2019 Capital Conference: Superlative speakers, endless learning
The 64th annual Capital Conference features an outstanding slate of renowned speakers and more than 170 workshops and informational seminars. The General Session presenters are award-winning actor Laura Linney and world-class magician and Science Channel host Jason Latimer. Keynote speakers at the Conference Luncheons are Center of Science and Industry Chief Executive Officer Dr. Frederic Bertley and former Ohio State University football star and youth advocate Maurice Clarett. State Board of Education Vice President Charlotte McGuire will address attendees at the OSBA Black Caucus dinner. The conference also offers countless networking opportunities; one of the largest education-related trade exhibitions in the nation; and the always popular Student Achievement Fair. For details, visit http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org.

Southwest Ohio educator is 2020 Ohio Teacher of the Year
Leila Kubesch, from Norwood City’s Norwood Middle School, is the Ohio 2020 Teacher of the Year. Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria surprised students and staff with the news Oct. 4 at the school. Kubesch, who teaches Spanish and English as a second language, is known for her resourceful and creative approach to lessons and has an extraordinary ability to connect with students facing challenges, according to Norwood City Superintendent Dr. Kathy Shelby Sabo. Kubesch’s passion for equity and social justice goes far beyond the classroom. She has raised awareness of issues facing emancipated foster youth in Ohio by making presentations on the topic, including at TEDxCincinnati, where she won the Audience Choice Award.

Make plans now to celebrate American Education Week in November
American Education Week — Nov. 18-22 — will provide schools and communities across the nation with an opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a high-quality education. Each day of that week has a special focus: Nov. 18, Kickoff Day; Nov. 19, Parents Day; Nov. 20, Education Support Professionals Day; Nov. 21, Educator for a Day; Nov. 22, Substitute Educators Day. For more information on ways to celebrate during American Education Week, visit www.nea.org/grants/19823.htm.

Help OSBA improve its communication with you
As part of OSBA’s strategic plan, Visionary Initiatives for Strategic Action, OSBA is collaborating with the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) to conduct a communication audit. The purpose of the audit is to examine all types of communication between OSBA and its members. From publications to the website to
social media, we want to find the most effective ways of keeping you informed. NSPRA is emailing members to encourage them to participate in an online survey. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and provide feedback on how OSBA can enhance its communications to better meet your needs.

**Competition seeks America’s top youth volunteers**

Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals are seeking outstanding youth volunteers in grades five-12 to honor with the annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Each state’s top two volunteers will be awarded a $1,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C., where 10 of them will be named America’s top youth volunteers. Those 10 will be awarded an additional $5,000 in scholarship funds and $5,000 in grants for the charities of their choice. The application deadline is Nov. 5. For details, visit [http://spirit.prudential.com](http://spirit.prudential.com).

**Access the latest conference information with OSBA app**

The OSBA Capital Conference App features the latest conference information. The free app has details on conference sessions, the Student Achievement Fair and vendors as well as maps, handouts and schedule changes. It also lets attendees create a customized schedule. The app can be downloaded for iPad, iPhone and Android devices from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Visit [http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/app](http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/app) for details.

**Quick-thinking student gets ride to school in firetruck**

A student at Perkins Local’s (Erie) Furry Elementary School got a lift to school in a firetruck, a thank-you for alerting firefighters to a burning home in his neighborhood.

Seven-year-old Jaxson Wainwright’s grandmother asked him to check on smoke coming from a nearby home. When he got closer, he spotted the fire in the kitchen and reported back to his grandmother who called 911.

Jaxson shared his eventful morning during show and tell.

“He was very animated in telling us everything and told us about his dad breaking in the window and trying to get the animals and things out,” teacher Kelly Sumner said.

The two pets died in the fire, but the person inside made it out. Source: WJW-TV Fox 8 Cleveland
National searches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Bourbonnais, Ill.</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
<td>Thomas F. Leahy, director, executive searches, Illinois Association of School Boards, (217) 528-9688, ext. 1153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board changes

Amanda-Clearcreek Local (Fairfield) appointed Susan Young to the board effective Sept. 9. She replaced Jody G. Denner, who resigned. Canton City appointed David Kaminski to the board effective Sept. 9. He replaced Richard Milligan, who resigned. Centerburg Local (Knox) appointed Lori Jones-Perkins to the board effective Sept. 24. She replaced Jennie Borton, who passed away. Perry Local (Stark) Board of Education member Jim Casey announced his resignation effective Sept. 24. He moved out of the district. Woodmore Local (Sandusky) appointed Corinna Bench to the board effective Sept. 19. She replaced Sean Rizer, who resigned.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Lakewood Local (Licking) Superintendent Mary Kay Andrews announced her retirement effective July 31, 2020. River Valley Local (Marion) hired Adam Wickham as superintendent effective Nov. 4. He will replace James P. Peterson, who is retiring. Wickham currently is assistant superintendent and central office administrator at Caldwell EV. Springboro Community City hired Assistant Superintendent Carrie Hester as interim superintendent effective immediately. She replaced Daniel J. Schroer, who resigned.

Treasurers

Centerville City hired Laura Sauber as interim treasurer effective immediately. She replaced Mitchell Biederman, who passed away. Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking) Treasurer Zachary J. Niblick announced his resignation effective Oct. 25. Marlington Local (Stark) hired Tamra Hurst as interim treasurer effective immediately. She replaced Ryan D. Jones, who took a position at Mahoning County ESC. Hurst will continue to serve as business operations director at Stark County ESC. Martins Ferry City Treasurer Karen Blake announced her resignation effective immediately. Tri-County Career Center hired Rodney Schilling as treasurer effective Oct. 1. He replaced Laura C. Dukes, who retired effective Sept. 30. Schilling previously was treasurer at Eastern Local (Pike). Van Wert City hired Michelle M. Mawer as treasurer effective Oct. 16. She will replace Michael A. Ruen, who took the treasurer position at Hicksville EV. Mawer currently is treasurer at Coldwater EV. Whitehall City hired John M. Walsh as treasurer effective Oct. 14. He replaced Stephen E. McAfee, who resigned. Walsh previously was treasurer at Groveport Madison Local (Franklin).

Editor’s note

Job postings must be received six weeks before the application deadline to ensure timely publication. Thank you for your cooperation.
Sympathies
William Edward Brownson, former superintendent at Bath Local (Allen), Bluffton EV, North Central Local (Williams), Northeastern Local (Defiance), Pike-Delta-York Local (Fulton) and the former Whetstone School District in Crawford County, died Sept. 16. He was 87. ●●● Ted C. Downing, Bright Local (Highland) superintendent and former superintendent at Bridgeport EV, died Sept. 15. He was 67. ●●● Mitchell Biederman, Centerville City treasurer and former Reynoldsburg City treasurer, died Sept. 23. He was 55. ●●● Former Crestview Local (Columbiana) Board of Education member Lowell Schloneger died Sept. 16. He was 77. ●●● Former Joseph Badger Local (Trumbull) Board of Education member Robert M. Waite died Sept. 10. He was 88. ●●● Former Lake Local (Stark) and Minerva Local (Stark) Treasurer Elizabeth W. “Betty” Myers died Sept. 26. She was 101. ●●● Former New Knoxville Local (Auglaize) Board of Education member Ned A. Niemeyer died Sept. 19. He was 81. ●●● Former Oregon City Board of Education member Theodore G. Jenkins died Sept. 13. He was 91. ●●● Former Reynoldsburg City Board of Education member Jane Ann Klein died Sept. 16. She was 74. ●●● Former Rock Hill Local (Lawrence) Board of Education member Keith Roth died Sept. 2. He was 65. ●●● Former South-Western City Board of Education member Diana Hannon Forrester died Sept. 7. She was 76.
This series of workshops will help those involved in student transportation better understand and perform day-to-day operations.

These half-day workshops — offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is scheduled twice; participants may sign up for either session. Each class is $100, or you can purchase an MTA subscription for the workshop series; contact Diana Paulins, OSBA senior administrative assistant of board and management services, for subscription information. All workshops will be at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, 43235. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs to learn about the MTA certification program.

Workshop dates and descriptions

Oct. 23 or 30 — Student management and training
This class has two focuses: student management and student safety training. The first part of class focuses on elements of student discipline plans, actions within a driver's authority and responsibility, and effective strategies for working with parents and administrators. The second part of class looks at required safety training, its different delivery methods and how to expand training beyond the students who ride the buses.

Dec. 4 or 11 — Transportation rules and regulations
Pupil transportation is one of the most regulated services in Ohio and nationwide. This class is devoted to exploring the various regulations that transportation administrators need to be familiar with to ensure transportation is safe, dependable and compliant with laws and best practices. A key take-away from this class will be the printed copy of the operating rules, an index to look up pertinent regulations and familiarity with how the pieces fit together and impact operations.

Feb. 5 or 12 — Driver records, background checks and compliance records
No one can afford for anything to fall through the cracks, especially in the area of driver qualifications. Ohio's regulations governing school bus driver requirements are among the most detailed in the nation. This seminar will present strategies and methods to achieve and maintain compliance. Driver audit forms and hiring checklists will be provided and reviewed.

March 4 or 11 — Emergency transportation planning
Transportation departments are required to have a viable, documented emergency plan in place. The plan includes not only the major events that we hope will never happen, but also routine incidents that occur in this industry, including breakdowns, sick children and minor accidents. This class will help identify what should be included in an emergency plan, how to develop the action plan and how to write a plan that anyone can follow, even in your absence.

April 1 or 8 — Fleet management and bus purchasing
This course will review the Ohio school bus construction standards, approved options for school buses, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards requirements and the need to keep your fleet compliant with standards. Delve into the value of a preventive maintenance plan, bus purchasing and using data to determine an effective vehicle replacement plan. Finally, we will focus on how to make the best use of the driver pretrip inspection to meet the need for safety checks and state patrol motor vehicle inspections.

Register by contacting Diana Paulins at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or mta@ohioschoolboards.org. You also can purchase a subscription plan for all the workshops in this series; contact Paulins for more information.
Don’t miss this dynamic, hands-on workshop designed to provide attendees with tips and tools for upping their communications game. Whether you are a communications professional, board member, school administrator or the staff member whose “other duties as assigned” include communicating with the public, you will come away from this workshop with tangible tools to make your communications efforts impactful and successful.

8:30 a.m.  Registration

9 a.m.  Stories in sound: How to podcast in your school district

In this interactive workshop, you’ll get a primer on how to tell your districts’ stories through sound. Discover how others are already employing podcasting as a tool in their districts; learn about the various equipment, tools and platforms that can be used to create a podcast; hear how to structure a show, find stories and market your podcast; gather tips on interviewing, scriptwriting, editing, choosing music and more; and participate in the production of a podcast episode.

Shane Haggerty, owner, Purposeland

Noon  Lunch (provided)

1 p.m.  Leverage the latest tools in today’s new world of curated media

The ways we communicate are evolving at a rapid pace, as students, parents, businesses and residents control what they want to know and where they want to get their information. Learn the latest tips and tricks to get your message through the clutter. Discover methods and strategies you can begin using right away to best leverage your website, e-newsletter, social media, news media, video and even print in today’s new world of curated media.

Erin Graham, president, Erin Graham Consulting; and Alicia Mowry, public information officer, Delaware Area Career Center

3:30 p.m.  Adjourn

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or email Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.
OSBA is offering a reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol training program for supervisors. Completion of this course is required for all supervisors of safety-sensitive (commercial driver's license) drivers, including school bus drivers. Best practice is that each district has at least two administrators trained in this requirement.

The course meets the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration U.S. Department of Transportation requirements. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion.

**Details:** This workshop is being offered on Wednesday, Nov. 20, at the OSBA office in Columbus from 10 a.m. to noon.

**Cost:** $50

**To register:**
Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or email Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

---

**Achieving more together**

The OSBA Legal Assistance Fund provides financial or legal assistance in matters of statewide importance to local school districts.

**What we can do:**
- File friend of the court (amicus) briefs supporting issues of statewide importance.
- Minimize the financial hardship of costly litigation to individual boards of education.
- Supplement legal services available to boards of education.

**Benefits to your district:**
- Favorable judicial decisions that set precedents that can have a positive impact in your district.
- Direct assistance to your district if it is involved in a lawsuit of statewide significance.
- A quarterly e-newsletter of recent Ohio school law developments.

To join, contact the OSBA Division of Legal Services at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.
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.

---

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION**

Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

---

**Maximize your leadership team’s performance with the Achiever**

Recruit and retain the best with the Achiever Leadership Assessment.

The Achiever measures cognitive skills and personality dimensions, providing relevant data to enable you to make the right leadership decisions for your district.

Key benefits include

- maximizing potential;
- streamlining the hiring process;
- enhancing decision-making.

Learn more at www.ohioschoolboards.org/achiever or contact Teri Morgan at (614) 540-4000 • (800) 589-OSBA • tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org
Promoting aerospace education

The Educator Grant program, sponsored by the Air Force Association, promotes aerospace education activities in classrooms and encourages development of innovative aerospace activities within the prescribed curriculum. Maximum awards: $500

Eligibility: K-12 teachers

Deadline: Dec. 15

Contact: https://www.afa.org/education/k-12-educator-grants

Promoting innovative uses of technology

The Vernier Technology Awards recognize and reward the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator or other handheld device in the science classroom. Maximum awards: $1,000

Eligibility: current K-12 science teachers

Deadline: Dec. 18

Contact: www.vernier.com/grants/nsta

Recognizing outstanding science teachers

The National Science Teachers Association honors science teachers who excel in the classroom. Applications are being accepted for awards to recognize an outstanding high school teacher who has made biotechnology learning accessible to the classroom; a K-12 science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) teacher; or individuals or organizations that have inspired and elevated the public’s interest in and appreciation of science. Check the website for a full list of available awards. Maximum awards: $3,000

Eligibility: varies

Deadline: Dec. 18

Contact: www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx

Grants for special needs children’s programs

The Innovating Worthy Projects Foundation makes grants to organizations dedicated to developing innovative programs, disseminating ideas or providing direct care or services for children with special needs, acute illnesses or chronic disabilities. Maximum awards: $5,000

Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations

Deadline: Dec. 31

Contact: http://iwpf.org

We can help you reach agreement

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

Bargaining consultation clients receive:

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

For more information on how bargaining consultation can work for your district, contact OSBA’s legal services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.
The Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee is considering legislation seeking to improve safety for students in and around school buses. Senate Bill (SB) 134 was introduced by Sen. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) with the goal of curbing a growing issue with motorists unlawfully passing school buses and putting students in danger.

The number of vehicles illegally passing stopped school buses is a growing concern. In March, OSBA organized a bus-passing survey asking school districts to record and report their incidents for one day. The results from the 183 districts that returned the survey were staggering. Nearly one third of Ohio’s 15,000 school bus drivers completed the survey and reported that more than 1,500 buses were illegally passed. If all drivers experience this rate of

---

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

**Bill would increase penalties for illegally passing school buses**

The Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee is considering legislation seeking to improve safety for students in and around school buses. Senate Bill (SB) 134 was introduced by Sen. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) with the goal of curbing a growing issue with motorists unlawfully passing school buses and putting students in danger.

The number of vehicles illegally passing stopped school buses is a growing concern. In March, OSBA organized a bus-passing survey asking school districts to record and report their incidents for one day. The results from the 183 districts that returned the survey were staggering. Nearly one third of Ohio’s 15,000 school bus drivers completed the survey and reported that more than 1,500 buses were illegally passed. If all drivers experience this rate of

---

**Winter School Finance Workshop**

Monday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
OSBA office, Columbus
Cost: $170

Join us for this annual event where you’ll hear the latest information around school finance, Statehouse news and more. Registration fee includes materials, lunch and refreshments.

To register:
Visit the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) website at www.oasbo-ohio.org or call (614) 431-9116.
Twelve Ohio public schools have been recognized as 2019 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. They are among 363 schools nationwide to be honored for overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps. Schools in each state are recognized in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, student subgroup scores and graduation rates.

The Ohio schools and their districts are:

- Akron Early College High School, Akron City;
- Beachwood Middle School, Beachwood City;
- Bloom-Vernon Elementary School, Bloom-Vernon Local (Scioto);
- Bluffsview Elementary School, Worthington City;
- Boyd E. Smith Elementary School, Milford EV;
- Crestview Elementary School, Crestview Local (Richland);
- Franklin Elementary School, Delphos City;
- Freedom Trail Elementary School, Olentangy Local (Delaware);
- Minster Junior/Senior High School, Minster Local (Auglaize);
- Norwayne Middle School, Norwayne Local (Wayne);
- Solon High School, Solon City;
- Wadsworth Middle School, Wadsworth City.

Source: U.S. Department of Education

Being illegally passed, Ohio could have 4,500 buses illegally passed each day. The following factors were revealed in the survey:

- 45% of the illegal passing occurred on morning routes;
- 3% of it occurred during mid-day routes;
- 52% occurred on afternoon routes;
- 73% of the buses were passed from the front;
- 27% were passed from the rear;
- 98% were passed on the left;
- 2% were passed on the right.

SB 134 would increase fines for improperly passing a school bus and establish tiered penalties for additional violations. The bill also would allow cameras to be installed on school buses and permit videos and/or photos to be used as evidence in identifying motorists violating the law. In addition, the bill makes a $500,000 appropriation for fiscal years 2020-2021 that would provide grants for schools to purchase and install external cameras on buses.

The bill also designates the month of August as School Bus Safety Awareness Month and names SB 134 the School Bus Safety Act. The legislation has had two hearings in the Senate Transportation, Commerce, and Workforce Committee.

Contact Van D. Keating at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for more information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Last day for certification of licensed employees to State Board of Education — RC 3317.061.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Student management and training..... Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>OSBA Fall Communication Workshop........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pre-general election campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates appearing on the ballot (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures made from the last day reflected in the previous report to the close of business on Oct. 16, 2019 (12 days before election) — RC 3517.10(A)(1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Last day for classroom teachers to develop online classroom lessons (“blizzard bags”) in order to make up hours for which it is necessary to close schools — RC 3313.482(A)(3)(a).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>General Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Capital Conference........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Central Region Executive Committee meeting........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Northeast Region Executive Committee meeting........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Northwest Region Executive Committee meeting........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Southeast Region Executive Committee meeting........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>OSBA Black Caucus Committee Meeting........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Reasonable Suspicion Training........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting........................................ TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Deadline to file consolidated school mandate report — RC 3301.68; last day to submit certification for income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation for March election — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Transportation rules and regulations....... Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Last day to submit March emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for March election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.218(C) (95 days prior to election).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Winter School Finance Workshop........................................ Columbus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post-general election campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates appearing on the ballot (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures made from the last day reflected in the previous request to the close of business on Dec. 6, 2019.