

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Capital Conference just weeks away — are you registered?

The 2017 OSBA Capital Conference is rapidly approaching. If you and your colleagues have not yet registered, now is the time. This year's event features an expanded program, a stellar slate of keynote speakers, nearly 130 learning sessions, the Student Achievement Fair and the nation's largest exhibition of school products and services. There also are countless opportunities to share ideas and solutions with thousands of Ohio's education leaders. And, again this year, OSBA is offering a special group rate that makes the conference the most affordable in the country. Once a member district registers more than six people, it pays a flat fee of \$1,850 that enables an unlimited number of additional individuals to register. The conference is Nov. 12-14 in Columbus. For details, visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org>.

Feds award Ohio \$35 million literacy development grant

To help Ohio build on the ongoing work to improve the language and literacy development of its children, the state was awarded a \$35 million Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Approximately 95% of the \$35 million award will be distributed directly to local schools or early childhood education providers to improve literacy outcomes for children from birth through grade 12. The three-year grant will focus on serving the greatest numbers of students living in poverty, students with disabilities, English learners and students identified as having a reading disability.

Jennifer Hogue named new OSBA legislative director

Jennifer Hogue was named OSBA director of legislative services effective Oct. 1. Hogue, who previously served OSBA as a lobbyist, joined the association in 2014. As legislative director, she will oversee OSBA advocacy efforts on behalf of public education; manage the Federal Relations Network; develop agenda and staff recommendations for the Legislative Platform Committee; and work with the Delegate Assembly. She replaces **Damon Asbury**, who is serving as interim deputy executive director. Asbury plans to retire from OSBA after that position is filled.

Study: Wisconsin voucher program likely to fuel school-funding inequity

A new peer-reviewed policy memo produced by the National Education Policy Center finds that Wisconsin's expanded statewide voucher program is likely to exacerbate school-funding inequities for public schools across the state. Written by **Ellie Bruecker**, a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the study describes how the voucher program alters the relative share of public education spending borne by the state and local districts and estimates its impact on Wisconsin

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Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Business managers
- ☐ Transportation directors

public school districts. Bruecker finds that while effects of the program on public schools are currently small, they likely will grow over time. She points out that as the program expands, funding cuts to local school districts will increase. The voucher program already is distributing tens of millions of dollars for private school tuition. The report is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/32762>.

OSBA posts resources on national anthem protests

Last year, San Francisco 49ers quarterback **Colin Kaepernick** made headlines by refusing to stand for the national anthem. NFL players and others recently have followed Kaepernick's example, motivated in part by President **Donald Trump's** call for team owners to fire players who refuse to stand for the anthem. With high school football season in full swing

Students' art project raises awareness about bullying

Students at **Jackson-Milton Local's (Mahoning)** Jackson-Milton Elementary School raised awareness during National Bullying Prevention Month through a unique art project.

Students and teachers painted rocks that look like fish. The inspiration for the project came from the book, "Only One You," by **Linda Kranz**.

"The kids noticed that the rocks had different patterns and different colors, and that each rock was painted differently," art teacher **Dianne Householder** told a local TV station.

The goal was to teach students that being different is OK, just like the different fish in the book, which teaches that you gain wisdom as you "swim through life."

Source: WKBN-TV

and basketball season quickly approaching, districts may be wondering how to respond. The OSBA Division of Legal Services has provided information on its Legal Ledger page to help schools address the issue. To learn more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/71460>.

EPA offers school bus rebates to reduce harmful emissions

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for its School Bus Rebate Program. The agency is offering up to \$20,000 per vehicle to replace older buses and up to \$6,000 per vehicle for retrofits. The purpose of the program is to protect children by reducing harmful exhaust emissions. The application deadline is Nov. 14. For details, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/59260>.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

Capital Conference and Trade Show attendees can share their experiences in Columbus on social media. On Twitter, use the hashtag #OSBACC in your tweets to share your observations. Attendees also can post and view conference updates on OSBA's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/OHSchoolBoards.



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

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District

① Ohio State School
for the Blind

Deadline

TBD

Contact

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



Other positions

Position

Treasurer

District

Manchester Local (Adams)

Deadline

Oct. 27

Contact

Sandy Mers, superintendent, South
Central Ohio ESC, (740) 354-0221

Administrative changes

Treasurers

Big Walnut Local (Delaware) hired **Jeremy J. Buskirk** as treasurer effective Oct. 2. He replaced Interim Treasurer **Sandra M. Griscom**. Buskirk previously was the assistant treasurer at **Dublin City**. ●●● **Bowling Green City** Treasurer **Rhonda L. Melchi** announced her retirement effective Dec. 21. ●●● **Greenville City** hired **Jenna Jurosic** as treasurer effective Oct. 1. She replaced **Carla G. Surber**, who retired. Jurosic previously was the payroll director at **Dayton City**. ●●● **Mercer County ESC** hired **Kurt Wendel** as treasurer effective Oct. 16. He replaced **Mary Brandon**, who resigned earlier this year. Wendel previously was the business manager at **Fort Recovery Local (Mercer)**. ●●● **Sebring Local (Mahoning)** hired **Dawn Meeks** as treasurer effective Sept. 25. She replaced **Gregg Reink**, who passed away Sept. 5. Meeks previously was the treasurer at **Newton Falls EV**.

Sympathies

Former **Chippewa Local (Wayne)** Board of Education member **Dr. Philip N. Gilcrest** died Sept. 9. He was 89. ●●● Former **Colonel Crawford Local (Crawford)** Superintendent **William Ferrell** died Oct. 1. He was 79. ●●● Former **Conotton Valley Union Local (Harrison)** Board of Education member **Betty J. McCarty** died Sept. 19. She was 73. ●●● Former **Crestview Local (Columbiana)** Board of Education member **Charles "Bud" Shaughnessy** died Oct. 4. He was 92. ●●● Former **East Clinton Local (Clinton)** Board of Education member **William "Bill" Bean** died Oct. 4. He was 89. ●●● Former **Indian Hill EV** Board of Education member **Patricia Lynch** died Sept. 26. She was 94. ●●● **Raymond Simon Pew**, a member of the former **Keene** and **Three Rivers** school boards in Coshocton County, died Oct. 3. He was 97.

Editor's note

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



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

Local superintendents prompt public school deregulation bill

Legislation was recently introduced in the Ohio Senate aimed at reducing unnecessary administrative mandates for public school districts. Senate Bill (SB) 216, introduced by Sen. **Matt Huffman** (R-Lima), seeks to address a variety of topics, including teacher licensure and aide permits; Ohio teacher evaluation systems; state testing and assessments; College Credit Plus; and preschool operating standards.

According to Huffman, “All too often what sounds like a good idea in Columbus translates instead to burdensome paperwork and tedious tasks that distract teachers and superintendents from their

primary role in our schools — educating students. These issues take up an absurd amount of teacher and administrator time and labor, which could be used more appropriately to deliver quality education to Ohio’s children.”

The bill, named the Ohio Public School Deregulation Act, was drafted through a series of meetings with local superintendents in Huffman’s 12th Senate District in northwest Ohio. Provisions contained in the legislation include:

- Teacher licensure and aide permits — The bill establishes one substitute license instead of long-term and short-term licenses. It consolidates teacher licenses into

two grade bands, kindergarten through eight and six through 12. SB 216 also permits superintendents to waive licensure requirements for teachers already holding a license for an assignment that is deemed appropriate for that teacher’s experience and removes the requirement for 30 hours of professional development for teachers instructing gifted children.

- Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) — The legislation removes the student growth measure component from OTES and implements recommendations of the Ohio Educator Standards Board.
- Student testing and assessments — The bill maintains the subgroup N size of 30 for accountability and reporting purposes. It also eliminates the mandated kindergarten readiness assessment for all districts and the K-3 literacy state report card measure for districts that have an 80% or higher passage rate for the third-grade reading guarantee. Districts that have less than an 80% passage rate will have to establish a local improvement plan that does not require approval from the state. The legislation allows the option for online or paper tests on state assessments for students in grades three through five and requires the

Continued on page 5

OSBA lobbyist position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is seeking a lobbyist to advocate on behalf of public boards of education. Responsibilities include working with legislators, education policymakers and school district officials to advance the needs and interests of Ohio’s public schools and boards of education.

Candidates must have knowledge and experience with advocacy, the legislative process, educational policy and school-funding issues. Excellent oral and written communication skills and strong analytical skills are essential. The successful candidate will be required to register as a lobbyist with the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee. Experience with grassroots level initiatives is a plus.

OSBA offers competitive salaries and excellent benefits. Applicants should submit a cover letter, résumé, and salary expectations by Nov. 1, 2017, to: Lobbyist Search, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus OH 43235. Applications that do not include salary expectations will not be considered. OSBA is an equal opportunity employer.



Leadership for Learning



Ohio School Boards Association
2017 Capital Conference

Special events offer fresh insights

Don't miss the chance to attend these outstanding presentations at the 2017 OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show. Hear inspiring speakers present unique insights and practical solutions and have an opportunity to network with colleagues.

To register for these events, notify your district superintendent or treasurer, or indicate your request on the conference registration forms that were mailed in July. You can download registration forms at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/registration>.



OSBA Black Caucus dinner

Madison Reid — I can't wait ... Making the best of our children
Sunday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

If childhood reading needs a national spokesperson, Madison might be the perfect candidate. The 11-year-old **Cleveland Municipal Schools** student gained fame when a local TV station covered an event featuring the Little Free Library, a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading through mini neighborhood book exchanges. The interview went viral.

Madison is an avid reader who also enjoys writing her own stories and poetry. Her passion and enthusiasm for reading has made her a powerful spokesperson for the Little Free Library and the Literacy Cooperative of Cleveland. As the youngest student in her seventh-grade class at Cleveland Municipal's Wade Park Elementary School, she is a scholar in the gifted program.

This event raises funds for the Leo Lucas Scholarship, which provides graduating ethnically diverse seniors funds for college. Music and networking begin at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$70; the reservation deadline is Nov. 3. To register for the dinner, notify your district treasurer or indicate your request on the conference registration form. Registration is required; limited tickets will be sold at the door for \$75. Please indicate any special accommodations needed. All conference attendees are invited.

Monday Lunch and Learn

InSideOut Initiative — Transforming the lives of students
Monday, Nov. 13, 12:15 p.m.

The scoreboard often defines today's win-at-all-costs sports culture, where youth sports have evolved into an \$8 billion industry requiring significant financial and emotional investment by parents. The InSideOut Initiative aims to change this culture, which has become more focused on adults than kids. While winning is an important goal, InSideOut co-founders **Joe Ehrmann** and **Jody Redman** encourage the educational, social and emotional well-being of student-athletes across all sports.

Supported by the NFL Foundation, InSideOut has many educational partners, including OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio High School Athletic Association, which are working to reclaim the educational purpose of sports. Ehrmann, a former NFL defensive lineman, is author of "InSideOut Coaching: How Sports Can Transform Lives." Redman, a former collegiate basketball player, oversees education programs for 500 member high schools as associate director of the Minnesota State High School League.

Doors open at noon. Registration is \$45; contact your treasurer to register. Please indicate any special accommodations needed. The luncheon sponsors are CompManagement, GradyBenefits, NaviGate Prepared and Ohio School Plan.



OSBA MASTER OF TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (MTA) PROGRAM

The 2017-18 MTA 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 \$95, or you can purchase an MTA subscription for the workshop series; contact **Diana Paulins**, OSBA senior administrative assistant of policy services, for subscription information. All workshops will be at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, OH, 43235. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs to learn about the MTA certification program.

Workshop dates and descriptions

Oct. 25 — Personnel management

Transportation administrators must have some knowledge of labor practices to effectively manage their staffs. Discuss working with contracts, discipline, driver qualifications and evaluations, and how to manage issues.

Nov. 29 or Dec. 6 — Transportation rules and regulations

Explore federal, state and local regulations and a checklist that every transportation department can use to measure its performance and compliance. This class is a favorite for new supervisors, veteran supervisors and other school administrators who are responsible for pupil transportation services.

Feb. 7 or 14 — The transportation handbook

Guidelines and procedures are essential and can be the manager's best friend. Discuss the handbook development process, what to include in the handbook and how to keep it current.

April 4 or 11 — Public relations and working with the media

Experience a "live interview" process to learn how to develop talking points and stay on target in an interview. Also learn how to build proactive media relationships.

May 2 or 9 — Designing your operational plan and building keys for success

Review how to put the operational plan together, including timelines and how to schedule or delegate projects. Discover how building support networks and stakeholder groups are key to your success.

Register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops. You also can purchase a subscription plan for all the workshops in this series. For questions about the program or to register, contact **Diana Paulins** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or mta@ohioschoolboards.org.



SchoolComp Safety Seminar



Friday, Dec. 7
OSBA office, Columbus

Cost: \$160
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This workshop qualifies as four hours of Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation safety training for districts that are required to meet the yearly safety training requirement.

You do not have to be a participant in the SchoolComp Group Rating or Retro Rating programs to attend this seminar. You can register on the Ohio Association of School Business Officials website at www.oasbo-ohio.org or by calling (614) 431-9116.

Winter School Finance Workshop



Friday, Dec. 1, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. • OSBA office, Columbus

Find out what's at stake for Ohio's schools — we are talking politics, legislation and much more. You will get information about these issues and more at the Winter School Finance Workshop.

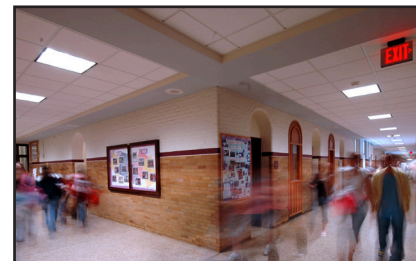
Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Registration	2:15 p.m.	OASBO Fund Balance Task Force panel discussion
9 a.m.	Reports from the Statehouse News reporters share their thoughts on current action at the Statehouse. <i>Melissa Dilley, reporter, Gongwer News Service; Jim Siegel, reporter, The Columbus Dispatch; Andy Chow, reporter, The Statehouse News Bureau</i>		An Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) task force was established earlier this year to research and prepare a white paper on school district cash balances, including things to consider and guidance on best practices. The panel will discuss the task force's work and information that will go into the white paper. <i>Barbara Shaner, legislative advocacy specialist, OASBO; Penelope R. Rucker, treasurer, Beavercreek City; Jeffrey S. McCuen, treasurer, Worthington City; Jeffrey J. Dornbusch, treasurer, Port Clinton City; and Kent Cashell, managing director, RBC Capital Markets</i>
9:45 a.m.	Ohio Auditor of State's Office <i>Dave Yost, Ohio auditor of state</i>		
10:30 a.m.	Break		
10:45 a.m.	College Credit Plus (CCP) update: A look at the CCP data <i>Dr. Larisa Harper, CCP director, Ohio Department of Higher Education</i>		
11:30 a.m.	ODE school finance update <i>Aaron Rausch, director, Office of Budget and School Funding, Ohio Department of Education (ODE)</i>	3 p.m.	Lobbyists' legislative update and wrap-up
12:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided)		OSBA and OASBO lobbyists share the latest information about legislative proposals and recently passed legislation. <i>Jennifer Hogue, director of legislative services, and Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services, OSBA; and Barbara Shaner</i>
1:15 p.m.	OEPI update/economic outlook <i>Dr. Howard Fleeter, consultant, Ohio Education Policy Institute (OEPI)</i>		

Cost is \$160, which includes materials, lunch and refreshments. You can register on the Ohio Association of School Business Officials website at www.oasbo-ohio.org or by calling (614) 431-9116.

Management Development Series #5: Early Intervention and De-escalation Techniques in Schools

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. • OSBA office, Columbus • Cost is \$95



School safety is about more than the major incidents you hear in the news. You need a well-thought-out emergency management plan and a commitment to training staff in all aspects of school safety. Join us to explore emergency management plans, the importance of early intervention and de-escalation techniques that can be implemented when needed.

Agenda

9:30 a.m.	Registration		
10 a.m.	Building your school safety toolbox Discuss emergency management plans, online options for maintaining your plans and staff training. <i>OSBA staff</i>	Noon	Lunch (provided)
10:30 a.m.	Further discussion of emergency management plans Take a closer look at online options for maintaining your plans as well as a demonstration by NaviGate Prepared. <i>Thom Jones, general manager, NaviGate Prepared</i>	1 p.m.	De-escalation techniques and next steps What techniques can be implemented when a situation begins to escalate? What happens next if these techniques fail? Explore what a crisis intervention team (CIT) is and how mental health issues impact schools and law enforcement. <i>Lt. Dennis Jeffrey, CIT coordinator, Columbus Division of Police</i>
11 a.m.	Early intervention Explore why early intervention and effective communication are critical to keeping the school environment safe and learn about the use of Threat Assessment Teams. <i>Sgt. Frederick Brophy, Columbus Division of Police</i>	2 p.m.	Adjourn

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Cost for the workshop is \$95 and includes lunch and materials. Register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

OSBA MTA Program

- ☐ Oct. 25, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ Nov. 29, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ Dec. 6, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ Feb. 7, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ Feb. 14, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ April 4, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ April 11, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ May 2, Columbus, \$95
- ☐ May 9, Columbus, \$95

Management Development Series #5: Early Intervention and De-escalation Techniques in Schools

- ☐ Dec. 5, Columbus, \$95

Professional Conduct for OCSBA Attorneys

- ☐ Dec. 6, webinar, \$50

Hot topics in school law

- ☐ Dec. 12, webinar, \$100

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name _____ Workshop date _____
 Attendee name _____ Title _____
 Daytime phone _____ Email _____
 District/firm _____ County _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ or P.O.# _____ to cover _____ registration(s). Make checks payable to OSBA and mail to 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481, fax to (614) 540-4100 or email **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. Include a purchase order number with fax or email.



_____ Please check here if you require special accommodations. Contact us or attach a written description of needs.

Please photocopy this form for each person

OSBA workshop registration procedures

OSBA sends email confirmation of registration if an email address is provided. Registration is open to all boards and staff of OSBA members. "Walk-in" registrations are welcome on a space-available basis only. Please call OSBA to check the status of registration before you arrive at the workshop. To register, you must have a purchase order number or a check payable to OSBA and a completed registration form. You may register with a purchase order number by phone, fax, email or online 24 hours a day.

Award of Achievement/LPDC

Most workshops entitle members to Award of Achievement credits. Local Professional Development Committee certificates of attendance will be issued to all workshop attendees.

You may register on our website at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops. You will need a username and password.



Mail

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



Phone
or fax

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



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

Cancellation and refund policy

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

Legislative Report, continued from page 4

American Institutes for Research to provide additional preparatory materials.

● **Student management and safety** — SB 216 does not count excused absences toward the required attendance parental notification law, which may require an absence intervention plan. The bill also consolidates the mandated reporting of safety requirements into a single checklist filed annually before the end of the academic year. If a problem exists, the superintendent is required to provide the local board of education a written explanation and a plan to address the problem. Items on the checklist include restraint and seclusion training; CPR/AED instruction; bullying prevention training; wellness committee; nutrition standards; and school safety plan review.

● **College Credit Plus (CCP)** — The legislation requires students to take CCP courses at a district school, if offered, before taking courses at a college campus. If the CCP course is overenrolled, the superintendent can permit the student to enroll in a similar course at the college or online. Textbook costs would be split between the district and the student, with an exception for economically disadvantaged students. Home-schooled students would be responsible for 100% of textbook costs. The bill also requires ODE to produce a report on the results and effectiveness of how the program saves students money on college tuition and reduces the amount of time needed to obtain a degree.

● **Preschool operating standards** — The bill establishes an 8:1 pupil-teacher ratio for 3-year-old

students and maintains the 12:1 ratio for 4-year-old students.

● **Resident Educator Program** — SB 216 seeks to replace the four-year initial resident educator license with a two-year license and a two-year renewal. The bill requires ODE to clearly define goals and provide training for two years focused on mentoring. The third year of the resident educator program would be eliminated after a teacher successfully completes years one and two. The fourth year also would be eliminated.

For more information, visit OSBA's BillTracker at www.ohio.schoolboards.org/billtracker. The legislation likely will be referred to the Ohio Senate Education Committee for future hearings.

Editor's note: Information in this article was current as of Oct. 13, 2017.



COMMUNICATIONS

by Connie Potter, chief of staff, Forest Grove School District, Ore.

Communicating with diverse families

With school districts serving an increasing number of non-English speaking families, one of the biggest challenges is communicating with the diverse populations. Translating materials and using interpreters at meetings and school events is critical. But it can be difficult — and expensive — to find qualified people to do it, especially when there are multiple

languages or dialects involved.

Some districts have only one or two non-English languages. In more urban areas, districts may report 35 or more languages spoken in a single school. There are a number of options for communicating with non-English speakers, depending in part on your district's budget and resources. Whatever the choice,

families always appreciate efforts to reach out in their own language.

Translating written materials

Most districts like to translate everything that is sent home with students, if possible. This can be challenging in districts where dozens of languages are spoken.

Large districts often have

Continued on page 6

Communications, continued from page 5

translation departments with bilingual staff whose job is to translate documents and interpret at meetings. Many other districts contract with professional translation companies to provide these services. Groups looking for a professional can consult the online directory from the American Translators Association (<http://atanet.org>).

Hiring a professional translator is usually best to ensure the translation is as accurate and professional as possible and because educational jargon can be tough to interpret. It also helps ensure that all documents sent out by the district use the same terminology. The cost of using a professional is typically based on the number of words or the amount of time required to complete the job.

Some districts use volunteers or staff members to translate. This can save money, but the quality of the

translation can vary widely depending on the volunteer's expertise. Another option is a free online computer-translation service, such as Google's language tools. One caution: because online services translate literally, they're not always reliable. The words may be translated correctly, but the meaning could be lost. If you do rely on computerized translation, use simple sentences and pay special attention to word order and accent marks. And consider having the final product edited by someone who speaks the language.

Some districts produce side-by-side translations, with the English text next to the other language in a single document. The translated version may be a different length than the English, which may cause formatting problems. Another option is to print English on one side and the translated text on the other. That gives you a little more

leeway in fitting the text into the same size space with such steps as shrinking the font size or increasing margins.

No matter who translates your materials, the finished product won't satisfy everyone. Some preferences are based on regional differences among speakers of the same language. The most important thing is to make sure the intent of the message is clear.

Interpreting meetings

When interpreting at parent meetings, some districts favor using equipment that allows for simultaneous translation. An interpreter speaks into a master transmitter, and parents with receivers listen through headsets. An advantage is that it saves time because you don't have to wait for the content to be delivered before translating.

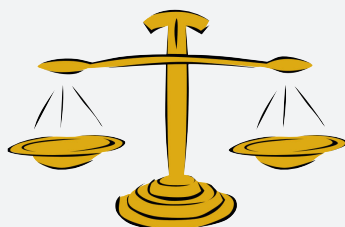
While it's convenient, some feel translation equipment erects another barrier. They prefer for an interpreter to speak directly to them by sitting with a small group of non-English speakers and quietly translating.

Some districts develop their own database of people who speak a second language. They send letters to staff and parents explaining the need for interpreters and asking for volunteers. Bilingual parents might welcome an invitation to use their special skills to serve the school. Other resources include bilingual students from the National Honor Society at the local

Continued on page 7

Professional Conduct for OCSBA Attorneys

Wednesday, Dec. 6 • Cost is \$50
1 p.m. to 2 p.m. • webinar



The OSBA Division of Legal Services will provide an overview of legal ethics, professionalism and the Ohio Code of Professional Conduct as they relate to negotiations. The discussion then will focus on a number of hypotheticals dealing with abiding by those rules while still effectively negotiating on behalf of boards of education. This program has been submitted to the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 1.0 CLE credit hours of professional conduct instruction.

Register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or contact Laurie Miller, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

9 Ohio public schools earn national blue ribbon honors

Nine Ohio public schools have been named 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE).

They are among 342 schools across the country to receive the prestigious recognition honoring a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

The award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and

welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content, according to DOE.

A recognition ceremony will be held Nov. 6-7 in Washington, D.C., to honor the schools.

The Ohio schools and their districts are:

- East Garfield Elementary School, **Steubenville City**;
- Ledgeview Elementary School, **Nordonia Hills City**;
- Miamitown Elementary School, **Southwest Local (Hamilton)**;

- Nolley Elementary School, **Manchester Local (Summit)**;
- Orchard Hill Intermediate School, **North Canton City**;
- Toll Gate Elementary School, **Pickerington Local (Fairfield)**;
- Toll Gate Middle School, **Pickerington Local (Fairfield)**;
- Waynesville Elementary School, **Wayne Local (Warren)**;
- Wyandot Elementary School, **Dublin City**.

Source: U.S. Department of Education

Communications, continued from page 6

high school — who often need to acquire community service hours — and foreign-language majors at a nearby college.

Selecting an interpreter depends on the importance of the event. Parent volunteers often are used to interpret at parent club meetings, but professional interpreters are brought in for individualized education program or district-level meetings.

Bilingual staff often are used as parent liaisons. Teachers might have them call parents to set appointments for parent conferences or to discuss how a student is doing. Likewise, if parents know when a bilingual liaison is at school, they can call during those hours.

Effort pays off

Parents who can't communicate in English often feel overwhelmed by the data and information that comes from schools. While it takes time and resources to communicate

with non-English speaking parents, the extra effort results in parents who are more involved in their students' education.

Source: Washington State School Directors' Association

Hot Topics in School Law

Webinar, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to noon • Cost is \$100

Join the attorneys from the OSBA Division of Legal Services for a review of the hottest legal topics from 2017, as well as a discussion about the legal changes headed your way in 2018. Learn how these changes may impact your district and leave with practical tips for compliance.

Register for this webinar by visiting www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops. You also can register by contacting **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



October

- 25 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Personnel management..... Columbus
- 26 *Deadline for filing pre-general election campaign finance report for certain candidates, detailing contributions and expenditures from 4:01 p.m. on the last day reflected in the previous report through 4 p.m. on the twentieth day before the election (October 18) — RC 3517.10(A)(1) (12th day prior to election).*
- 31 *End of first ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).*

November

- 1 *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).*
- 7 *General Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).*
- 12-14 OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show..... Columbus
- 12 Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting..... Columbus
- 12 Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting..... Columbus

- 13 Central Region Executive Committee Meeting..... Columbus
- 29 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Transportation rules and regulations..... Columbus

December

- 1 Winter School Finance Workshop..... Columbus
- 5 MDS #5: Early Intervention and De-escalation Techniques in Schools..... Columbus
- 5 Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting..... Lebanon
- 6 Professional Conduct for OCSBA Attorneys webinar
- 6 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Transportation rules and regulations..... Columbus
- 6 Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting..... Wadsworth
- 7 SchoolComp Safety Seminar..... Columbus
- 12 Hot Topics in School Law webinar
- 15 *Deadline for filing post-general election campaign finance statement for certain candidates, detailing contributions and expenditures from 4:01 p.m. on the last day reflected in the previous statement through 4 p.m. on the seventh day before filing the statement (December 8) — RC 3517.10(A)*

- (1) (38th day after election).
- 31 *Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date of the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.*

2018 January

- 15 *Deadline for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; last day for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts to adopt tax budgets for the coming school fiscal year — RC 5705.28(A) (1).*
- 20 Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office.....Perrysburg
- 20 Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office.....Miamisburg
- 20 *Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.*
- 23 *Last day to submit certification for May conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days prior to election).*
- 27 Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office..... Columbus
- 27 Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office..... Independence