

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



OSBA launches Capital Conference FAQ webpage

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated many questions about the OSBA Capital Conference, set for Nov. 8-10 in Columbus. The conference is scheduled to take place as it has for the past 64 years and will feature keynote speakers, over 170 learning sessions and many networking opportunities. In response to questions about the conference, OSBA has set up an FAQ page at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/faq>. The page addresses questions about how seating will be arranged, the Student Achievement Fair, the Trade Show and more. For questions not specifically mentioned, there is a link to a list of OSBA staff members who can address them. If state orders and guidelines do not allow an in-person conference, OSBA will provide alternatives for continued professional development.

Free virtual labs designed to help schools address reopening challenges

The 2020-2021 school year will be unlike any previous year. Guidance about when and how to reopen school buildings will evolve over the summer months, but there is no time to waste in addressing logistical changes, such as social distancing, personal hygiene and environmental cleanliness. That's why the Ohio STEM Learning Network and EnvisionEdPlus are partnering to conduct a series of free Re-Start Re-Design Labs this month. The labs are virtual sessions scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 11, June 16 and June 26. They will focus on how schools can use time, facilities and technology to maximize the positive impact educators have on students and their families while keeping everyone safe. For details, including an agenda and a registration link, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/12067>.

CDC updates its school reopening guidelines

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated its interim guidance on how schools and other establishments can safely open during the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Considerations for Schools guidelines specifically cover reopening schools and "are meant to supplement — not replace — any state, local, territorial or tribal health and safety laws, rules and regulations with which schools must comply." The school guidelines are posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/38484>.

Deadline to apply for OSBA committee seats, elected offices nearing

The deadline to apply for 2021 OSBA regional and state committee positions and offices is June 30. Serving on a committee is a way to deepen your involvement with OSBA, network with board members from other districts and represent your fellow board members and district at regional and state events. Board members interested in

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Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Counselors
- ☐ Student services directors
- ☐ Technology directors
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

serving should apply for any of the many OSBA elected offices and committee posts. If you serve on a 2020 single-term committee and would like to continue serving in 2021, you also must submit an application. For instructions on how to apply, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/42939>. That webpage also has details on available positions, descriptions of committee functions and the time commitment for each.

AG still offering violence prevention resources

The Ohio Attorney General's Office reminds districts that it is providing new resources to help prevent targeted violence in schools. They include training materials and small grants. The training provides guidance on using threat assessment protocols, which are recognized as an effective means to enhance targeted violence prevention

Girard City Schools kindergartners surprise teacher

Therese Meechan, a kindergarten teacher at Girard City's Prospect Elementary School, gives each of her students a scrapbook at the end of the year so they'll have memories of kindergarten.

This year, students surprised Meechan at her home with a scrapbook, cards and gifts to show their appreciation.

"Just being able to see their faces was enough," Meechan told a local newspaper. "This is the sweetest thing ever. I'm going to keep it forever."

Parents created a Facebook page at the beginning of the school year where they threw out ideas on how to celebrate Meechan, who they say has worked hard to keep their children engaged and learning during the school building closures.

Source: The Vindicator

efforts. It is provided in a series of 10 video installments and a printed reference guide. School resource officers or other law enforcement personnel with primary responsibilities that include school safety may receive a \$500 grant when they complete the training and agree to help form or

participate on a school-based threat assessment team. The grants are designed to help local schools build their own threat assessment teams. For details, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/45952>.

Association staff members remain at your service

OSBA staff continues to work from its office and remotely to serve members. If your district needs any assistance, please call (614) 540-4000 or visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/osba/staff for a list of staff email addresses.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org
The OSBA Information Center offers links to resources that can answer questions on many topics. They include OSBA's Journal, Leading the Way podcasts and newsletters as well as an education research repository, strategies for improving student achievement and mental health resources.



Briefcase

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OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

National searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Pensacola, Fla.	June 26	John Reichert, consultant, Florida School Boards Association, (321) 363-7909

Board changes

Graham Local (Champaign) appointed **Karyl Strader** to the board effective May 11. She replaced **Steven W. Prince**, who resigned. ●●● **Southeast Local (Portage)** Board of Education member **Jeff McElfresh** announced his resignation effective immediately due to moving outside of the district.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Benjamin Logan Local (Logan) hired **Scott Howell** as interim superintendent effective immediately. He replaced Interim Superintendent **Mark Butler**. Howell currently is superintendent at **Midwest Regional ESC** and will continue to serve in that role. ●●● **Bryan City** hired **Mark Rairigh** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Diana Savage**, who is retiring effective Dec. 31. Rairigh currently is the district's director of secondary education. ●●● **Graham Local (Champaign)** hired **Bradley K. Silvus** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Matt Curtis**. Silvus currently is superintendent at **Greenon Local (Clark)**. ●●● **Lordstown Local (Trumbull)** hired **Greg Bonamase** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Lewis Lowery**. Bonamase currently is a principal at **Girard City's** Girard Intermediate School. ●●● **Miamisburg City** hired **Laura Blessing** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Dr. **David S. Vail**, who is retiring. Blessing currently is superintendent at Northeastern Wayne Schools in Fountain City, Ind.

Treasurers

Lake Local (Wood) Treasurer **Jeffrey L. Carpenter** announced his resignation effective July 31. He will remain at the district until Sept. 30 to facilitate the transition to the new treasurer.

Sympathies

Former **Hillsboro City** Board of Education member **Jack Walker** died May 9. He was 91. ●●● Former **Shelby City** Board of Education member **David P. Tarvin** died May 12. He was 90. ●●● **Charlene N. Bell**, former treasurer at **Southeastern Local (Ross)** and the former **Ross County** Board of Education, died May 18. She was 84. ●●● **Wellsville Local (Columbiana)** Board of Education member **Thomas F. Brophrey** died May 10. He was 56. ●●● **Robert Ross Hickox**, a member of the former **West Farmington** Board of Education in Trumbull County, died May 13. He was 87.

Editor's note

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



NEWS

by Wanda Bloch, marketing and trade show manager

OSBA summer special helps districts discuss, consider big issues

For school administrators and board members, summer often provides opportunities to finish projects and manage the details necessary for closing the books on the current academic year. Unlike any other before, this summer will require board members and administrators to be as in sync as possible as they consider and make decisions on safely reopening buildings. Current hot topics include confirming communication protocols, reaffirming board and administrative roles, recommitting to district goals or discussing new

ways to engage stakeholders. In light of the challenges of the past few months, summer is a great time to consider a community survey, goal setting, redefined performance objectives and discussions of program evaluation and district performance.


Another opportunity to consider is summer board retreats and workshops. Whether conducted in person or virtually, these sessions can allow for more in-depth discussions than is possible in regular board meetings. These leadership team discussions can

improve the relationships and dynamics of doing the district's governance work.

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

OSBA is pleased to present facilitated training opportunities this summer at a discount to its members. Retreats and customized

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OSBA Student Achievement Fair

Nov. 9, 2020 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Greater Columbus Convention Center

Nominate a district program or student performing group to participate in the Student Achievement Fair. Visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/student-achievement-fair> to learn more about the fair. You can nominate a district program or performing group at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations>.

The nomination deadline is **Tuesday, June 30, 2020.**

Transportation State Reports and Cost Analysis Virtual Workshop

Wednesday, June 17 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m. • Cost: \$100



Join us for a session that will delve into appropriate data collection, what you need to track and why, and how to collate that data into an accurate state report. Whether you are new to transportation or a veteran, or if you work in the transportation office or the treasurer's office, this workshop will provide the tools you need to file reports correctly and get all the funding your district is entitled to.

Key takeaways from this workshop will include:

- The data required for T1 and T2 reports.
- Instructions on reviewing different portions of T1 and T2 reports and submitting data to the Ohio Department of Education.
- How to evaluate the funding impact of these state reports and use the data to calculate your operating costs.

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email **Laurie Miller** at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

Levy Success in the COVID-19 Era

Friday, June 19 • 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. • Cost: \$100



The current education and economic landscape of Ohio is uncertain and continually changing. What does that mean for your school district as it prepares to be on the ballot in November? Join us for an interactive virtual workshop covering not only the basics of school levy campaigns but critical new information in understanding the current and new dynamics of campaigning in the COVID-19 era.

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email **Laurie Miller** at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



Sports Law Virtual Workshop

Friday, June 26 • 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$170

8:55 a.m. Welcome and overview

9 a.m. OHSAA update

The workshop kicks off with an overview from the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA), including a discussion about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on high school sports and what may occur with the upcoming fall season.

Jerry Snodgrass, executive director, and Steve Craig, Esq., legal counsel, OHSAA

11 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. Legal roundup

Review a summary of the important cases affecting K-12 sports law in Ohio and around the country. Learn how these decisions may impact your district's athletic program and leave with practical tips for compliance.

Christian M. Williams, Esq., Pepple & Waggoner Ltd.

12:15 p.m. Lunch break

1 p.m.

Effectively managing booster groups

Booster groups provide much needed support and fundraising for student activity programs, but many districts struggle with managing them. This presentation will start you on a path to successful collaboration with booster groups.

Pamela A. Leist, Ennis Britton Co. LPA

2 p.m.

Break

2:15 p.m.

NCAA eligibility

NCAA representatives will discuss how to ensure athletes are eligible for college sports; how pass/fail grading and the move to online learning prompted the NCAA Eligibility Center to make adjustments to the initial eligibility certification process for the 2020 graduating class; and how these decisions will affect the classes of 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Christa Palmer, associate director of high school review, and Barrington Huntley, assistant director of outreach and strategic partnerships, NCAA

3:30 p.m.

Adjourn

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email **Laurie Miller** at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



Board Member 101: Summer edition

Saturday, July 11 • 9 a.m.–4 p.m. • OSBA office, Columbus • Cost: \$180*

Newly elected or recently appointed to your school board? Attend this one-day workshop for first-term board members and get up to speed on hot topics. Find answers to all your boardmanship questions. This one-day condensed workshop will focus on boardmanship, governance, legal, policy and advocacy issues. Get your New Board Member Passport stamped here, too!

Experienced OSBA staff will provide direction as you continue your boardmanship journey. Learn about the important aspects of board work, frequently asked legal questions, how board policies help govern your district and how to be an effective legislative and student achievement advocate for your students. Discover the resources OSBA has to help you in your first year, your first term and beyond.

*The Boardmanship book is included in the workshop tuition.

Agenda

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

9 a.m. Welcome and introductions

9:15 a.m. Governance from the school board seat: What's it really mean?

Come prepared to share your biggest board challenges to date; learn how to build better and more trusting relationships with district administrators; and understand best practices for staff and district communications as well as the most appropriate roles for board members, superintendents and treasurers.

Cheryl W. Ryan, director of board and management services, OSBA

10:30 a.m. Being an advocate for your school district

Learn about the legislative process and the important role you play as a board member.

Will Schwartz, deputy director of legislative services, OSBA

11:30 a.m. What's going on at the Statehouse?

Hear about pending legislation and what is expected to take place this fall.

Will Schwartz

12:15 p.m. Lunch (provided)

12:45 p.m. Good governance through policy

Effective policies are an essential tool for effective district governance. This session will review best practices for policy development and implementation. Interactive discussions of pitfalls and possibilities boards face in policy will assist you in impacting student success and district operations through policy governance.

Kyle E. Lathwell, policy consultant, OSBA

2 p.m. Legal resources, issues and other hot topics

An OSBA attorney will discuss OSBA's legal resources, legal basics for boards and key legal topics, such as parliamentary procedure, ethics, open meetings and public records as well as some current hot topics in school law.

Van D. Keating, senior staff attorney, OSBA

4 p.m. Adjourn

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

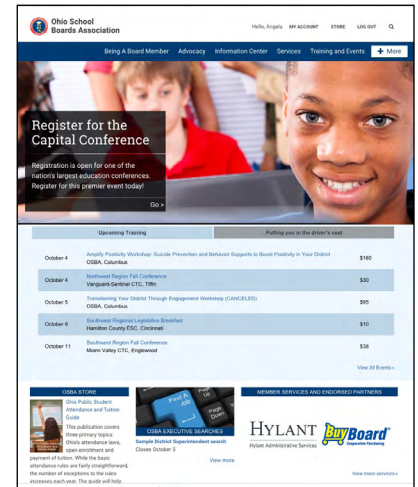
Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

OSBA members can access member-only information, including workshop registration, by logging in to the OSBA website.

How to log in

Click on “Log in to your account” on top right of the website. Log in using your email address on file and your password. Click “Reset your password” if needed.

If it says “We could not find your email address,” or if this is your first time logging in to the site, click “Create new account.” At the username prompt, enter your email address, select your affiliation and school district, and click “Submit.” Create a password and add your job title on the next screen. An email with a link to activate your account will be sent to you. Click on the link to activate your account, and you will be directed to a home screen.



UPCOMING TRAINING:

OCSBA School Attorney Workshop

Friday, July 17 • 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. • Renaissance Columbus, Westerville • Cost: \$220

Both new and veteran attorneys representing public school districts will benefit from attending the Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys (OCSBA) School Attorney Workshop. Experienced school attorneys and other experts will provide information needed to stay current with recent legal developments in school law.

This workshop is open to OCSBA members, school board members and in-house counsel of school districts that are members of OSBA.

Key takeaways from this workshop:

- Invaluable insights and practical advice from experienced practitioners on key legal issues facing public schools, including social protests, student residency issues, the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System and more.
- Earn 5.5 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) credit, including 75 minutes of attorney professional conduct credit.
- Networking opportunities with other OCSBA members.

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email **Laurie Miller** at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

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workshops occurring between June 1 and Aug. 15 will be discounted as follows:

- full-day (six hour) retreat facilitation: \$1,600 (regularly \$1,800);
- customized half-day (three hour) workshop: \$800 (regularly \$900).

"Districts have been through so much this year," said **Cheryl W.**

Ryan, OSBA director of board and management services. "June, July and August provides time for deep discussions and planning regarding lessons learned, how relationships may have changed and plans for a return to some semblance of normal. There never seems to be enough time for this type of thoughtful work during the school year. Summer workshops can help

boards feel more confident that they're on the same page as they move into the new academic year."

Let OSBA's board and management services team facilitate conversations and training to ensure your leadership team is working in tandem. Contact OSBA today to schedule your in-person or virtual workshop or retreat at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Hot summer special!

Save up to \$200

on customized board development workshops scheduled this summer

Now, more than ever, board members must be an effective and efficient team to confront the challenges ahead in helping students achieve during a pandemic.

OSBA is offering a discount on customized workshops and retreats offered June 1 through Aug. 15. Districts can save \$100 on a half-day workshop and \$200 on a full-day workshop.

Schedule a virtual or in-person workshop or retreat with OSBA's board and management services team to help facilitate conversations and training to ensure your leadership team is ready for the new academic year.



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



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Will Schwartz, deputy director of legislative services

Fed stance would shift more CARES funds to nonpublic schools

A disagreement between the Trump administration and school districts across the country threatens to jeopardize hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding intended for school districts.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act created a new Education Stabilization Fund totaling \$30.75 billion, \$13.5 billion of which is directed to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. The money in the latter fund is distributed in grants to states for use by local education agencies (LEAs).

The distribution method is based on the federal Title I, Part A formula, with \$489.2 million of the federal fund being allocated to Ohio and \$440.3 million of that amount being distributed to LEAs for use through Sept. 30, 2022. Districts must set aside a portion of their grant amounts for equitable services for nonpublic schools. That apportioned amount is now in question as federal guidance appears to conflict with the language of the CARES Act.

On April 30, the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) issued nonbinding guidance on equitable services for nonpublic schools. In that guidance, USDOE argues a broad interpretation of the federal

legislation that upends the long-held practice where the determination for set-aside amounts for Title I funding is based on the number of low-income students served by the nonpublic school. USDOE argues that the language of the CARES Act allows for the determination of the amounts to be based on the total enrollment of the nonpublic institution.

The result of such guidance is that nonpublic schools would receive a substantially larger and inequitable amount of funding, much more than Congress intended and much more than school districts anticipated based on the federal legislation. Nonpublic schools in Louisiana, for example, would receive at least 267% more funding under the USDOE's guidance than they would if allocations were made in accordance with normal federal law allocations.

The USDOE guidance, in part, states, "Using enrollment to determine the proportional share from which to provide equitable services will contribute to the equitable treatment of children and teachers within the statutory universe of permissible uses for CARES Act dollars by allowing all students and teachers in a nonpublic school to receive services that are equitable compared to those

available to all public school students and teachers."

The guidance, which does not have the force of law, was swiftly met with opposition by public school groups from across the country and has been ignored by some state education agency directors. In a May 5 letter from the Council of Chief State School Officers, Executive Director Dr. **Carissa Moffat Miller** requested that Secretary of Education **Betsy DeVos** clarify her office's guidance. Arguing that nonpublic allocations should be made based the number of low-income students served by the nonpublic school, Miller cites the federal legislation's provision that equitable services be provided "in the same manner as provided under section 1117 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965."

"Normally," Miller continued, "(Under) Section 1117 of ESEA, as interpreted by (USDOE) consistently over decades and as recently as October 2019, the LEA calculates the required equitable participation of nonpublic schools based on the number of low-income children in each participating nonpublic school in the LEA."

Several weeks later, DeVos responded. In a May 22 letter, she
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PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Pickerington Local Schools' bands unite for 'amazing' finish

More than 100 members of **Pickerington Local's (Fairfield)** two high school marching bands concluded their musical education with a virtual performance to help bring the community together.

The YouTube performance of "Amazing Grace" featured 140 students from Pickerington Central and North high schools.

"Even though we cannot be together physically, it is very important for our students to

continue to collaborate and share their love of music with our community," district Music Coordinator **Marc Parulekar** told a local newspaper. "When the 'brick-and-mortar' school year was suspended in March, our team wanted to find ways to create performance experiences for our students."

With school-issued computers or devices, each musician recorded his or her part. Performers used the popular Acapella App to

record the videos.

Parulekar and his staff then used iMovie to produce the final product, which can be viewed at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/32707>. The performance even captured the attention of Gov. **Mike DeWine**, who closed his May 14 press conference with the video to honor fallen police officers, members of the military and others.

Source: ThisWeek Community Newspapers

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

defended her office's guidance and also disagreed with Miller's interpretation of the law.

DeVos posited, "(The) services that an LEA may provide under the CARES Act programs are clearly available to all public school students and teachers, not only low-income students and their teachers ... Therefore, to make services equitable in comparison to public school students, it follows that the same principles must apply in providing equitable services to all nonpublic school students and teachers."

She concluded that "(it) is reasonable to determine that the proportional share of CARES Act funds should be budgeted for equitable services based on

enrollment."

The largest revelation in her letter was not her office's legal defense of the guidance, but that she would be issuing a federal rule on this topic in the coming weeks, effectively giving the controversial guidance the force of law.

In Ohio, the situation is just as fluid. On May 1, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) sent a letter to school administrators through its grant applications portal that listed preliminary set-aside allocation amounts for nonpublic equitable services. Those funding amounts were based on the total enrollment of the nonpublic institution, seemingly in accordance with the controversial federal guidance. Two weeks later, ODE

issued another letter saying it was reevaluating its original, preliminary allocation estimates.

After another two weeks, ODE, on May 29, acknowledged that the aforementioned federal rule that is forthcoming will take months to become effective and that districts should determine the appropriate equitable service amounts for its eligible nonpublic schools under both scenarios. That is, districts should plan for two allocation amounts, one based on the number of low-income students served by the nonpublic schools and another based on the total enrollment of the nonpublic institutions.

Editor's note: Information in this article was current as of May 31, 2020.

June 2020

- 9 Reasonable Suspicion Virtual Training Livestreaming
- 17 Transportation State Report and Cost Analysis Virtual Workshop Livestreaming
- 19 Levy Success in the COVID-19 Era Livestreaming
- 26 Sports Law Virtual Workshop Livestreaming
- 28 Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting TBD
- 30 2019-20 school year ends — RC 3313.62; end of third ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).

July 2020

- 1 2020-21 school year begins — RC 3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching and nonteaching employees of succeeding year salaries — RC 3319.082, 3319.12; board may begin to adopt appropriation measure, which may be temporary — RC 5705.38(B); treasurer must certify available revenue in funds to county auditor — RC 5705.36(A) (1).
- 6 Last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to election).
- 10 Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of

- education — RC 3319.15.
- 11 Board Member 101: Summer edition Columbus
- 15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1); last day for certain board members and all administrators to file 2019 financial disclosure statements with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02(A) (4)(a), original May 15, 2020, deadline extended by commission in March 2020)
- 17 OCSBA School Attorney Workshop Westerville
- 27 Last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).
- 31 Last day for board of education to adopt a plan to require students 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); semiannual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures made through June 30, 2020 — RC 3517.10(A) (4); last day to submit emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for November general election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195,

5705.213, 5705.219(C) (95 days prior to election).

August 2020

- 1 Last day to file statistical report with Ohio Department of Education — RC 3319.33.
- 4 Reasonable Suspicion and Clearinghouse Training Columbus
- 4 Walk-outs, Protests and Other Acts of Civil Disobedience Webinar
- 4 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).
- 5 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 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for November election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy or renewal of conversion levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219(G); last day to submit emergency levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.195.