

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Nov. 11, 2019

Volume 50 Issue 21

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ODE releases guidance on using student wellness and success funds

The state biennial budget bill includes \$675 million to help districts and schools support students' academic achievement through mental health counseling, wraparound services, mentoring and after-school programs. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) will use the funds to help districts plan and launch these student wellness initiatives. To further that goal, ODE has posted a guidance document and reporting template at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/45587>. Districts will work with local organizations to determine community needs and resources to enable them to use the funding to make the greatest impact on their students' lives.

State releasing \$10 million in school safety grants

Schools can now apply for school safety grants for the 2019-20 school year as part of \$10 million in funding that was included in the biennial state budget bill passed earlier this year. The Ohio Attorney General's Office announced on Oct. 24 that public schools, chartered nonpublic schools and those operated by boards of developmental disabilities are eligible for a grant totaling either \$2,500 or \$4.49 per student, whichever amount is greater. The funding can be used for school resource officer training, active shooter training, professional development for student mental health professionals and any other necessary school safety training. Applications are due by Dec. 13. All superintendents have received direct notification of the grant funds. For more information, contact the attorney general's office at (800) 282-0515.

Nominations open for state's Purple Star Award

The Ohio Department of Education is accepting nominations through Dec. 2 for the Purple Star Award for military-friendly schools. The award honors learning communities that show a major commitment to serving students and families connected to the nation's military. The Purple Star School program will announce recipients on Jan. 15. A school will be honored with the Purple Star Award if it completes the required activities plus one optional activity. Awardees receive a special recognition to display in their buildings. More program details, including how to apply, are available on the Purple Star School webpage at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/86196>.

Students invited to enter competition honoring King's dedication

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission seeks entries in its annual contest to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and work. The statewide competition is open to students in grades six through 12; the 2020 theme is Standing for What Matters. Entries may be in the form of multimedia presentations, artwork or essays and must be accompanied by an official entry form. Entries must be postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. on Dec. 20.

Route workshop information to:

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

The contest is designed to challenge students to think about how civil rights and diversity affect their lives and how they can continue King's work in their own way. For more information and entry forms, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/48153>.

Subscribe digitally to OSBA Briefcase and get it for free

Districts can get the OSBA Briefcase newsletter free if *all* subscribers sign up to receive it electronically. If anyone in the district does not choose the electronic option, the district rate of \$140 for up to 15 subscribers applies. Please note your district's preference on the 2020 OSBA membership invoice, which will be sent at the end of November.

School Management News discount available for 2020

OSBA is again offering its School Management News (SMN)

newsletter at a 25% discount to member districts in which *all* subscribers choose to receive it electronically. The electronic subscription rate is \$150 annually for up to 15 subscribers; the paper subscription is \$200. Please indicate which option your district prefers on the 2020 OSBA membership

invoice. SMN is a monthly newsletter providing the latest news affecting district operations. Topics include labor relations, human resources, business, finances, labor contract settlements, insurance, arbitration awards, school transportation and more.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org
Were there sessions at the OSBA Capital Conference that you were interested in but unable to attend? Is there information from workshops you did attend that you want to share with others in your district? Then visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/handouts>, where you'll find handouts from most of the conference learning and informational sessions. Handouts also are posted on the OSBA Capital Conference App. If you haven't downloaded the app, visit conference.ohioschoolboards.org/app for details.

Hubbard EV mascot recognized as nation's best

Isaac Powell, a junior at **Hubbard EV's** Hubbard High School, was recently recognized by the Ohio Senate as the best high school mascot in the country.

Powell finished first in the Varsity School Spirit Awards Show in May in Orlando, Fla., winning \$4,000. He's already invested about \$1,000 into the Hubbard eagle costume.

"There have only ever been two mascots on the Senate floor: Brutus (Buckeye) and today it'll be Isaac, so he's in good company, and it looks like he's got a great future ahead of him," Sen. **Sean J. O'Brien** (D-Bazetta) said.

Powell would like to be Brutus Buckeye and hopes to land a role as the mascot for a professional team.

Source: WBNS-TV



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

❶ Reading Community City

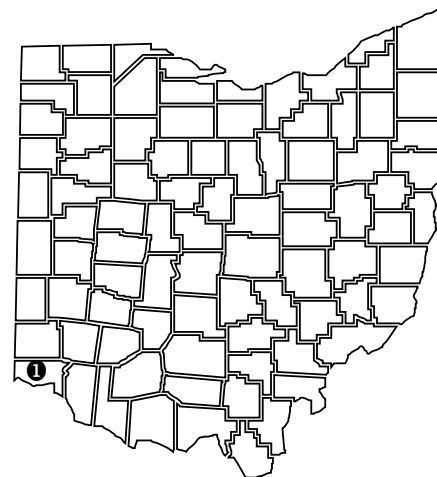
(search opens Dec. 16)

Deadline

Jan. 24

Contact

OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



Board changes

Springfield Local (Summit) appointed **Chad Lance** to the board effective Oct. 16. He replaced **Shannon Marcum**, who moved out of the district.

Sympathies

Former **Athens City** Superintendent **Samuel Thompson Henderson** died Oct. 21. He was 88. ●●● **Earl S. Schlotterbeck**, a former member of the former **Lewisburg-Union School Board** in Preble County and **Twin Valley Community Local (Preble)** Board of Education, died Oct. 14. He was 96. ●●● Former **Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center Board of Education** member **James Bryan "Jim" Moore** died Oct. 21. He was 89. ●●● Former **Minerva Local (Stark)** Board of Education member **Fred Monhemius** died Oct. 11. He was 90. ●●● Former **Newton Local (Miami)** Board of Education member **Dan Delcamp** died Oct. 14. He was 60. ●●● Former **Niles City Board of Education** member **Thomas A. LaPolla** died Oct. 15. He was 82. ●●● **Cooper Snyder**, former ex-officio member of the State Board of Education and member of the former **Clinton County Board of Education**, died Oct. 13. He was 91. ●●● **Stark County ESC Governing Board** member, former **Perry Local (Stark)** Superintendent, and former **Osnaburg Local (Stark)** and **Strasburg-Franklin Local (Tuscarawas)** Interim Superintendent **Gene Feucht** died Oct. 14. He was 83. ●●● Former **Tri-County North Local (Preble)** Board of Education member **Mike Ott** died Oct. 20. He was 74.

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 Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

OSBA legal division introduces new team member

OSBA's Division of Legal Services recently welcomed a new staff attorney.

Ralph H. Lusher III has been with the association since Oct. 14, providing legal information to board members, administrators and other OSBA constituents in the area of school law.

"As an adult, I went back to law

school to find my purpose, and this position and this organization are entirely purpose-driven," Lusher said. "I wanted to be part of that."

Lusher earned his juris doctor from Capital University in May 2018 and was admitted to the state bar association in November 2018.

He previously was an associate attorney at the Law Office of Philip

A. King LLC in Columbus, where he focused on probate matters, estate planning, guardianship and legal ethics.

He also has been a successful small business owner, serving as the chief operating officer of Shade restaurants in Canal Winchester, Heath and Athens. He remains part

Continued on page 5



OSBA strategic planning — the road map for decision-making

Let OSBA put you on the path to success. OSBA can help your district create a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to ensure you always know which road to take. OSBA consultants will help you identify critical issues, set comprehensive goals for the district and determine priorities for the future.

Call OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to get moving in the right direction today.

OSBA Master of Transportation Administration (MTA) Program

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

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.

Reasonable Suspicion Training



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 or email Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

Winter School Finance Workshop

Monday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
OASBO office, 98 Commerce Park Drive, Westerville • Cost: \$170

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

To register:

To view the agenda and register, visit the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) website at www.oasbo-ohio.org or call (614) 431-9116.



Levy University

Friday, Dec. 13

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

OSBA office, Columbus

Cost: \$170



8:30 a.m. Registration

9 a.m. Welcome

9:15 a.m. Board roles and responsibilities

Review the board's unique role in preparing the district and community for putting a levy on the ballot.

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

10 a.m. Levy campaign do's and don'ts

This session will cover school board responsibilities and legal requirements as well as begin the discussion on campaign best practices. Learn more about legislation that allows a district to place a special levy on the ballot focused only on school safety and security initiatives.

Jerry Rampelt, executive director; Michael Collins, Ryan Collins and Andrea Kruse, consultants, Support Ohio Schools Research and Education Foundation; and Nathan Miner, president, Momentum Strategy Group

11:30 a.m. Working lunch (provided) with superintendents who can speak to success

11:45 a.m. Campaign best practices

The discussion on best practices will continue with information that districts can use with any district-support organization. Hear practical guidance on volunteer recruitment; planning and organization; polls and surveys; community involvement; effective messaging; fundraising; social media campaigns; and effective printed materials.

Jerry Rampelt, Ryan Collins, Andrea Kruse, Michael Collins and Nathan Miner

3 p.m. Adjourn

To register:

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



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

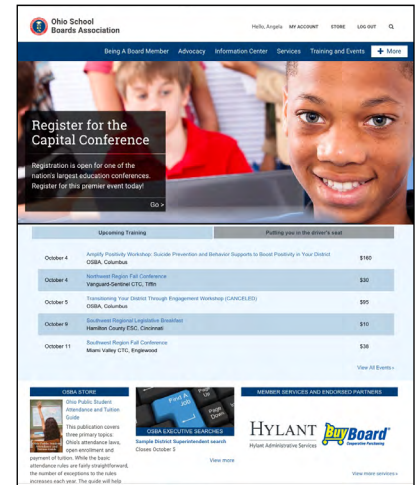
Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

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.



Fleet Maintenance Planning

Friday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. • OSBA office, Columbus • Cost: \$100

Save your district time and money by learning how to design a preventive bus maintenance program and how vehicle diagnostic software can improve management of your bus fleet.

9:30 a.m. Registration

10 a.m. Welcome

10:15 a.m. Implementing a preventive maintenance program

Hear how **Olentangy Local's (Delaware)** transportation team developed a program that kept buses on the road and avoided large repairs while prioritizing safety. Explore what a three-tier preventive maintenance plan accomplishes and how it can help the transportation director manage the bus fleet.

Noon Lunch (provided)

12:30 p.m. Using vehicle diagnostics software as a management tool

Experts in heavy-duty transmissions will demonstrate how diagnostic software can extend the life of a transmission, optimize performance and help you meet on-time schedules and budget expectations for your district.

2 p.m. Adjourn

To register:

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

News, continued from page 4

owner of the chain.

“Ralph’s professional background consists of over two decades of experience as a business owner, manager and entrepreneur,” OSBA Chief Legal Counsel **Sara C. Clark** said. “He values the importance of building authentic and strong relationships, and we look forward to introducing him to the many board members and administrators with whom he’ll be working.”

Lusher, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from Ohio

Dominican University in 2011, fills the role vacated by former Senior Staff Attorney **Megan E. Greulich**. She left the association in August for a new position with Walter Haverfield LLP.

Lusher and his wife, **Jamie**, live in Powell. The couple has four children: **Derek**, 20; **Braddock**, 13; **Tatum**, 11; and **Avery**, 8.

In addition to providing assistance and consultation services to Ohio’s school boards, the legal division provides information to school board members on school

law issues; keeps up to date with new and emerging legal developments; provides customized workshops; oversees OSBA’s Legal Assistance Fund; and facilitates the Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys.

OSBA members may call the division at (855) OSBA-LAW or (855) 672-2529. OSBA’s attorneys do not provide legal advice but can provide legal information and access to legal resources to boards of education and the districts they serve.



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**Ohio School
Boards Association**



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

Senate Education Committee discusses dyslexia bills

The Senate Education Committee has been hearing several bills dealing with dyslexia. Senate Bill (SB) 102, sponsored by Sens. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering) and **Andrew O. Brenner** (R-Powell), would establish a dyslexia screening program in public schools. Another bill, recently introduced by the same senators, SB 200, addresses professional development for intervention services related to dyslexia.

During sponsor testimony on SB 102, Lehner and Brenner noted that according to the International Dyslexia Association, 1 in 5 students has a language-based

learning disability. Their legislation builds on House Bill 96, from the 129th General Assembly, that created a dyslexic pilot project in which eight districts participated in providing early screening and intervention services for kindergartners with risk factors for dyslexia over three school years.

As a result of the pilot project, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) issued a report with three major findings. It found that students who participated in the project showed a marked reduction in risk of reading failure. It also showed that schools were able to adapt over the course of the three-year program to universally

screen students. In addition, schools were able to match students with early interventions that met their needs.

SB 102 defines “dyslexia” to mean a specific learning disorder that is neurological in origin and characterized by unexpected difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and poor spelling and decoding abilities not consistent with the person’s intelligence, motivation and sensory capabilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in grasping the phonological component of language.

Continued on page 7

OSBA deputy director of legislative services position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is seeking a deputy director of legislative services to provide support for its advocacy efforts on behalf of Ohio’s public boards of education. Key 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 possess knowledge and experience with effective advocacy strategies, the legislative process, educational policy and school-funding issues. Strong public speaking and written communication skills, and strong analytical abilities are essential. Experience in organizing and sustaining effective grassroots advocacy initiatives is vital.

OSBA offers competitive salaries and excellent benefits. Applicants should submit a cover letter, résumé and salary expectations by Nov. 19, 2019 to: Deputy Director of Legislative Services Search, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235 or by emailing materials to apply@ohioschoolboards.org. Applications that do not include salary expectations will not be considered.

EOE



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Olentangy student creates monthly newsletter for immigrants

Saideepika Rayala wants immigrant communities in central Ohio to be able to get local news in their native languages.

The senior at **Olentangy Local's (Delaware)** Olentangy Liberty High School has created an e-newsletter called The Columbus Civic, which tells stories in three languages: Telugu, Tamil and French.

"I hope because of this newsletter, immigrant and refugee people can say they felt more connected to a city," she told a local

newspaper. "I hope they feel they have more of a voice, and they're included."

Rayala first gathers news that she thinks would be of interest or relevant to immigrants in central Ohio. Next, she works with a team of translators and editors to create the stories in the different languages.

"My freshman year of journalism (class), I remember talking about the importance of local news to democracy," said

Rayala, who also is the editor of the high school's student publication. "There were these gaps where pockets of the community weren't engaged in civic issues here. I thought those gaps were harming how our community works."

Rayala produces a radio show every Friday as part of The Columbus Civic, which has about 300 subscribers. She also is working to expand into video.

Source: The Columbus Dispatch

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

The bill would require all school districts to establish a dyslexia screening program and provide intervention services. Districts would be required to screen all students at least once prior to entering first grade and any students transferring into the school if they had not been screened previously. The bill requires schools to provide intervention services to students identified as "at risk" of or "having dyslexia" and to administer assessments to determine whether the services have improved students' reading and learning.

SB 200 requires new public

school teachers to complete a dyslexic screening and intervention professional development course. ODE, in consultation with the International Dyslexia Association in Ohio, would be tasked with developing guidelines regarding the best practices for universal screening and intervention. In addition, ODE would need to maintain a list of dyslexia professional development courses, which may consist of online or classroom learning models.

Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, new K-12 public school teachers and special education teachers must complete an initial

professional development course from ODE's list. Additionally, teachers or specialists providing instruction in special education, English language arts or literacy must complete additional approved courses on a regular basis.

SB 200 also includes a structured literacy component that would require each school district to establish a structured literacy certification process for teachers providing instruction in grades K-5. This requirement would be phased in over four years with the goal of having one certified teacher per 100 K-5 students by the end of the 2024-25 school year.

November 2019

- | | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 11 | OSBA Black Caucus Committee Meeting | Columbus |
| 20 | Reasonable Suspicion Training | Columbus |

December 2019

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 2 | Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting..... | Springboro |
| 2 | 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 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219(C) (95 days prior to election). | |
| 4 | OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Transportation rules and regulations | Columbus |
| 6 | 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, 5705.219(C) (95 days prior to election). | 13 |
| 9 | Winter School Finance Workshop | Columbus |
| 11 | OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Transportation rules and regulations | Columbus |
| 11 | Last day for school district to file resolution of necessity, resolution to proceed and auditor's certification for bond levy with | 31 |

board of elections for March election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for March election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for March 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 March election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219(G); last day to submit emergency levy for March election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for March election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to election).

Levy University

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. (38 days after the election) — RC 3517.10(A)(2).

Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date for the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.

January 2020

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 11 | Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office | Warrensville Heights |
| 11 | Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office | Miamisburg |
| 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). | |
| 17 | Fleet Maintenance Planning Workshop..... | Columbus |
| 20 | Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30. | |
| 25 | Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office | Dublin |
| 25 | Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office | Perrysburg |
| 31 | Deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; deadline for secondary schools to provide information about College Credit Plus to all students enrolled in grades six through 11 — RC 3365.04(A). | |