



Serving the public school leadership team

Voters OK high percentage of local school tax issues on primary ballot

Ohio voters approved 71 of the 97 local school tax issues in the May 2 primary election. Although 73% of the issues passed, most of the winning issues were renewal levies. Voters approved 46 of 49 renewal issues on the ballot, a 94% passage rate. Twenty-five of the 48 new school tax issues were approved, a passage rate of 52%.

OSBA Black Caucus announces 2017 scholarship winners

The OSBA Black Caucus has announced the 2017 Leo Lucas Scholarship winners. The program provides ethnically diverse students graduating from high school funds to help them attend college. Six students were selected from among 157 applicants. The scholarship program is named for the late **Leo Lucas**, a **Dayton City** school board member and educator who founded the OSBA Black Caucus. For a list of the winners and more information on the caucus, visit http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/90489.

Association seeking nominations for 2017 All-Ohio School Board

The nomination process for the All-Ohio School Board award — OSBA's most prestigious honor — is now open. Five Ohio board members will take the stage at the Capital Conference in November to receive this highly sought-after award. The program recognizes board members who demonstrate outstanding boardmanship and service to public education. One board member from each of OSBA's five regions will be named to the All-Ohio School Board. A brochure with more information and a nomination form has been mailed to all school board members. For details, visit http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/40919. The nomination deadline is June 30.

Teachers retirement board votes to suspend cost-of-living increases

The State Teachers Retirement System Retirement Board announced it has made the difficult but necessary decision to reduce cost-of-living increases granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0% to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Current benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of-living increases will not be affected by this change. The board also agreed to evaluate — not later than the next five-year actuarial experience review — whether an upward adjustment of the cost-of-living increase is payable without impairing the fiscal integrity of the retirement system.

OSBA accepting candidates for regional, state committees and offices

OSBA is seeking nominations for 2018 regional and state committee appointments. All school board members are encouraged to apply for OSBA elected offices and committee posts. Serving as an officer or committee member is a great way to interact with board members from other school districts and represent your board and district

May 22, 2017

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Route workshop information to:

□ Administrators□ Athletic directors

at region and state events. A Call for Nominations brochure and application form were recently mailed to all board members and are posted at http://links.ohio schoolboards.org/40095. The nomination deadline is June 30. Check with your regional manager for more information; their contact information is posted at www.ohio schoolboards.org/regions.

Moderators sought for conference workshops

Would you like to make your Capital Conference experience even more valuable? Then sign up 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)

Students design Iwo Jima statue for legion post

At the center of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial near the nation's capital is a colossal sculpture depicting the iconic World War II photograph of six Marines raising a U.S. flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Students in a welding and fabrication class at **Ohio Hi-Point Career Center** in Logan County helped bring history to life outside Bellefontaine's American Legion Harold Kerr Post 173. Members of the class designed and built a metal replica of the famous flagraising in the fight against Japan.

Post Commander **Tim Pierce** presented a certificate of appreciation to senior **Jonathan Klinger**, whose class designed the look-alike statue honoring World War II veterans.

Source: Bellefontaine Examiner

589-OSBA or jmorgan@ ohioschoolboards.org.

OSBA Pocket Calendars mailed to district treasurers

The 2017-2018 OSBA Pocket Calendar has been mailed to treasurers at all member school districts. The calendar contains a list of important Ohio Revised Code dates and deadlines and contact information for all OSBA staff members. Board members who don't receive their calendar should contact their treasurer.

OSBA online

• www.ohioschoolboards.org

Need just the right gift to recognize your district's leaders and staff at the end of the school year? Then visit the online OSBA Store. The store offers customized plagues and awards and miscellaneous items that are perfect for singling out those in your school district who deserve special recognition. Miscellaneous items include student achievement and OSBA lapel pins as well as OSBA polo shirts and other clothing. In addition, over 200 publications covering a wide range of school governance topics are available for purchase. To shop at the store, visit www.ohioschool boards.org/catalog.



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.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA President: **Denise Baba**, **Streetsboro City** OSBA Executive Director: **Richard Lewis**, CAE Editor: **Gary Motz**, senior editorial manager

Managing editor, layout and design: **Angela Penquite**, senior communication design manager

Assistant editor: Scott Gerfen, communication manager

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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 Deadline Contact

1 Tolles Career & Technical June 2 OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000 Center



Other searches

PositionDistrictDeadlineContactTreasurerPickaway-Ross Career & Technology CenterJune 2Dennis Franks, superintendent, Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology

Center, (740) 642-1340

Board changes

Centerville City appointed John Doll to the board effective April 24. He replaced Brad Evers, who resigned. ••• Three Monroeville Local (Huron) Board of Education members announced their resignations: Sandy Lonz, effective May 10; Scott Sparks, effective April 26; and Brian Watt, effective April 17. ••• Muskingum Valley ESC appointed Sharon Slowter to the board effective March 28. She replaced William M. "Bill" Clemens, who passed away. ••• New Boston Local (Scioto) Board of Education member Johnny Whisman announced his resignation effective April 28. ••• Ross Local (Butler) appointed Sean Van Winkle to the board effective May 1. He replaced Steven M. Stitsinger, who resigned effective April 16.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center Superintendent Dr. Celena Roebuck announced her retirement effective Aug. 1. ••• Danville Local (Knox) hired Jason Todd Snively as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dan L. Harper, who is retiring. Snively currently is the high school principal at Hillsboro City. ••• Liberty Local (Trumbull) hired Joseph Nohra as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Stan Watson, who is retiring in July. Nohra currently is the chief operations officer at Youngstown City. ••• McDonald Local (Trumbull) hired Kevin O'Connell as superintendent

Editor's note

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

effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Robert A. Rostan**, who is retiring. O'Connell currently is the elementary school principal at **Maplewood Local (Trumbull)**. ••• Middletown City Superintendent Dr. Samuel Ison announced his retirement effective July 31. He has taken the high school principal position at **Wayne Local (Warren)** effective Aug. 1. ••• West **Muskingum Local (Muskingum)** Superintendent Dr. William R. Harbron announced his resignation effective July 31. He has taken a superintendent position at the Dover School District in Dover, N.H. ••• Woodmore Local (Sandusky) hired Dr. Robert Yenrick as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent Kevin Ball. Yenrick currently is the executive director of pupil services at Bowling Green City. ••• West Clermont Local (Clermont) hired Mike Overbey as assistant superintendent effective Aug. 1. He currently is a high school principal at Forest Hills Local (Hamilton).

Treasurers

Apollo Career Center hired Maria Rellinger as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace Greg Bukowski, who is retiring. Rellinger currently is the treasurer at Paulding EV. ••• Fairfield County ESC hired Interim Assistant Treasurer Laura Cassell as treasurer effective July 1. She will replace Teresa L. Thomas, who resigned to take a position at Ohio University. ••• Heath City hired Karl Zarins as treasurer effective Aug. 1. He will replace Bradley T. Hall, who is retiring. Zarins currently is an audit executive for the Ohio treasurer of state's office. ••• Stow-Munroe Falls City hired Assistant Treasurer Kristy Stoicoiu as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace David L. Osborne, who is retiring.

Sympathies

Former Canfield Local (Mahoning) Board of Education member Victor C. Mohl died April 8. He was 89. ••• Former Cincinnati City Board of Education member Wayne F. Wilke died April 30. He was 86. ••• Former Fairfield County ESC and Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking) Superintendent and Licking County ESC and Newark City Assistant Superintendent Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery died April 27. He was 68. ••• Former Springfield City Board of Education member Joseph J. Marous died April 28. He was 86. ••• Former Waverly City Board of Education member Linda Ellen Blaum Shoemaker died April 25. She was 81.



NEWS

by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Leadership institute offers valuable board member training

School board members relish the opportunity to learn and put that knowledge to use. Year after year, OSBA's Board Leadership Institute (BLI) provides a training ground specifically designed *by* board members *for* board members.

Over two days — April 21 and 22 at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris in Columbus — nearly 200 board members participated in 18

breakout sessions in six learning tracks. The sessions covered board development; critical issues; finance; leadership; student achievement; and hot topics, such as suicide warning signs, serving transgender, foster, homeless and English learner students and an ethics overview. Attendees can access handouts from each breakout session through their

OSBA website account.

Members of the Board Leadership Institute Focus Group plan BLI during the OSBA Capital Conference in November. OSBA staff further develop topics based on board members' recommendations. By working together at events like BLI, board members develop skills and strategies needed for effective *Continued on page 5*

News continued from page 4

school district governance.

All five members of the Campbell City, Greenfield EV and Mad River Local (Montgomery) boards attended the 16th annual institute.

A smaller conference like BLI also delivers plenty of networking opportunities between sessions and during the luncheons, which were sponsored by CompManagement and CompManagement Health Systems Inc. Attendees browsed the on-site OSBA Bookstore, consulted with OSBA staff and met with their regional managers.

"BLI is very unique since it is designed by and for board members only," said OSBA Deputy Executive Director **Rob Delane**, who coordinated the event. "This intensive two-day leadership institute affords attendees the opportunity to learn about cutting-edge topics from experts in their fields as well as take advantage of ample time to network with their peers from across the state.

"Board members have indicated that a significant reason they return year after year is due to the strength of the program offered. We are looking forward to providing an equally strong program in 2018."

Opening General Session

Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria Public education: Success through shared governance

As the one who directs Ohio's education system of nearly 3,600

public schools and more than 1.6 million students, Superintendent of Public Instruction **Paolo DeMaria** knows he's not alone in his mission.

"What we are doing, ultimately, in education is taking our most-precious treasure and creating our future," he said during his April 21 presentation to BLI attendees. "The calling of the teacher, the calling of a school board member is really that greatest calling of all. It puts us in a position where we are

defining what we're going to become."

DeMaria, with a strong background in public policy, has seen the challenges and achievements of collective governance throughout his 25-year career in the public sector. He has served as policy adviser to former Ohio Gov. **Bob Taft** and director and assistant director of the Ohio Office of Budget and Management.

Continued on page 6



Survey Service

The solution for your survey needs

Community and staff input and feedback are among the best ways to drive your strategic decision-making process, resulting in higher impact outcomes. A quality survey takes time to create, distribute, collect and analyze. OSBA's online survey service does this work for you.

Count on OSBA's knowledgeable staff to work with you to create customized survey questions, disseminate the survey and collect the data. Additionally, a team of communication and board services professionals can analyze survey results, provide customized recommendations and deliver a final report as well as suggested actions after the survey.

For more information, contact Cheryl W. Ryan at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

News, continued from page 5 -

He also worked as executive vice chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, leading initiatives to improve college completion, increase credential attainment and boost college readiness.

Prior to becoming state superintendent, he served six years as principal consultant for Education First, guiding policy, implementation and strategy projects for K-12 and higher education clients in several states.

"The fundamental thing that unites us all is this desire to help every one of our students be successful and reach his or her potential," DeMaria said. "If we start with that as our anchor, if we start with that as our fundamental purpose ... then it's hard for us to imagine things going wrong."

He said that in helping students and teachers succeed, there is a shared governance among local, state and federal entities. At times, however, the stakes for one level of government outweigh

collaboration in finding a solution.

DeMaria pointed to the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* as an example. In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that state laws setting up separate public schools for black and white students was unconstitutional. The court's unanimous decision paved the way for school integration and was a major victory for the civil rights movement.

"Here's the U.S. Supreme Court stepping in and saying there are higher interests at stake, in terms of civil rights, that needed to be addressed and simply can't be left up to local control," DeMaria said.

Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the federal government had some of the decision-making power that once resided with states and school districts in determining how schools hire teachers and spend taxpayer money, DeMaria said.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed in 2015, lessened the federal government's role in elementary and secondary education.

"ESSA represents a wholesale end of federal control," DeMaria said. "A lot of people believe that. I think it gives us a little bit of freedom but not as much as people think."

Continued on page 7

Hot summer special!

Receive a discount of up to \$200 on customized board development workshops scheduled this summer

Does your board of education team plan to use the summer to further develop its governance skills? Are you looking for an opportunity to discuss topics such as goal-setting, evaluation, communication, board processes and protocols or strategic planning?

If so, a customized board development workshop for your leadership team should be on your to-do list this summer. OSBA's board and management services consultants will work with you on an agenda to bring about real results.

Districts scheduling a customized leadership team workshop to take place between June 1 and Aug. 15 will receive a \$150 discount on three-hour workshops (\$700 from \$850) and \$200 off full-day retreats of six hours or more (\$1,400 from \$1,600).



Call OSBA at (614) 540-4000, for more information or to schedule your workshop today

Celebrate the stars in your district at the CSBA 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. Past performing groups have included choirs, bands, orchestras, percussion ensembles and cheerleaders. 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, administrative assistant of board and management services, at 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. These programs showcase exemplary programs that improve student achievement. Examples of district programs in the Student Achievement Fair include one-to-one technology programs, STEM for middle grades, workforce exchange programs and career center culinary arts programs. For more 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. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions. Nominate a district program at http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations.

District programs will be showcased in a 10-by-10-foot booth, which can accommodate up to five people. Nominations will be accepted until all booths have been filled. Please note: Internet access IS NOT provided with your booth. If you need internet access, you can purchase it from the convention center. The 2016 daily rate for Wi-Fi was \$99 per device. You will need a credit card to make the purchase.



Have questions?

If you have questions about nominating a student performing group or district program, contact **Gwen Samet** (gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org) or **Teri Morgan** (tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org) at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Visit http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations to nominate a student performing group or district program today!



THE 40TH ANNUAL OHIO COUNCIL OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS

SCHOOL ATTORNEY WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 TUITION IS \$210

Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, Lewis Center

Agenda

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

9 a.m. The view from Washington, D.C.: A federal update

A National School Boards Association (NSBA) attorney provides a national perspective on the key decisions,

legislation and guidance documents coming from the federal government.

Sonja Trainor, program director, NSBA Council of School Attorneys

10 a.m. Ask the arbitrator

Back by popular demand, an experienced panel of arbitrators provide their thoughts on the just cause

standard, strict compliance with timelines and deadlines, and more. Sandra Furman, Esq., Mitchell Goldberg, Esq. and David Stanton, Esq.

10:45 a.m. Break

11 a.m. Understanding digital forensics

Digital evidence, including email, internet activity and other electronic files, are crucial in internal

investigations, civil matters and cybersecurity cases. Learn where to look for this evidence, how attorneys can

use it to their advantage and what really goes on beyond what is visible.

Adam Blevins, director of technology, Hamilton Clermont Cooperative; Damon Hacker, president and CEO,

Vestige Digital Investigations; and Ryan LaFlamme, Esq., Ennis Britton Co. LPA

Noon OCSBA Annual Business Meeting

12:15 p.m. Lunch (provided)

1:15 p.m. English learners in K-12 schools

This session provides a comprehensive look at educating students whose native or home language is not English and equips school attorneys with the information and resources they need to provide competent

counsel in this area of the law.

Jennifer A. Hardin, deputy director of legal services, OSBA; Wanda Lillis, Esq., associate legal counsel,

Columbus City Schools; and Donna Villareal, education consultant, Office of Curriculum and Assessment, Ohio

Department of Education (ODE)

2 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. ODE, Ohio Ethics Commission and Ohio auditor of state's office panel

Representatives from state agencies will be on hand to answer some of your most frequently asked

questions, including those on licensure, employee misconduct, findings for recovery, conflicts of interest and

more.

Mark Altier, chief legal counsel, Ohio auditor of state's office; Karen King, advisory attorney, Ohio Ethics

Commission; and Lori Kelly, director, Office for Professional Conduct, and Immy Singh, director, Office of

Licensure, ODE

Moderator: Sara C. Clark, director of legal services, OSBA

3:30 p.m. Dealing with difficult attorneys

Disciplinary counsel from the Ohio Supreme Court will provide an overview of the attorney disciplinary

process, including recognizing the difference between difficult or uncivil behavior and a disciplinary rule

violation. This session has been approved for 1.0 hour of professional conduct credit hours.

Scott Drexel, disciplinary counsel, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, Ohio Supreme Court

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

This workshop is open to OCSBA members, and school board members and in-house counsel of school districts that are members of OSBA. Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

The workshop will be held at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, 100 Green Meadows Drive South, Lewis Center, OH 43035. The phone number is (614) 880-4300. Register online at **www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops** or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



Running for your local school board

A guide for 2017 school board candidates

Serve your community and its children

Community service is a civic duty. It can be very rewarding. Serving on a public board of education requires a commitment of energy, time and talent. The school board works as a team to help the children and adult students in your community.

The men and women elected to represent their communities on Ohio's school boards provide valuable leadership to public schools.

The board member

Ohio's school board members, one of the largest groups of elected officials in the state, are charged with one of the major responsibilities in government — to provide the best educational opportunities possible for the youth of Ohio and to manage and control the political subdivision of the school district.

What does a school board member do?

A school board sets educational goals and establishes policy for the school system based on state laws and community values. Perhaps the most important responsibility of a school board is to employ a superintendent and treasurer and hold them accountable for achieving those educational goals and

managing the day-to-day affairs of the district in accordance with the school board's policies.

Board members make decisions on a wide range of issues, such as hiring and evaluating a superintendent and treasurer; setting district policy; planning student services; goal-setting and long-range planning; adopting curriculum; establishing budgets; engaging parents; being good fiscal stewards; acting in the best interest of the school district and within the scope of their legal authority; and creating community relations programs. A board member should be a skilled decision-maker. However, decisions are only made by the board as a whole at a public meeting.

Another important part of the board's work is its public relations role. School board members help build public support and understanding of public education and lead the public in demanding quality education. The school board serves as a link between its schools and the public.

Board member responsibilities

The role and function of board members often are misinterpreted by the public. The



board is a policymaking body and members are the chief advisors to the superintendent on community attitudes. Board members do not manage the day-to-day operations of a school district; they see to it that the system is managed well by professional administrators.

Board members do not evaluate staff, other than the superintendent and treasurer, nor do they typically become involved in employment interviews, other than those of the superintendent, business manager and treasurer. Board members may be consulted during the hiring process for other positions, such as assistant superintendent.



Ohio School Boards Association

8050 North High St., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43235-6481 (614) 540-4000 • (800) 589-OSBA • fax: (614) 540-4100 • www.ohioschoolboards.org

Learn about being a board member at a free workshop

OSBA will be conducting a free, two-hour Pre-Board Candidate Workshop on Saturday, July 15, 2017, in Columbus. The session will run from 10 a.m.—noon at OSBA's office (8050 N. High St.), and will be led by veteran staff members.

This workshop is for people who are thinking about running for their school board and current board of education members who were appointed to office.

Space is limited, so please call (800) 589-OSBA to register.

Need more information?

Visit the board candidate section of OSBA's website at www.ohioschoolboards.org/running-school-board for imformation on running for the board of education.

A good board member

We often hear that one person is a good board member or another is a bad board member, yet we seldom hear a clear definition of what constitutes a "good" board member.

In reality, there are about as many philosophical theories about boardmanship as there are board members. However, there are some acceptable guidelines. Members must recognize that people usually don't react to the same problem in an identical manner, so flexibility is necessary.

As a start, the following guidelines are offered. A good board member:

- Knows that he or she can legally act as a board member only when the board of education is in session. No one person, unless authorized, should speak on behalf of the board.
- Avoids administrative decisions or attempts to second-guess the administration. The superintendent is the chief administrator and the board has no administrative function.
- Is well acquainted with school policies.
- Should vote at all times in the best interests of the school district.
- Is flexible and realizes there are times when changes must be made, when tradition cannot be honored and when pressure must be ignored.
- Remembers that board business often requires confidentiality, especially in processes involving students, personnel, land acquisition, negotiations and security.
- Is interested in obtaining facts, but also remembers that the administration has responsibility for operating the schools and cannot spend all its time making reports to an individual board member.
- Is a good listener at board meetings, on the street corner, in the community
- or anywhere else approached, but never commits himself or herself, the board or the administration.
- Knows that the reputation of the entire school district is reflected in his or her behavior and attitude.
- Is able to support a decision when it is made.





What is the Ohio School Boards Association?

The Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) was founded in 1955 to serve the needs of the state's local boards of education. The non-partisan, not-for-profit association's mission is to lead 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.

OSBA is an association of member boards of education. Members have a wide range of services available to them, including training, advocacy, legal assistance, administrator searches, negotiation assistance, transportation consulting and policy development, among others.

For more information about school boardmanship, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA. OSBA's website is an excellent source for boardmanship information, including the latest in education-related legislation and issues. Visit it at **www.ohioschoolboards.org**.



Plan to attend a Board Candidate Workshop

OSBA will be conducting five Board Candidate Workshops in August and September. Veteran staff will lead candidates through a concise and valuable program to help them better understand the everyday roles and responsibilities of school board members and the legal aspects of being a board member.

All sessions (except Sept. 16) run from 6 p.m.–9 p.m. The session on Sept. 16 runs from 9 a.m.–noon. Registration and buffet

begin a half hour before the workshop.

The dates and locations are:

Aug. 30 — Northeast Ohio Medical University (NOMU), Rootstown

Sept. 7 — Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg

Sept. 11 — Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay

Sept. 12 — Ohio University Inn, Athens

Sept. 16 — OSBA office, Columbus

See back page for more information.

Running for your local board of education

Eligibility requirements

To run for a school board seat you must be:

- a U.S. citizen;
- at least 18 years old;
- a resident of the school district for at least 30 days preceding the election;
- registered to vote in the school district for at least 30 days preceding the election.

Conflicts of interest

There are conflicts of interest which all board members must be aware of so as not to jeopardize their reputation or that of the school district. In addition to actions and relationships prohibited by school statutes, other prohibitions are set out in criminal statutes and statutes enforced by the Ohio Ethics Commission. Please note that these statutes need to be read together. Even though under one statute there may not be a conflict, there could be a conflict under another.

Among the statutory prohibitions are:

- No member shall have, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest in any contract of the board or be employed for compensation by the board of which he or she is a member (*Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 3313.33*).
- No member of a school board may knowingly authorize or employ the authority or influence of his or her office to secure authorization of any public contract in which he or she, a member of his or her family or any of his or her business associates have an interest (*RC 2921.42*).
- No board member may use or authorize the use of the authority or influence of his or her office to secure anything of value, or the promise of anything of value, to himself or herself, or solicit or accept anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon him

or her with respect to his or her duties (*RC* 102.03).

The above listing is neither all-inclusive nor does it list the many exceptions to these rules. They also are subject to interpretation by the courts, Ohio attorney general's office and Ohio Ethics Commission. If you think that you may have a potential conflict of interest, please check with your district counsel, county prosecutor, city law director or the Ohio Ethics Commission at (614) 466-7090.

Compatibility of public offices and positions

If you already are a public employee or officeholder, a position on a board of education may be incompatible with your current position. Before seeking election, potential candidates should make certain they are eligible to serve. An index of compatibility of offices opinions is available on the Ohio attorney general's website (www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov). Contact the Ohio attorney general at (800) 282-0515 or OSBA for more information.

Deciding to run

You've now had the opportunity to review what a board member does, characteristics of good board members, eligibility requirements and potential conflicts of interest. Still interested? If so, the following section will give you the legal requirements for getting nominated and campaigning.

Filing your petition

A candidate must file a petition to run for a seat on a board of education. This petition must be filed with his or her county board of election by 4 p.m. on Aug. 9, 2017, the 90th

day before the Nov. 7 general election (*RC* 3513.254, 3513.255). As of March 2017, the filing fees are \$30.

The number of registered voters' signatures needed varies. Local and exempted village district petitions must have 25 valid signatures (*RC 3513.254*). A candidate in a city district with a population fewer than 20,000 must have 25 valid signatures; a population of 20,000-49,999, 75 valid signatures; a population of 50,000-99,999, 150 valid signatures; a population of 100,000 or more, 300 valid signatures (*RC 3513.254*). Educational service center governing board candidates must have 50 valid signatures (*RC 3513.255*).

Candidates may obtain the petition forms and discuss questions about filing with their county board of elections or the Ohio secretary of state.

Unable to attend?

On Thursday, Sept. 21, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., OSBA will hold an online version of a condensed board candidate workshop to provide information school board candidates need to run a successful campaign. The first half hour of the Board Candidate Webinar will focus on board roles and responsibilities and the second half hour will cover campaign finance and legal issues. The cost to attend the webinar is \$50.

After Sept. 21, the webinar will be available for purchase to watch at your convenience.

Campaigning

After filing your petition, it's time to begin gathering support. Candidates for boards of education must comply with all requirements for political campaigns. For instance, you must periodically file an itemized statement of campaign contributions and expenditures. Also, most campaign advertising must include a disclaimer comprised of the phrase "paid for by" followed by the name of the candidate's campaign committee (*RC 3517.20*). For further information on campaign laws, contact your county board of elections or the Ohio secretary of state (elections section) at (614) 466-2585 or visit www.sos.state.oh.us.

Every member of, or candidate for, a board of education of a school district or ESC having an average daily membership (enrollment) of 12,000 or more students (as most recently certified by the Ohio Department of Education) must file a financial disclosure statement with the Ohio Ethics Commission. Candidates for boards of education (including incumbents) must file such statements no later than Oct. 10, 2017. Write-in candidates must file no later than Oct. 18, 2017. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term must file within 15 days after he or she qualifies for office.

Election

Members are elected on a nonpartisan ballot on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in odd-numbered years. The term of office is four years, although in certain instances, two-year terms must be filled to complete an unexpired term. Your term begins on the first day of January after the election and expires on Dec. 31. Most boards of education have five members; however, some larger districts have seven. Two members (or four on a sevenmember board) are elected at one general election and three members are elected at a general election two years later.

OSBA Board Candidate Workshops and Webinar

If you wish to become one of Ohio's nearly 3,400 school board members, prepare yourself by attending one of OSBA's Board Candidate Workshops. Veteran staff of the association will serve as your workshop presenters. All sessions (except Sept. 16) run from 6 p.m.–9 p.m., with registration and buffet beginning at 5:30 p.m. The session on Sept. 16 runs from 9 a.m.–noon (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.).

Workshop and webinar registrants also will receive a Board Candidate Kit, which includes *Candidate: A practical guide to running for school board*; a subscription to the OSBA Journal, the premier bimonthly magazine for school board members; and a subscription to Briefcase, a semimonthly newsletter.

What will I learn at the Board Candidate Workshop?

- school board powers and duties
- the most difficult things to learn about being a school board member
- campaign issues, including campaign finance
- board member ethics and behavior
- conflicts of interest
- compatibility of public offices and positions
- locally developed policies
- Ohio's Open Meeting Law

Time for a question-and-answer session is included.

If you can't attend a workshop, view the webinar:

A Board Candidate Webinar will be held Thursday, Sept. 21 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. This webinar can be purchased after Sept. 21 to view at your convenience. The webinar covers board roles and responsibilities and legal and campaign finance issues.

Mail registration to:

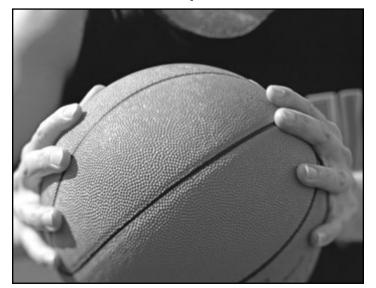
OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481

2017 OSBA Board Candidate Workshop and Webinar registration form

Please enclose check or credit card information to pay for workshop or webinar.					
Name					
Address					
Phone number					
I am a candidate for t	the		Board of Education in		County.
☐ This is my first campaign for a board seat ☐ I am running for re-election					
☐ Check here if you require special accommodations, including food allergies or special dietary needs such as a gluten-free meal. Attach a written description of needs.					
Check the seminar you wish to attend. Space is limited. Reservations are accepted in the order received. Walk-in registrations are welcome on a space-available basis.					
□ Aug. 30 — NOMU, Rootstown, \$95 □ Sept. 7 — Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg, \$95 □ Sept. 11 — Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay, \$95			☐ Sept. 12 — Ohio University Inn, Athens, \$95 ☐ Sept. 16 — OSBA office, Columbus, \$95 ☐ Sept. 21 — Board Candidate webinar, \$50* * Price includes sales tax		
Pay by check	Pay by credit card	Credit card number	r		
			CVV code 3- or 4-digit code on	billing ZIP code _	

Sports Law Workshop

Friday, June 23 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. **Embassy Suites, Columbus Cost is \$165**





AGENDA

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast (provided)

9 a.m. OHSAA legal update

> The workshop kicks off with a discussion with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) about new initiatives. Hear OHSAA's thoughts, recommendations and the potential repercussions associated with recruitment of student athletes.

Dr. Daniel B. Ross, commissioner, OHSAA

10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:30 a.m. Top 10 legal issues impacting athletic

programs

Learn the top 10 legal issues all school districts need to address to run effective, efficient and legally compliant athletic programs. Two school attorneys will review a number of issues that impact athletic programs, including risk and liability management, Title IX compliance and more. Pamela A. Leist, Esq., and William M. Deters II, Esg., Ennis Britton Co. LPA, Cincinnati

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:15 p.m. Hazing and bullying: Practical solutions

Learn practical solutions for dealing with hazing and bullying investigations, including allegations of "coach bullying" and anonymous complaints.

Donna M. Andrew, Esq., Pepple & Waggoner Ltd.,

of OSBA. Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

Cleveland This workshop is open to school board members, administrators, athletic directors and staff of districts that are members

The workshop will be held at the Embassy Suites Columbus, 2700 Corporate Exchange Drive, Columbus, OH, 43231. The phone number is (614) 890-8600. Register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or contact Laurie Miller, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

1:15 p.m. **Break**

1:30 p.m. Booster best practices

> Booster groups are an essential part of funding athletic and extracurricular programs. Join OSBA's director of legal services for a discussion of booster group best practices, ranging from building and maintaining relationships with your district's booster groups to appropriate money management procedures, booster risk and liability management and more.

Sara C. Clark, director of legal services, OSBA

2:15 p.m. Coaches: Contracts, compensation and evaluation

> Hiring coaches can be a complicated process. Renewal and nonrenewal for licensed and unlicensed staff can create several difficult situations. Learn how to stay compliant with state law and negotiated agreements. Topics discussed will include hiring, evaluating and compensating coaches.

Margaret Lockhart, Esq., Marshall & Melhorn LLC, Toledo

3:15 p.m. Adjourn



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

OCSBA School Attorney Workshop
☐ June 16, Columbus, \$210 Sports Law Workshop

☐ June 23, Columbus, \$165

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name	Workshop date			
Attendee name	Title			
Daytime phone	Email			
District/firm				
Enclosed is a check for \$ or P.O.# to cover registration(s). Make checks payable to OSBA and mail to 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481, fax to (614) 540-4100 or email Laurie Miller , senior events manager, at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. Include a purchase order number with fax or email.				
	dations. Contact us or attach a written description of needs. 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**. You will need a username and password.



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



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



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

Cancellation and refund policy

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

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In March, to the liking of many who sit on local school boards, DeMaria delayed finalizing Ohio's education and accountability plan under ESSA until September. This will allow more time to review statewide testing.

DeMaria told the State Board of Education that Ohio's ESSA plan had become divisive. He did not intend for it to do so.

"We will have honest disagreements about the role of the state and about the role of the local community," he said. "But let's talk through those to the extent that we can acknowledge those places where the state can make changes or we can support local control or where we can work in partnership."

That collaboration will be even more important as schools prepare students for the jobs of the future.

"I appreciate that you've chosen to step up and say, 'I want to make a difference and be part of that,'" DeMaria said. "Create cultures that allow teachers and students to be the best they can be."

Closing Luncheon

Ohio Rep. Robert Cupp From deficits to a state fish,

comedic and candid insights into the budget process

by Crystal Davis, deputy director of communication services

"Thank you for your service and in many cases, it is a sacrifice," State Rep. Robert R. Cupp (R-Lima) told a packed room at BLI's Closing Luncheon. "Some of you have come to testify before a subcommittee, and we thank you for that. Sometimes we can't do something about it, sometimes we can, but regardless, we do hear (your requests)."

During his April 22 presentation, *Continued on page 8*



News, continued from page 7 -

Cupp combined genuine appreciation for the dedication of Ohio school board members with a bit of humor mixed with the reality of where things stand now in the state biennial budget process.

"(Former) Speaker of the Ohio House Vern Riffe explained the budget process something like this ... the governor is required to propose a two-year budget to the legislature," Cupp said. "The House (holds) hearings, rearranges the numbers and passes the bill onto the Senate. When the House passes the budget, the governor doesn't recognize it.

"Then, the Senate applies its priorities to it. When the Senate passes the budget, neither the governor nor the House recognize it. To work out the differences, it goes to a conference committee who issues a report, then neither the governor, nor the House nor the Senate recognize it. When it is voted on, it will be our budget for the next several years."

Cupp next turned to a serious discussion about budget numbers.

"The year-to-date revenue, even with conservative estimates, is \$614 million less than estimated," Cupp told attendees. "The concern is that every month we get even further behind. So this is going to be mostly a status quo budget. For most things, it's going to be fairly flat funding.

"The budget is going to get pared back \$400 million from what the governor proposed for each of the next two years in the biennium. We're going to do the best we can with what we have. Hopefully, the education portion of the budget will not be asked to absorb the \$400 million reductions."

The budget bill, House Bill 49, is now in the Senate for consideration.

A graduate of Columbus Grove Local (Putnam) schools, Cupp earned his political science degree and juris doctorate from Ohio Northern University. He serves on the House Education and Career Readiness Committee, Joint Education Oversight Committee and House Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education, among others.

Before being elected to the House for a second term, Cupp served as an Allen County commissioner, four-term state senator, court of appeals judge, justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, city prosecutor and chief legal counsel to the Ohio auditor of state.

"This is the fourth or fifth (school-funding) formula in the last few years; there is no stability," Cupp said. "This formula has got to go but not this year because that costs money."

Cupp says they have made a few adjustments to the current formula

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News, continued from page 8

that may help small districts. He remarked that he also would like to see a transition to a different way of funding community schools. He recommended that the state superintendent create a task force to create a plan for direct funding from the state for those schools.

Cupp also discussed several other education issues before the legislature:

- Career-tech enhancements Businesses are begging for jobs to be filled but career-tech budgets have been cut. He hopes to raise the per-pupil funding "a little bit."
- College Credit Plus There have been complaints of students not being ready for college, and the cost of textbooks is too high.

- Teacher internships He recommended educating teachers on the changing workforce and how to apply it to curriculum instead of having teachers intern at businesses over the summer as the governor has proposed.
- Economically distressed communities He hopes to continue to help districts affected by coal-fired power plants that have closed.
- ESC funding A subcommittee has recommended that funding stay at current levels.
- School business advisory councils Cupp would prefer to see their use expanded rather than requiring the appointment of three businesspeople to school boards as

the governor has proposed.

Cupp ended his speech with an amusing story about a student who came before the legislature to recommend that the smallmouth bass become the state fish. After the bill was introduced, a coalition of Lake Erie senators decided the state fish should be the walleye, so the bill went into a conference committee to work out the differences.

Afterward, Cupp said, "The committee recommended that a 'wallbass' become the state fish, which would require genetic engineering. Then, the recession hit, and there was no money so the fish didn't get developed. So, we still have no state fish."



INFORMATION

by Wanda Bloch, marketing and trade show manager

OSBA offers summer special for custom workshops, retreats and to jump-start strategic plans

For most school administrators and board members, summer provides an opportunity to finish projects and see to details to close the book on the current academic year. The slower pace and lesspacked days also allow leadership teams to come together to discuss good board governance practices, problem-solving, communication or development of new initiatives. Community surveys, goal-setting, performance planning, evaluations

and team dynamics often are part of a board's summer agenda.

Summer board retreats and workshops provide an opportunity to discuss certain topics in greater depth, address challenges, get to know administrative team members better and discuss longrange projects or processes that need board review.

A strategic planning initiative is another productive summer activity. Launching a planned, formal and goal-oriented strategic planning process can help districts gain clarity on how best to use current resources and build community investment well into the future.

OSBA is pleased to present facilitated training opportunities this summer at a discount to OSBA members. Retreats and customized workshops occurring between June 1 and Aug. 15 will

Continued on page 10

Information, continued from page 9 ·

be discounted as follows:

- full-day (six hour) retreat facilitation: \$1,400 (regularly \$1,600);
- customized three-hour workshop: \$700 (regularly \$850).

"For many districts, board agendas are somewhat shorter during the summer and the

calendar a little less crowded," said Cheryl W. Ryan, OSBA director of board and management services. "June, July and August provide a really beneficial time for the deep discussions and planning that there's never enough time for during the academic year. Summer

workshops can help get good governance on track as boards move in to a new year."

To schedule your board's summer workshop or retreat, call OSBA's board and management services division at (614) 540-4000 while openings are still available.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

Proposal would make districts pay for losing valuation challenges

School districts losing a property valuation challenge would become responsible for court costs and legal fees if Amended Substitute House Bill (HB) 49, the biennial budget bill, becomes law as passed by the Ohio House. The legislation, which now is being heard in the Senate, includes a provision that would require a school district to pay those costs and fees if it challenges the valuation of a

property within its borders as being set too low and loses that challenge.

On April 27, OSBA testified in opposition to this provision before the House Finance Committee and again before the Senate Finance Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee on May 4. The association testified that the current system already allows for proper checks and balances, which ensures that other taxpayers in the district

are not paying more than their fair share. It is OSBA's opinion that if this new provision becomes law, it will have a chilling effect on legitimate challenges to property values that clearly are set too low.

The option for schools and local governments to submit such property valuation challenges has been a vital part of Ohio's local tax structure for decades. When values

Continued on page 11



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

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

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

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



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Students create surprise for children with disabilities

A pair of toddlers at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center received a personally delivered handmade surprise.

Lakota Local's (Butler) Lakota
East High School students who
participate in engineering
programs at Butler Tech built two
custom minicars for toddlers Jase
and Remington. The cars,
according to a Butler Tech news
release, are a "cost-effective
alternative to motorized
wheelchairs" that allow the

toddlers greater independence in exploring their world.

"I felt pure joy in my heart," student **Albert Cho** told a local TV station. "It was a blessing to be here today."

Using the minicars, the boys can play and socialize more easily with their peers. "I felt we're helping them move more, get out and play with other kids," student **Emily Willms** said.

Working closely with therapists, students built a custom-made car

for each boy, considering interests, size and the physical adaptations needed to use the car. If the boys get too adventurous, both cars have an override system that allow an adult to steer or stop the car.

"It's a huge thing you gave him, so thank you," Jase's mother,

Melanie Willman said through tears. "Thank you so much."

The students designed Jase a MINI Cooper, and Remington has a red Dodge Viper.

Source: WCPO-TV

Legislative Report, continued from page 10

for a property are set unreasonably low, other taxpayers in the district must pay more than their fair share.

Levy rates are set based on the amount of tax revenue approved by voters. Over time, these rates are adjusted to maintain a consistent level of revenue for the taxing entity. When properties are undervalued, the tax rate for existing levies must be set higher to generate the necessary revenue.

Under Ohio's current local tax structure, property owners can challenge what they believe to be a higher than fair valuation of their property. School districts do not typically challenge values of residential property and challenges to commercial property most often benefit residential taxpayers.

For example, if a commercial property is believed to be undervalued, based on an amount paid for the property in a recent sale, a school district may file a challenge to the property's taxable valuation with the county board of revision. The commercial property owner can then defend the lower value or compromise with the challenge proposed by the district.

If the school district prevails in the challenge and the valuation is increased, the residential taxpayer benefits by not having to make up the difference for the undervalued commercial property. This particularly benefits a district that has passed an emergency levy or bond issue that requires a set amount to be collected.

OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials believe the proposal to require school districts to pay court costs and legal fees when they lose a valuation challenge upsets the system of checks and balances for property valuation. The associations urge their members to contact their state senators and request that they remove this provision from Amended Substitute HB 49.

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of May 12, 2017.

Ohio School Boards Association

8050 North High Street, Suite 100 Columbus OH 43235-6481

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June

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

July

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).

Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of education — RC 3319.15; last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).

15 Pre-Board Candidate

Workshop......Columbus

- 15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1).
- Last day to submit certification for November conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days prior to election).
- Last day to adopt a plan to require students 31 to access and complete online classroom lessons ("blizzard bags") in order to make up hours for which it is necessary to close schools — RC 3313.482(A)(1); last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation -RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election); semiannual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates, political action committees, caucus committees (legislative campaign funds) and political parties (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures through June 30, 2017 — RC

3517.10(A)(4).

August

- Last day to file statistical report with Ohio Department of Education — RC 3319.33.
- Central Region Executive Committee
- MeetingColumbus Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop.....Lewis Center
- Last day to submit November emergency, 4 current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for November general election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219 (95 days prior to
- 7 Southwest Region Executive Committee
- Tuesday after the first Monday).
- Last day to file (by 4 p.m.) a nominating petition as a board of education candidate for the November general election – RC 3513.254, 3513.255; 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 November election - RC $\dot{}$ 133.18(Ď); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for November election — RC 133.18(C).