Reminder to districts: Add new board members to OSBA rosters
School board elections were in November, which means districts will be welcoming new members to their boards of education in January. To enable these new board members to take advantage of all of OSBA’s information and resources, it is very important for districts to add their names and contact information to their OSBA rosters. Districts also should update their rosters whenever there is a change in key personnel. This will help ensure that the right information is getting to the right person in a timely fashion. To make changes, a district’s roster designee can log in to his or her account on the OSBA website. Once logged in, click on the “My Account” link at the top right of the page. Next, click on “My District,” then click on “Roster.” Make the changes, then click “Submit.”

Deadline for scheduling 2020 organizational meeting is drawing near
School boards must set the date of their January organizational meeting by Dec. 31. OSBA’s legal division gets a lot of calls this time of year as school boards prepare for these meetings, and the association offers a number of resources to help board members plan and conduct them. Some quick reminders for board members and administrators are available at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/88178. Another resource is posted at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/49649. For further questions on organizational meetings, call OSBA’s legal hotline at (855) OSBA-LAW.

Study: Youth mental health problems rising; substance abuse declining
Mental Health America has released its 2020 State of Mental Health in America report. It found that youth mental health is worsening, with the prevalence of past-year major depressive episodes on the rise. The study estimates that over 2 million 12- to 17-year old children suffered severe impairment with these episodes. The study also shows there still is an unmet need for mental health treatment among youth and adults. Only 28.2% of youth suffering major depressive episodes were receiving some consistent treatment, and over 10 million adults had unmet needs for mental health care. One bright spot in the report was that substance abuse has decreased in both youth and adults. Access the full report, which includes recommendations for improving mental health services, at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/12246.

Planning continues for free mental health/SEL summit
OSBA and a coalition of education groups, mental health organizations and state and community agencies are finalizing the agenda for the Mental Health and Social-Emotional Learning Summit. The free event is set for Feb. 25 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. One of the groups involved is Mental Health America, whose
recent study is mentioned on page 1. The summit is designed for school board members, administrators, educators, counselors, psychologists, support staff, mental health professionals and parent leaders. The full-day event will feature keynote speakers, 24 breakout sessions and a Resource Fair staffed by agencies that provide mental health and social-emotional (SEL) services and programs. It will be based on the concept of last year’s highly successful School Security and Safety Solutions Summit organized by OSBA and numerous other groups. For agenda updates and to register, visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/mental-health-summit](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/mental-health-summit).

OSBA Award of Achievement applications due next month
The deadline to submit applications for the OSBA Award of Achievement and Master Board Member award is Jan. 17.

Applications can be downloaded at [http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085](http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085). More information on the program also is available at that link and on page 5. Award winners will be notified after their application information is verified. The awards will be presented at the spring region conferences. For questions, contact Gwen Samet at (614) 540-4000 or gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org.

NSBA conference discount deadline is Jan. 10
The National School Boards Association Annual Conference early registration discount deadline is Jan. 10. The 80th annual event is set for April 3-6 in Chicago. For more information, visit [www.nsba.org/conference](http://www.nsba.org/conference).

OSBA online
Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org) to download an OSBA resource kit filled with ideas for recognizing board members. For details on the program, contact Angela Penquite at (614) 540-4000 or apenquite@ohioschoolboards.org.

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Every November, Bexley City upholds a tradition that dates back more than 70 years. During the Harvest Festival, teams from each school hold carnivals, sports competitions, dances and auctions to raise money for the Charity Newsies, a local charity.

For more than 100 years, Charity Newsies has provided area students in need with new school clothes, winter coats, hats and gloves to ensure they are comfortable and confident in school.

“I think it’s great that the whole school is able to come together and raise money for something,” Bexley High School sophomore Drew Waterman told a local newspaper.

The district raised about $13,000 this year, exceeding expectations, according to Charity Newsies.

Source: The Columbus Dispatch
OSBA executive searches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Superintendent</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading Community City</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000</td>
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</table>

Board changes
Lima City appointed Deanna A. Reynolds-Griffin to the board effective Dec. 5. She replaced Ella L. Johnson, who resigned. Reynoldsburg City board member Joseph Begeny resigned effective Dec. 2 due to being elected Reynoldsburg mayor.

Administrative changes
Superintendents
Bright Local (Highland) hired Terry Fouch as superintendent effective immediately. He replaced Ted C. Downing, who passed away Sept. 15. Highland Local (Morrow) hired Assistant Superintendent Nathan Huffman as superintendent effective Nov. 15. He replaced Daniel Freund, who retired effective Nov. 15. Mount Gilead EV hired Larry Zimmerman as interim superintendent effective Dec. 2. He replaced Jeff Thompson.

Treasurers
Avon Local (Lorain) hired Larry Hanneman as interim treasurer effective Dec. 31. He will replace Katie Henes, who announced her resignation effective Dec. 31.

Sympathies
Former Canton City Board of Education member George Edward Mullane died Nov. 21. He was 88. Former Crestview Local (Richland) Treasurer Jenevieve Marie Oswalt died Nov. 27. She was 92. Former Cuyahoga Falls City Interim Superintendent John K. Woods died Nov. 18. He was 85.

Editor’s note
Job postings must be received six weeks before the application deadline to ensure timely publication. Thank you for your cooperation.
The OSBA Board of Trustees approved changes to committee charters, updates to OSBA membership categories and the association’s 2020 preliminary budget at its Nov. 10 meeting. Held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center a few hours prior to the first learning sessions at the OSBA Capital Conference, the meeting also included updates on the association’s strategic plan, Visionary Initiatives for Strategic Action (VISA), and resolutions honoring the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and Thomas J. Gentzel, executive director and chief executive officer of the National School Boards Association (NSBA).

OSBA Chief Executive Officer Rick Lewis and Director of Board and Management Services Cheryl W. Ryan briefed trustees on a new cloud-based superintendent search software created by OSBA’s technology team to facilitate administrator searches.

“The software, Revelus, has been custom built for superintendent and treasurer searches,” Ryan said. “It allows applicants to create a portfolio and apply for a position online. The OSBA search consultant and school board conducting the search can review materials electronically and remotely rather than use paper files.”

“This new software allows OSBA to branch out into a new area while remaining focused on our core mission,” Lewis said. “We’re excited about the possibilities to expand our search capabilities to help school districts ensure they have the best staff possible.”

Trustees approved a change to membership categories to clarify their position on how to best serve community schools and STEM and STEAM schools sponsored by OSBA-member districts and other organizations that have as their purpose the provision of services or programs that benefit public school board members in the delivery of education to the students of Ohio.

“The creation of a member affiliates membership category clarifies the participation of community or STEAM schools that are sponsored by OSBA-member districts and education-related organizations,” OSBA Chief Legal Counsel Sara C. Clark said. “It allows OSBA to offer these schools and groups programs and services, but it is a nonvoting membership and member affiliates cannot hold an office in the association.”

The member affiliate category is also available to county boards of developmental disabilities. Examples of eligible organizations include public school district booster groups, the State Board of Education and associations such as the Ohio Library Council.

“Helping booster groups and other education-related organizations achieve their goals and objectives is a direct benefit to OSBA members,” Clark said.

OSBA President John W. Halkias, Plain Local (Stark), and Clark presented the report from the 2019 Governance Review Committee, which was created to recommend a process for reviewing OSBA’s regional and statewide governance structure and identifying ways to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of OSBA’s leaders. The committee created a five-year process that includes surveys of the regional executive committees and Board of Trustees, an independent third-party review and action items presented to OSBA membership for input, as appropriate. The trustees approved the governance review process as well as charter

Continued on page 5
What have you done as a board member to improve your leadership skills over the last two to three years? Most likely you have attended OSBA workshops, an ESC Leadership Academy, the Board Leadership Institute and the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show, among many other opportunities. You also may have served on an OSBA committee, career center governing board or as your board’s legislative liaison. Perhaps you’ve been so busy that you don’t even realize how involved you’ve been in your board and association’s activities.

Now is the time to review everything you’ve done to strengthen your public office leadership skills. Training and dedication to board service is invaluable to your district and community. It shows that you care about your role and want to serve to the best of your abilities.

To honor school board members who go above and beyond, OSBA provides an opportunity to be recognized for their commitment through the OSBA Award of Achievement. This is a distinctive award available only to Ohio school board members who earn 100 credits within a two-year period. Even if you believe you don’t need recognition for the work that you do, keep in mind the award signifies to your district educators, parents, students and community that you have a sincere interest in fulfilling your role as a board member.
Board Member 101:
Survival kit for your first 90 days in office

Newly elected to your school board? This weekend academy for new board members will give you the tools you need to excel in the first 90 days.

School boardmanship is more complex and demanding than ever. High-quality board member education, designed specifically for newly elected board members, can help you become a more effective educational leader in your community.

By focusing on your first 90 days in office, experienced OSBA staff will provide direction as you start your boardmanship journey. Learn about the important aspects of board work, frequently asked legal questions, how board policies help you govern your district and how to be an effective advocate for your students. Discover the resources OSBA has to help you in your first year and beyond.

Details
These academies are offered over two weekends in four locations: Jan. 11-12 at the Cleveland Marriott East, Warrensville Heights, or Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg; and Jan. 25-26 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg, or Marriott Columbus Northwest, Dublin.

Cost
$285, which includes breakfast and lunch each day, workshop materials and the book, “Boardmanship.”

Agenda

**Saturday**
8 a.m. Registration and breakfast (provided)
9 a.m. Welcome and overview
9:15 a.m. OSBA regional map and activities: Introducing the regional manager
9:45 a.m. Boardmanship: What it’s really all about
10:45 a.m. Boardmanship: Conduct and culture
11:45 a.m. Lunch (provided)
12:30 p.m. Legal resources, issues and other hot topics
3 p.m. Adjourn

**Sunday**
8:30 a.m. Breakfast (provided)
9 a.m. Why legislation and advocacy are so important
11 a.m. Break
11:15 a.m. The OSBA website and your OSBA staff liaison: Your best resources
11:45 a.m. Lunch (provided)
12:30 p.m. Keeping new board members on the right path
1:15 p.m. Governing through policy: A framework for success
3:15 p.m. District goal setting: How else do you know where you’re going?
3:45 p.m. Questions/adjourn

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

This workshop is Stop 1 in the 2020 New Board Member Passport. The passport includes six workshops that introduce new board members to topics that are important in their first year. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/nbmpassport](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/nbmpassport) to learn more.
Professional development for veteran board members and board officers

Veteran board members and board officers serve critical leadership roles in their districts. The hits never quit coming and, unfortunately, too many veteran board members believe on-the-job training is all they need to responsibly lead the board. Whether you are in your fourth year or your 14th, staying current is crucial to you and a benefit to your district.

This workshop, created with board officers and veteran board members in mind and led by experienced OSBA staff, will present the tools you need to improve your boardmanship skills and effectively lead your district.

Topics to be covered include legal duties and responsibilities; new board policies; practical parliamentary procedure; new transportation mandates; leading meetings and building team relationships; working with the media; and effective facilitation.

Details
This workshop is offered over two weekends at four locations:
Feb. 1 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Akron or Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg
Feb. 8 at the OSBA office in Columbus or Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay

Cost
$195, which includes breakfast and lunch, workshop materials and the “Board Officers’ Guidebook.”

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

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**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION**

Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

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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.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Implementing a preventive maintenance program</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Lunch (provided)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Using vehicle diagnostics software as a management tool</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
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</table>

To register

Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or email Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.
award — a lifetime distinction — is another OSBA recognition. A board member is eligible to receive this award if he or she earns 300 credits over a four year-period.

**How do I apply?**
Download an application at [http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085](http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085). Complete it, and email it to the author at gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org or fax it to (614) 540-4100. The application includes a list of credits that board members can earn for formal in-service training like attendance at workshops and the OSBA Capital Conference as well as special activities, such as serving on a committee or career center board of education.

**When is the deadline?**
The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 17.

**How do I access a record of my OSBA activities?**
OSBA makes it easy to quickly review your records. Confirm the OSBA committees you’ve served on and workshops attended by visiting the OSBA website at [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org). Click “Log in to your account,” and enter your login information. Next click on “My Account” at the top right of the page to see a list of workshops attended, upcoming training and current and past committees and roles.

**What if I don’t remember my password?**
Click on “Reset your password.” An email with a link will be sent to your email address on file. Click on the link, and you will be directed to reset your password. If you don’t know your username, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

**Questions?**
Contact the author at gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org or (614) 540-4000.

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**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

by Will Schwartz, lobbyist

**Report card panel to issue report without recommendations**

A committee tasked with studying and issuing recommendations on the state report card is expected to release its report soon. The committee’s charge was to provide recommendations on several items, but rather than making specific recommendations about the report card, the panel’s final report is expected to merely restate the testimony it received. No formal recommendations are expected to be issued.

Created by House Bill 166, the Report Card Study Committee consisted of Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria; Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering); Sen. Louis W. Blessing III (R-Colerain Township); Sen. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo); Rep. Don Jones (R-Freeport); Rep. Tracy M. Richardson (R-Marysville); Rep. Lisa A. Sobecki (D-Toledo); Dr. Stephanie Starcher, superintendent, Fort Frye Local (Washington); Dr. Cameron Ryba, superintendent, Strongsville City; and Marlon Styles Jr., superintendent, Middletown City.

Over the course of four weeks, the panel hosted three meetings and heard testimony from 10 groups. During the first meeting, the Ohio Department of Education’s Chris Woolard provided an overview and explanation of the state report card as well as the federal and state requirements for Ohio’s accountability system.

The second meeting devoted

*Continued on page 7*
most of its time to the recommendations of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, which Ryba presented. Laura Kohler, president of the State Board of Education, and DeMaria jointly presented the State Board’s recommendations that were compiled in 2018 by a 17-member workgroup. Others offering input included Jeff Wensing, vice president, Ohio Education Association; Dr. Anthony R. Podojil, executive director, Ohio Alliance for High Quality Education; Lisa Gray, president, Ohio Excels; Darold Johnson, legislative director, Ohio Federation of Teachers; and Chad Aldis, vice president, Thomas B. Fordham Institute.

The third meeting heard testimony from Ann Sheldon, executive director, Ohio Association for Gifted Children, and Ross May with Canton City and Chad Henderly with Toledo City, both of whom offered recommendations created by a workgroup that convened as part of the OSBA Urban Network.

Recommendations presented to the panel on how to calculate each graded measure of the report card included:

- eliminating the A-F rating system;
- maintaining the A-F rating system;
- using a three-measure rating scale of Exceeds, Meets, Does Not Meet;
- using a federally compliant dashboard system;
- using a four-point scale that reports both scores and growth on individual components.

Recommendations on how to assign a grade to each graded measure, including score ranges, included:

- requiring a triennial review, analysis and evaluation of cut scores;
- prohibiting annual revisions to cut scores;
- requiring grading methodologies be recommended by the State Board of Education or Ohio Department of Education and approved by the Ohio General Assembly.

Recommendations on how to weight the measures for school buildings that do not have all measures included maintaining the current Improving At-Risk K-3 Readers component solely for buildings that serve students in kindergarten through second grade.

Recommendations on which calculations should be prescribed in statute and which should be prescribed in administrative rule included:

- requiring grading methodologies be recommended by the State Board of Education or Ohio Department of Education and approved by the Ohio General Assembly;
- requiring a triennial review, analysis and evaluation of cut scores;
- requiring a triennial review, analysis and evaluation of cut scores;
- requiring grading methodologies be recommended by the State Board of Education or Ohio Department of Education and approved by the Ohio General Assembly.

Recommendations on what information families and communities want to see on the report card included:

- including comparative data to provide an opportunity to compare one school’s performance against a similar school;
- including trend arrows, indicating positive, negative or flat performance over the previous three years;
- including engagement with support services offered by schools, including nurses, counselors, social workers, art and music programs, physical education programs and wraparound services;
- including student enrichment opportunities provided beyond the traditional school experience, including access to health and wellness programs, counseling and mental health services and interventions necessary to overcome non-academic barriers;
- including non-test measures such as advanced coursework completion, the percentage of educators teaching within their field and access to full-day kindergarten.

No recommendations were presented to the panel on what additional items can be used for bonus points in the Prepared For Success component. However, multiple groups recommended expanding the number of achievements tied to college, career and life readiness within the Prepared for Success component.

Other recommendations included:

- Eliminating the Indicators Met portion of the Achievement component. This item shows how many students score proficient on state tests in each grade and subject.

Continued on page 8
Sixty-three school districts, 436 schools and 12 career-technical planning districts received recognition for achieving high performance, outstanding progress and momentum for Ohio students. The State Board of Education and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria announced the honors Dec. 9.

This year, four districts and 50 schools earned the All A Award by recording straight A’s on the Ohio School Report Card. The districts are Chagrin Falls EV, Madeira City, Rocky River City and Solon City.

“The students, teachers, administrators and staff honored today are shining examples to peers and colleagues around Ohio,” State Board of Education President Laura Kohler said.

The state also honors schools and districts that earn an overall A on the report card with the Overall A Award. Twenty-seven districts and 209 schools received this recognition.

This is the first year career-technical planning districts received an overall grade on their report card, and 12 of them received the Overall A Award.

Complete lists of districts and schools across Ohio that have earned the Overall A Award, All A Award or Momentum Award are available at [http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/96164](http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/96164).

Source: Ohio Department of Education

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**Legislative Report, continued from page 7**

- Revising the grade scale for the Achievement component.
- Eliminating the requirement to assign a zero grade for a student who does not take a state test.
- Allowing grades on Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams in certain subjects to be used for state report card ratings.

Recommendations for the Progress component included:
- using one year of data instead of three years to calculate the value-added measures and Progress component grades;
- eliminating the current law provision that prohibits assigning an A grade in value-added unless it also has a grade of C or better in all specified student subgroup areas;
- using a multitierted scoring system for each subgroup for the Gap Closing component;
- assigning points for the Gap Closing component on a four-point scale;
- providing information for students in the four- and five-year graduation cohorts who did not graduate on time but are still receiving services and who dropped out of school;
- providing information on mobility rates for graduation purposes;
- creating a four-point scale that grades the measure on graduation rate and the rate’s growth, ninth-grade course passage, post-school outcomes and advanced coursework participation;
- reporting only the percentage of students who are promoted to the fourth grade as part of the state’s third-grade reading guarantee;
- eliminating the Prepared For Success component;
- adding items like military readiness and college, career and life preparedness;
- reporting the completion of the newly created graduation seals.

*Editor’s note: Information in this article was current as of Dec. 16, 2019.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
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<td>Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date for the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Central Region executive committee meeting.................................................Columbus</td>
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<td>11-12</td>
<td>Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office .....................Warrensville Heights</td>
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<td>11-12</td>
<td>Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office .....................Miamisburg</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>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).</td>
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<td>Fleet Maintenance Planning Workshop....................................................................Columbus</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>25-26</td>
<td>Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office .....................Dublin</td>
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<td>25-26</td>
<td>Board Member 101: Survival kit for your first 90 days in office .....................Perrysburg</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>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); annual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures from the last day reflected in the previous report through Dec. 31, 2019 — RC 3517.10(A)(3).</td>
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<td>Board Member 201: Mastering your board leadership skills.................................Miamisburg</td>
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<td>OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Driver records, background checks and compliance records........................................Columbus</td>
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<td>Board Member 201: Mastering your board leadership skills....................................Logan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Board Member 201: Mastering your board leadership skills.........................................Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Last day to take action and deliver written notice of nonrenewal of superintendent’s contract — RC 3319.01; last day to take action on and deliver written notice of nonrenewal of treasurer’s contract — RC 3313.22; last day to publish joint statement describing how district’s business advisory council has fulfilled its responsibilities — RC 3313.821.</td>
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<td>OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Emergency transportation planning........................................Columbus</td>
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<td>OSBA Master of Transportation Administration Program: Driver records, background checks and compliance records........................................Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>A deep dive into alternative funding resources .................................................Columbus</td>
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