welcome for new students and families in the community.
- Ask your school board, mayor, city council, state representative or governor to issue a proclamation celebrating Public School Volunteer Week to highlight the value of volunteer involvement in your

schools.

- Host an open house at the school for parents and community members. Hold it in the evening or on the weekend so that more people can attend. At the open house, ask every family to bring a member of the community who does not have kids in the school. This provides parents and community members with an opportunity to see the school firsthand and feel more comfortable with the idea of getting involved.
- Set up a parent resource center where families can come to get more information on topics of interest and meet and talk with one another and school staff.
- Launch a community mentoring program where parent volunteers and college students mentor high school and middle school students who, in turn, can mentor elementary school students.
- Host a brunch to recognize volunteers in your district. Ask each grade level and staff member to help with this event.
- Present an honorary award to a local government official or local leader in recognition of his or her contribution to education in your community. Celebrate with recognition ceremonies for teachers, students, parents, and community

and religious organization volunteers who have made a long-term commitment to children's learning to inspire more people to jump in and get involved.

- Submit an article, guest column or letter to the editor to a local newspaper explaining why building good parental involvement and revitalizing the schools are essential to improving education.
 - Focus on community literacy during Public School Volunteer Week activities. Hold storytelling nights, guest author and poetry readings, read-aloud programs, book fairs and book drives, a read-a-thon, family literacy nights or other literacy activities for the whole community. Work with local colleges and universities to help college students get into the schools as reading tutors.
 - Train volunteers and teachers. Whether a second-grade reading tutor or a ninth-grade algebra mentor, volunteers need training in their specific assignments. Teachers, in turn, need training in how to get families and community members involved and how to use volunteers in the classroom.
- To see more suggestions for celebrating Public School Volunteer Week, visit www.projectappleseed.org.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, legislative specialist

Bills would provide tax breaks for alternative energy companies

Legislation has been introduced in the Ohio Senate that would exempt alternative energy companies, such as wind and solar, from real and tangible personal property taxes. Senate Bill (SB) 232, sponsored by Sen. **Chris Widener** (R-Springfield), would exempt from property taxation renewable energy facilities that are not financed through the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) and require a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) on the basis of each megawatt of production at such facilities. The legislation is currently being heard in the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee.

SB 232 specifically does the following:

- Provides an exemption from real and tangible personal property taxes and assessments for certain

energy air quality facilities.

- Defines energy air quality facilities as any renewable energy project for which an application is filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board or upon which construction or installation is commenced on or after Jan. 1, 2010, but on or before Dec. 31, 2011, and that is placed in service on or before Dec. 31, 2012.
- Utility facilities that may qualify as renewable energy projects include electric generating plants capable of producing 50 megawatts or economically significant wind farms capable of operating at a capacity of five to 50 megawatts.
- Renewable energy projects qualifying under this legislation may use solar, wind, geothermal, biomass or hydroelectric resources.
- Requires annual PILOTs or assessments in the amount of \$5,000 or \$6,000 per megawatt of energy generated.
- Requires the OAQDA to certify the number of jobs created and maintained during the construction and operation of the facility.
- Requires the owner to restore all roads affected by the construction and to provide training and equipment to fire and emergency providers.
- Requires the owner to offer to sell power or renewable energy credits first to electric distribution utilities and electric service companies

subject to the alternative energy requirements of current law.

In the other legislative chamber, House Democrats are preparing to introduce their own alternative energy proposal. Rep. **Roland Winburn** (D-Dayton) is expected to introduce and sponsor a somewhat different proposal. It would also offer a PILOT for renewable energy developers, but on a tiered system of payments that would be linked to the percentage of jobs created in Ohio and held by Ohio residents.

OSBA is currently analyzing both pieces of legislation. We understand the desire for state leaders to promote economic development activity. However, a major concern could be the potential loss and risk to local governments created by precedent-setting exemptions for alternative energy projects. We fear these exemptions would open the door for serious legal challenges by the current public utilities in Ohio, which could amount to hundreds of millions in lost tax revenue across the state.

OSBA will keep you informed as these bills move through the legislative process. 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 Mar. 12, 2010.

Looking for a bargain?

OSBA's bargaining consultation services offer your district comprehensive representation services during negotiations, and/or traditional and alternative bargaining styles.

Bargaining consultation clients receive:

- low-cost service fees;
- flexible rates;
- experienced negotiators;
- statewide experience.

Contact OSBA's management services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to learn more.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Gary Motz, managing editor

At-risk Cincinnati students thriving in arts-based learning program

The nonprofit Cincinnati Arts & Technology Center (CATC), which uses the arts to keep at-risk high school students in school and help them graduate, has released results of its five years of operation.

Partnering with **Cincinnati City Schools**, the center takes high school students with the least likelihood of graduating and re-engages them in school through rigorous and disciplined arts-based learning.

CATC's track record is impressive:

- 1,400 students have taken part in the program, with active participation increasing from 125 in the first year to 400 this school year;
- 80% of students who enroll become active participants;
- 97% of active participants earn the credits they need to move to the next grade or graduate;
- 85% of students who graduate take steps toward applying to higher education institutions;
- Graduation rates for participating seniors have consistently exceeded 90%.

"CATC has made a meaningful contribution to our graduation rates by motivating many at-risk students to stay in school," said Cincinnati City Superintendent **Mary Ronan**. "We are proud of this collaboration, and of the students who are emerging from CATC programs with hope and opportunities they would not have had otherwise."

Source: Silver Light Communications (for more information, call (513) 562-5500)

Bulletin Board, continued from page 4

announced her retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Meigs Local (Meigs)** Superintendent **William L. Buckley** announced his retirement effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Northern Local (Perry)** Superintendent **Jack Porter** announced his retirement effective April 1. ●●● **Osnaburg Local (Stark)** Superintendent **Jeffrey Talbert** announced his resignation effective at the end of the school year. He is taking the assistant superintendent position at **Cleveland Heights-University Heights City**. ●●● **Parma City** Superintendent Dr. **Sarah Zatik** announced her retirement effective July 31. She accepted a teaching position at Baldwin-Wallace College. ●●● **Copley-Fairlawn City** hired **Aaron Sable** as assistant superintendent effective Aug. 1. He replaces **Brian Poe**, who was hired as the district's superintendent. Sable is currently the district's high school principal.

Treasurers

Highland Local (Medina) Treasurer **Mary Markle** announced her retirement effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Upper Valley JVSD** Treasurer **William Stump** announced his retirement effective Feb. 28. ●●● **Union-Scioto Local (Ross)** Treasurer **Kristen Rhoads** announced her resignation effective immediately. She is taking the treasurer position at **Circleville City** effective April 1.

Sympathies

Former **Cleveland Heights-University Heights City** Board of Education member **Ed Young** died Feb. 22. He was 67. ●●● **Claudette Woodard**, a former state representative and **Cleveland Heights-University Heights City** Board of Education member, died Feb. 25. She was 64. ●●● Former **Scioto Valley Local (Ross)** Superintendent **Willard Max O'Dell** died March 5. He was 78. ●●● Former **Twin Valley Community Local (Preble)** Board of Education member **Ira Kreitzer** died Feb. 24. He was 70.

March 2010

- 23 OSBA Workers' Compensation MeetingAthens
- 24 OSBA Northeast Region Spring Conference.....Warren
- 24 OSBA Workers' Compensation Meeting.....Cincinnati
- 25 OSBA Workers' Compensation Meeting.....Columbus
- 26 OSBA School Finance in Ohio Workshop.....Columbus
- 30 OSBA Management Development Series #1Columbus
- 31 *Last day to take action on contracts of administrators other than superintendent — RC 3319.02.*

April 2010

- 5 *Last day for voter registration for May election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A).*
- 6 OSBA Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting.....Bellefontaine
- 7 OSBA Levy UniversityColumbus
- 10-12 NSBA 70th Annual Conference & ExpositionChicago
- 14 OSBA Communication Workshop.....Columbus

- 15 *Last day for certain board members and administrators to file financial disclosure forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02.*
- 23-24 OSBA Board Leadership InstituteColumbus
- 30 *Last day to give written notice of intent not to re-employ teachers — RC 3319.11; and nonteaching employees — RC 4141.29.*

May 2010

- 2 OSBA Southeast Region Executive Committee MeetingZanesville
- 4 *Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).*
- 5 OSBA SSDAC MeetingColumbus
- 5 OSBA Northeast Region Executive Committee MeetingRavenna
- 6 OSBA Transportation RoundtableColumbus
- 10 *Last day to submit certification for August income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (85 days prior to election).*
- 11 OSBA Cyberlaw WorkshopIndependence
- 14 OSBA Executive Committee Meeting.....Columbus

- 15 OSBA Board of Trustees Meeting.....Columbus
- 15 *Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor — RC 5705.194, 5705.213 (80 days prior to election).*
- 18 OSBA Management Development Series #2Columbus
- 19 OSBA Cyberlaw WorkshopColumbus
- 20 *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 or current operating expenses levy for August to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A).*