

# BRIEF CASE

## THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



### Updated OSBA website offers expanded access, many new features

OSBA has unveiled a freshly renovated website that provides members greater and easier access to the information and services they need. The revised site offers many new features, including: increased speed; an improved search function; an expanded main menu that describes what is contained in each section to make navigation easier and faster; and an updated member account page for managing email subscriptions, accessing workshop history and handouts, and viewing committees served on and awards received. In addition, the website is designed to look the same on any device, including tablets and mobile phones. If you need help navigating the website, logging in to the members-only portion, registering for workshops or ordering items from the store, please call OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

### Leaders name appointees to Lorain City academic distress commission

Superintendent of Public Instruction **Paolo DeMaria** and local leaders have named their choices for the **Lorain City Schools Academic Distress Commission**. Lorain City is the second district to come under new rules added in a last-minute amendment to Ohio House Bill 70 in 2015; **Youngstown City** was the first. The law removes much of a 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. For details on a CEO's powers under the law, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/73641>.

### Report: Trump-DeVos voucher plan not viable for most of U.S.

During his campaign, now-President **Donald Trump** called for redirecting \$20 billion in federal education funding to private school vouchers, a proposal new Secretary of Education **Betsy DeVos** supports. A new analysis from the Center for American Progress (CAP), however, shows that such a plan is unlikely to be viable in 85% of the more than 13,000 school districts in the U.S. CAP's analysis lays out the potential impact that the Trump-DeVos voucher plan would have on different types of districts. For details from the report, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/80006>.

### OSBA still seeking moderators for Capital Conference sessions

Make your Capital Conference experience even more rewarding by volunteering to serve as a learning session moderator. The moderator's role is to introduce presenters, collect evaluation forms and act as a liaison between the audience and speakers. School board members who serve as a moderator will earn five OSBA Award of Achievement credits. If interested, contact **Judy Morgan** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org).

**April 24, 2017**  
Volume 48 Issue 8

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#### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Human resources directors
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

## May 1 set aside to honor Ohio school bus drivers

More than 15,000 school bus drivers across the state transport over 800,000 students safely to and from school and school-related events throughout the year. In 2001, the Ohio General Assembly designated the first Monday in May as School Bus Driver Appreciation Day. This year the date is May 1. The day offers an opportunity for school districts and communities to recognize the outstanding job performance of their school bus drivers and the staff members who support them. OSBA thanks these dedicated individuals for their efforts to keep Ohio's children safe.

## Highlight district innovations at Student Achievement Fair

OSBA strongly encourages school districts to nominate their innovative programs and talented performing groups for the

association's Student Achievement Fair. The fair features 100 booths of top student programs and five performing groups. It is held at the November Capital Conference in Columbus. For more information and to submit nominations, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/52500>.

## Man Camp teaches life lessons

Students participate in band camps, robotics camps and numerous athletic camps. At **Lakota Local's (Butler)** Cherokee Elementary School, there is Man Camp.

Man Camp was the idea of school counselor **Audrey Young**, who hopes to expand the program next year.

"We have so much for girls, with outside organizations coming in, but nothing for boys," she told a local newspaper.

Each week, volunteers teach life lessons to the school's boys. The program is designed to guide them closer to a greater appreciation of the responsibilities of manhood.

Young has received positive feedback from parents. The camp teaches leadership and social skills and offers positive role models.

Source: Journal-News

## School attorneys group posts 2017 online directory

The Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys (OCSBA) has released its 2017 online member directory. Membership in OCSBA, an OSBA affiliate, is limited to attorneys who currently represent or have represented an Ohio school board. Attorneys who are board members themselves also are eligible to join. The directory may be searched by attorney name, law firm or city. It is posted at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/ocsba-directory](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/ocsba-directory).

## OSBA online

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

Ohio school districts, education leaders and OSBA staff took part in numerous presentations and events at the National School Boards Association Annual Conference last month. Photos from the event are posted on OSBA's Flickr page at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/21006>.



## Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association  
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OSBA Executive Director: **Richard Lewis**, CAE

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*A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$130 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email or by fax. For more information, contact Ann Herritt at the address or fax number above or email [aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto: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, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.



# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

#### District

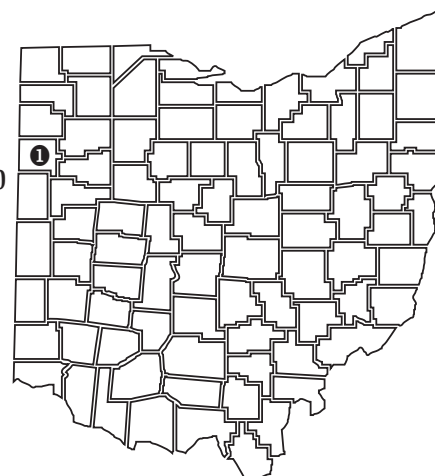
① Van Wert City

#### Deadline

May 15

#### Contact

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



## Other searches

#### Position

Superintendent

#### District

Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield)

#### Deadline

April 30

#### Contact

[www.bloom-carroll.k12.oh.us](http://www.bloom-carroll.k12.oh.us)

## Board changes

Clyde-Green Springs EV Board of Education member **Denise R. Hamrick** announced her resignation effective March 31. She is moving out of the district. ●●● **Trimble Local (Athens)** appointed **Dave Owen** to the board effective March 30. He replaced **Robert Miller**, who resigned Feb. 28.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

**Hillsboro City** hired **Tim Davis** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **James R. Smith**, who is retiring effective July 31. Davis currently is the district's principal for grades four and five. ●●● **Pickerington Local (Fairfield)** Superintendent Dr. **Valerie M. Browning-Thompson** announced her retirement effective June 30. ●●● **Reynoldsburg City** hired Dr. **Melvin J. Brown** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Tina Thomas-Manning**. Brown currently is the assistant superintendent at **Cuyahoga Falls City**. ●●● **Tolles Career & Technical Center** Superintendent **Kimberly Wilson** announced her retirement effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Washington Court House City** appointed **Bob Hamm** as interim superintendent effective immediately. He replaced **Matthew J. McCorkle**, who resigned effective March 31. ●●● **West Carrollton City** hired Dr. **Andrea J. Townsend** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Dr. **Rusty Clifford**, who is retiring. Townsend currently is the superintendent at **New Bremen Local (Auglaize)**.

### Editor's note

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

### Treasurers

**Apollo Career Center** Treasurer **Greg Bukowski** announced his retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Brecksville-Broadview Heights City** Treasurer **Richard Berdine** announced his resignation effective July 31. He has taken the treasurer position at **Revere Local (Summit)**, replacing retiring Treasurer **David R. Forrest II**. ●●● **Woodridge Local (Summit)** Treasurer

Deanna L. Levenger announced her retirement effective April 19.

## Sympathies

Former **Arlington Local (Hancock)** Board of Education member **William E. "Bill" Pifer** died March 26. He was 90. ●●● Former **Bath Local (Allen)** Board of Education member **Robert R. Edgington** died March 30. He was 96. ●●● Former **Gallipolis City** and **Gallia-Jackson-Vinton JVSD** Board of Education member **James L. Holley** died April 3. He was 82. ●●● Former **Grandview Heights City** and **State** Board of Education member **Martha Elizabeth Bolton Agler** died April 4. She was 105. ●●● Former **Hamilton Local (Franklin)** Board of Education member **Robert "Bob" L. Adams** died April 2. He was 84. ●●● Former **Jackson Center Local (Shelby)** Board of Education member **Ralph Richard "Dutch" Regula** died March 24. He was 86. ●●● Former **Lake Local (Stark)** Board of Education member **Donald H. Replogle** died March 24. He was 87. ●●● **Liberty-Union-Thurston Local (Fairfield)** Treasurer **David I. Butler Jr.** died April 4. He was 66. ●●● Former **New Miami Local (Butler)** Board of Education member **Sam K. Zeigler** died April 7. He was 92. ●●● Former **Pike-Delta-York Local (Fulton)** Board of Education member **Dr. Robert L. Bay** died March 25. He was 97. ●●● Former **Upper Scioto Valley Local (Hardin)** Board of Education member **Earl F. Shepherd Sr.** died April 3. He was 86. ●●● Former **Willoughby Eastlake City** Board of Education member **C. Richard Henderson** died March 23. He was 88.



## Advocating for public education

*Kids PAC* gives board members the opportunity to belong to a political action committee (PAC) whose members are aware of the problems facing public education and whose goals are aimed at dealing with these issues.

With a PAC, we have a voice and can advocate for the future of public education. *Kids PAC* allows OSBA to advance its legislative platform by supporting candidates who believe in its goals.

## Why is *Kids PAC* important?

*Kids PAC* supports candidates who are involved with and passionate about public education. It also raises the visibility of school board members' views, interests and concerns among influential legislators.

**Join *Kids PAC* today!**

# Invest in their future

To be active advocates for Ohio's children, we need a strong PAC. Contribute to *Kids PAC* today! Contributions can be made online, by personal check made payable to *Kids PAC* or by cash up to \$100. By law, school district and corporate checks cannot be accepted. *Kids PAC* is a political action committee, and contributions are not tax deductible.

***Kids PAC***  
because kids count



Ohio School  
Boards Association





# Save the date

## Mark your calendar for these important workshops.

**May 3**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Fleet compliance*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$90, half day

**May 9**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Fleet compliance*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$90, half day

**May 17**

*Management Development Series #3: Bring the  
media on board with proactive transportation  
communication tactics*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**June 16**

*OCSBA School Attorney Workshop*  
Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, Lewis  
Center  
\$210, full day

**June 23**

*Sports Law Workshop*  
Embassy Suites, Columbus  
\$165, full day

**July 15**

*Pre-Board Candidate Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
free, mini workshop

**Aug. 4**

*Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop*  
Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, Lewis  
Center  
\$165, full day

**Aug. 14**

*Budget Analysis and Discussion (BAD) Seminar*  
Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, Lewis  
Center  
\$205, full day

**Aug. 30**

*Board Candidate Workshop*  
Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown  
\$95, evening workshop

**Sept. 7**

*Board Candidate Workshop*  
Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg  
\$95, evening workshop

**Sept. 11**

*Board Candidate Workshop*  
Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay  
\$95, evening workshop

**Sept. 12**

*Board Candidate Workshop*  
Ohio University Inn and Conference Center,  
Athens  
\$95, evening workshop

**Sept. 13**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Routing and Technology*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Sept. 15**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg  
\$165, full day

**Sept. 16**

*Board Candidate Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, mini-workshop

**Sept. 19**

*Management Development Series #4*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Sept. 20**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Routing and Technology*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Sept. 21**

*Board Candidate Webinar*  
\$50, webinar

**Sept. 22**

*Diversity and Inclusion in the Law Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$155, full day

**Sept. 26**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown  
\$165, full day

**Sept. 28**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay  
\$165, full day

**Oct. 3**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
Ohio University Inn and Conference Center, Athens  
\$165, full day

**Oct. 5**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
Kent State University Tuscarawas, New  
Philadelphia  
\$165, full day

**Oct. 5**

*OSBA/OHSPRA Communication Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$155, full day

**Oct. 5**

*Hot Topics in School Law Webinar*  
\$100, webinar

**Oct. 10**

*Treasurers Clinic*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$165, full day

**Oct. 13**

*Administrative Professionals Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Oct. 18**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Personnel management*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Oct. 19**

*Management Development Series #5*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day

**Oct. 24**

*School Law for Treasurers Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$155, full day

**Oct. 25**

*OSBA Master of Transportation Administration  
Program: Personnel management*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$95, half day



# Diversity and Inclusion in the Law: Implicit Bias

Friday, April 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. • Cost \$155

OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, (614) 540-4000

**8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**

**8:50 a.m. Welcome**

**9 a.m. Implicit bias and microaggressions: What are they and how can we address them?**

Learn the differences between bias and prejudice and how everyday comments and actions can be disparaging. Implicit bias can negatively affect students, from unrealistic teacher expectations to disproportionate discipline for minority students. These implicit biases and microaggressions can have a major impact on students and their futures. Get the tools you need to identify implicit bias and microaggressions and their potential impacts, and learn how to lessen their impact to help every student succeed in an inclusive learning environment.

*Todd Corley, chief diversity and inclusion officer, OhioHealth*

**11:30 p.m. Lunch (provided)**

**12:15 p.m. Diversity and inclusion successes in the field**

Representatives from Ohio school districts discuss programs they have implemented in their districts. From development to implementation and beyond, get some great ideas you can take back to your district to create and/or improve your own diversity and inclusion efforts.

*Jackie Powers, curriculum supervisor of equity and inclusion, and Heather Cole, district diversity coordinator, Olentangy Local (Delaware); and Jimmie Beall, resource counselor, Columbus City*

**3 p.m. Adjourn**

The cost is \$155, which includes registration, materials, lunch and light refreshments. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA 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

These 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. The 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.

### 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 board and management services, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [mta@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:mta@ohioschoolboards.org).



## Management Development Series #3: Bring the media on board with proactive transportation communication tactics

Wednesday, May 17  
OSBA office, Columbus

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Cost is \$95



If a crisis happens in your district, are you prepared to manage the resulting media attention and keep your parents informed? Do you have speaking points ready and know what to never say to a reporter? Review several school crisis events, develop talking points, practice live interviews and build your confidence in partnering with media staff.

Join OSBA's Management Development Series on May 17 to learn how to work through both the bad and good news with the media. The class is offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and includes a working lunch.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Cost for the workshop is \$95 and includes lunch and materials. 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 Student Achievement Fair

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017 • 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Greater Columbus Convention Center

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and fresh, innovative initiatives from school districts across the state.

### Student Achievement Fair performing groups

OSBA will choose one school district performing group from each of the association's five regions to perform during the Student Achievement Fair. Each group will perform for 20 minutes. To nominate a performing group, submit a nomination at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations> and email an electronic video audition or YouTube link to **Gwen Samet** at [gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org). Only electronic recordings will be accepted. The nomination deadline is Friday, June 23.



### Student Achievement Fair district programs

OSBA is accepting nominations for district programs that improve student achievement. For ideas, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/60021> to view the list of 2016 Student Achievement Fair district programs.

One hundred programs highlighting student achievement will be selected. Nominate a district program at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations>.

If you have questions, contact **Gwen Samet** ([gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org)) or **Teri Morgan** ([tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org)) at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## Diversity and Inclusion in the Law: Implicit Bias

☐ April 28, Columbus, \$155

## OSBA MTA Program

☐ May 3, Columbus, \$90

☐ May 9, Columbus, \$90

## Management Development Series #3: Bring the media on board with proactive transportation communication tactics

☐ May 17, Columbus, \$95

### 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.





# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

## State legislature takes up budget following two-week break

The Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate will return to their scheduled committee and session activity the week of April 24 following a two-week break.

The House is expected to introduce its version of House Bill (HB) 49, the state biennial budget legislation, as a substitute bill. Following that, members will discuss a series of amendments prior to the bill being voted out of the full Finance Committee.

From the Finance Committee, the legislation will proceed through the Rules and Reference Committee before being scheduled for a vote by the full House. We expect this to occur during the first two weeks in May. Following the House vote, the bill will go to the Senate for formal hearings in the Senate Finance Committee and its subcommittees.

Prior to the two-week break, the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) began presenting testimony on Gov. **John R. Kasich's** budget proposal to the Senate Finance Committee and Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education. We expect the Senate to continue having informal budget hearings and discussion until the House formally passes the bill.

We continue to hear reports from the governor's office on decreased state revenue estimates and a current year-to-date shortfall of \$615 million. OBM Director **Tim Keen** warned legislators, in testimony in the House and Senate, to expect a "not insignificant" revision of revenues for the next biennium. A copy of Keen's full testimony can be found on OSBA's website at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/76742>.

Kasich recently held a joint press conference with Senate President **Larry Obhof** (R-Medina) and House Speaker **Cliff Rosenberger** (R-Clarksville) to announce they are jointly looking to cut \$400 million in each year in the proposed budget. The Columbus Dispatch reported that the governor was asked if any areas of the budget, such as schools, were immune from further reductions. Kasich's response was, "The message is we're not going to take anything off the table."

It is imperative that local school districts continue to have discussions with their legislators in the House and Senate on the impact of the proposed biennial budget. Resources to help support those discussions, including OSBA's testimony, can be found on OSBA's website at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/23430>.

Once the House adopts the substitute version of HB 49, OSBA will send an e-Alert notifying districts of the changes made, along with the potential impact on local districts. If you have any questions as the budget process moves forward, please contact the OSBA Division of Legislative Services at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

*Editor's note:* Information in this article was current as of April 14, 2017.



### We can help you reach agreement

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.

For more information on how bargaining consultation can work for your district, contact OSBA's management services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



## NEWS

by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

### Biennial budget, state testing focus of legislative conference

In a biennial budget year, public education officials have been vocal about funding, testing and school choice. More than 100 school board members, administrators and others had the opportunity to meet face to face with Ohio legislators March 15 at the State Legislative Conference in Columbus.

The annual event — hosted by OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) —

provides a forum to gather with state representatives and senators and discuss key education issues.

“If you’re not bugging ... your senator, you should be,” Sen. **Cliff Hite** (R-Findlay) told attendees at the Statehouse event.

Hite, a former teacher and coach who chairs the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education, was among a group of speakers that included:

- Rep. **Cliff Rosenberger** (R-Clarksville), House speaker;
- Rep. **Ryan Smith** (R-Bidwell), chair, House Finance Committee;
- Rep. **Fred Strahorn** (D-Dayton), House minority leader;
- Sen. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering), chair, Senate Education Committee;
- Sen. **Joe Schiavoni** (D-Boardman), Senate minority leader.

OSBA and OASBO lobbyists offered updates on House Bill 49, Gov. **John R. Kasich**’s proposed state budget for fiscal years 2018-19. Smith introduced the bill in February, and since then House members have been working on their version of the legislation.

Smith addressed two of the governor’s proposals that have generated extensive opposition from board members and other public education stakeholders.

One would require superintendents to appoint three

nonvoting advisory members to boards of education to represent local business.

OSBA, BASA and OASBO support better connections between education and business. However, they believe the proposal usurps the duties and responsibilities of locally elected boards of education. According to an OSBA survey, 54% of Ohio school board members are executives or represent business professionals. Additionally, 14% run their own business.

The associations also oppose teacher externships, which would require educators to complete an on-site work experience with a local business or chamber of commerce as part of the license renewal requirements.

“Within our caucus, I don’t think there’s a whole lot of widespread support for those two issues,” Smith said.

Lehner addressed the state’s new graduation requirements for the class of 2018, the first group to fall under a three-path testing requirement to earn a diploma. They must earn 18 of 35 points on the new, more challenging end-of-course exams; a remediation-free score on the ACT or SAT; or an approved industry credential and pass a workforce-readiness test.



### OSBA Contract Analysis Service

OSBA provides a cost-effective professional analysis of both 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 specific recommendations as you go into your next round of collective bargaining.

Contact **Van D. Keating**, director of management services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for more information.



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

## Students help locate graves in historic cemetery

A nearly 200-year-old cemetery became a classroom for students at **Green Local's (Summit) Green High School**.

To help preserve the community's history, science students have been helping University of Akron archaeology professor Dr. **Timothy Matney** locate gravesites so a fence can be installed around the cemetery.

"I like to get the kids out to have a real, hands-on experience," Green High School science teacher

**John Berry** told a local newspaper. "They are never going to remember my lecture, but they will remember this."

Matney explained the process of identifying graves. Students' surface survey work will be layered with aerial photos. An electric resistance meter helped map the cemetery boundaries underground.

"It's definitely a new experience, and I'm learning a lot," junior **Drake Nicely** said.

Known as the historic Klinefelter Family Cemetery, the Green Township cemetery dates to 1820. The family of the Rev. **Adam Klinefelter**, who founded the Evangelical Seminary in the township, is buried there.

Junior **Jessica Shell** had visited the cemetery with her family.

"I knew exactly where it was and thought, 'This is going to be sweet. I'm going to learn the history about it,'" she said.

Source: Akron Beacon Journal

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*Legislative Report, continued from page 6*

Lehner also said she would like to see more budget funding for early childhood education.

"Until we get very, very serious and purposeful about providing 3- and 4-year-olds the stimulation and help they need to be successful in school, we are going to continue to struggle ... getting kids to pass and get their diploma," she said.

Schiavoni discussed Senate Bill (SB) 39, legislation he introduced to increase oversight and provide additional transparency for online charter schools.

The bill specifies that an e-school not sponsored by a school district must record the number of hours a student is actively participating in learning

opportunities in a 24-hour period.

"I think it's a good measure in finally getting e-schools to follow a set of rules sensible for education, making sure a student is logged in throughout the day, making sure the student is engaged in learning throughout the day," Schiavoni said. "If they're not, the e-school doesn't get paid."

OSBA, BASA and OASBO support increased oversight and accountability for online charter schools and the public tax dollars used to support them.

Conference attendees also heard more about SB 85, which would further divert public taxpayer money away from traditional public school districts.

The bill, introduced by Sen. **Matt Huffman** (R-Lima), would expand voucher eligibility to all families below 400% of the poverty level — \$98,400 for a family of four — regardless of where they live or the performance of their local schools.

The Legislative Service Commission (LSC) estimates that 74% of Ohio students would be eligible to participate under Huffman's bill. LSC further noted that if all eligible students would opt for vouchers, the net cost to the state would be \$1.19 billion annually.

Following the morning sessions, attendees had lunch with lawmakers and their aides and held further discussions later in the day.

## April

- 28 Diversity and Inclusion in the Law:  
Implicit Bias Workshop ..... Columbus  
30 Southeast Region Executive Committee  
meeting..... Zanesville

## May

- 1 Last day to submit certification for August  
income tax levy to Ohio Department of  
Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior  
to the election).  
2 Special Election Day; Primary Election  
Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after first  
Monday)  
3 OSBA Master of Transportation  
Administration Program: Fleet  
compliance..... Columbus  
3 Northeast Region Executive Committee  
Meeting ..... Wadsworth  
5 Last day to submit August emergency or  
current operating expenses levy to county  
auditor for August election — RC 5705.194,  
5705.195, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the  
election).  
9 OSBA Master of Transportation  
Administration Program: Fleet  
compliance..... Columbus  
10 Last day for school district to file resolution  
of necessity, resolution to proceed and  
auditor's certification for bond levy with  
board of elections for August election —

RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor  
to certify school district bond levy terms  
for August election — RC 133.18(C); last  
day to submit continuing replacement,  
permanent improvement or operating levy  
for August election to board of elections  
— RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last  
day to certify resolution for school district  
income tax levy for August election to board  
of elections — RC 5748.02(C); last day to  
submit emergency levy for August election  
to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last  
day to submit phased-in levy or current  
operating expenses levy for August election  
to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A) (90  
days prior to the election).

- 15 Last day for certain board members and  
administrators to file financial disclosure  
forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission —  
RC 102.02.  
17 Management Development Series  
#3: Bring the media on board with  
proactive transportation communication  
tactics ..... Columbus

## June

- 1 Last day to take action to nonrenew  
contracts of administrators other than  
superintendent and treasurer — RC  
3319.02; last day to take action on and give  
written notice of intent not to re-employ

teachers — RC 3319.11(D); last day to take  
action on and give written notice of intent  
not to re-employ nonteaching employees  
(Note: this requirement does not apply  
to municipal school district employees as  
defined in RC 3311.71) — RC 4141.29(I)(1)  
(f).

- 11 Northwest Region Executive Committee  
meeting..... Bowling Green  
16 OCSBA School Attorney  
Workshop..... Lewis Center  
23 Sports Law Workshop ..... Columbus  
30 2016-2017 school year ends — RC  
3313.62; end of third ADM reporting period  
— RC 3317.03(A)

## July

- 1 2017-2018 school year begins — RC  
3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching  
and nonteaching employees of succeeding  
year salaries — RC 3319.12, 3319.082;  
board may begin to adopt appropriation  
measure, which may be temporary — RC  
5705.38(A) and (B); treasurer must certify  
available revenue in funds to county auditor  
— RC 5705.36(A)(1).  
10 Last day for termination of teaching contract  
by a teacher without consent of the board of  
education — RC 3319.15.