



Ohio School Boards Association Capital Conference and Trade Show

November 13 – 16, 2011

Greater Columbus Convention Center
Columbus, Ohio

Boardmanship 101 – how to excel

Board development

Monday, November 14, 2011

9:00 a.m.

C 213–215

Cheryl Ryan, deputy director of school board services, OSBA

Board Leadership Institute

OSBA's Board Leadership Institute (BLI) is a two-day intensive conference specifically designed for and by board members. The conference features multiple learning tracks covering current, important educational topics presented by nationally renowned speakers and education experts.

The 2012 BLI will take place on April 13-14 at the Hilton Polaris in Columbus. Twenty points will be awarded for attendance and completion of the institute, which may be applied toward receiving OSBA's Award of Achievement and Master Board Member Award.

Contact Rob Delane at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for further information.

Please complete an online conference evaluation either during or after the event at
<http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/CC11Evaluation>

OSBA Mission

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

Ohio School Boards Association

8050 North High Street, Suite 100
Columbus OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 fax (614) 540-4100
www.osba-ohio.org

**Boardmanship 101:
How to excel**

**Or....
Trying to be all things
to all people
all the time!**

Cheryl W. Ryan, Deputy Director, OSBA
Capital Conference 2011, November 14

Deep Thoughts...

**ROD PAIGE,
US Secretary
Of Education
And
2001 National
Superintendent
of the Year**

"The quality of the board is the strongest determinant of school effectiveness. If the board is **functioning well, is organized, and has a clear vision**, you have a prayer. If not, you have no chance."

A board that is "functioning well"

The board understands its role as the governing body of the district.

The board works together to hire, retain, and evaluate the superintendent and treasurer.

The board uses appropriate and professional processes to set meeting agendas and conduct those meetings.

A board that "is organized"

- Board members understand, utilize and promote the chain of command throughout the district.
- The board delegates authority through policies and structure.
- The board establishes goals and priorities for the district.
- The board has a president who understands his or her role in this capacity.

A board that "has a clear vision"

- The board determines the "what" for the district, not the "how".
- The board creates a vision for the district and guides investment and buy-in toward achieving it.
- The board works together to communicate consistently and constantly with all stake-holders.
- Always remember the student achievement question!

**TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS
TO ALL PEOPLE
ALL THE TIME!**

Voting "YES" is a rubber stamp.

Voting "NO" creates controversy.

Deep Thoughts...

Unknown

□ "The only way to **survive individually** is to **think and act cooperatively.**"

Survive Individually

- A board member's individual opinions carry weight as part of the board's conversation, but not outside the voice of the board as a whole.
- Each board member, and staff member, deserves to be treated directly, honestly, respectfully, professionally.
- You've been elected because....

Think and act cooperatively

- The board's vote is the only one that counts
- Allow for and engage in healthy debate and discussion
 - Divide the workload
- Know your own (and learn about others') passions

TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS
TO ALL PEOPLE
ALL THE TIME!

Visiting school is snooping.

Failing to shows lack of interest.

Deep Thoughts...

Theodore
Roosevelt

- "The most effective executive board is one that **hires good people...**and then has the good sense to **stand back and watch them do their work.**"

Hire good people

- Two people report directly to the board: the superintendent and the treasurer.
- All other staff within the district are recommended for hire by the superintendent, and approved by the board.
- The board should ensure that processes to hire and retain the best staff at all levels are followed.

Watch them do their work!

- The board should evaluate the performance of superintendent and treasurer, and set objective goals for improvement.
- The board should ensure that all other staff in the district are evaluated similarly.
- The board should ask for and receive progress reports and program evaluations in a variety of ways throughout the year.

TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE ALL THE TIME!

Hiring or firing a principal or coach is micro-management.

Failing to say you accept mediocrity.

Deep Thoughts...

Edward
R.
Morrow

- "To be persuasive we must be believable; to be believable we **must be credible**; to be credible we must be truthful."

We must be credible...

- Obey local, state, and federal laws pertaining to school district operations.
- Understand and respect law and policy around the Open Meetings Act and the Sunshine Law.
- Respect the use and confidentiality of executive session.
- Be consistent and fair.

TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE ALL THE TIME!

Refusing to listen to others is narrow-minded.

Changing your mind is wishy-washy.

Deep Thoughts...

Ralph
Lauren

- "A leader has the vision and conviction that a **dream can be achieved**. He **inspires the power and energy** to get it done."

A dream can be achieved...

- Recognize and celebrate student and staff achievements in as many ways as possible.
- Participate in grassroots lobbying.
- Promote parent and family involvement.
- Explore new business and community partnerships.

Inspires the power and energy

- Be active and engaged; you are *the example* for all other stakeholders in your district.
- Work hard to stay positive, even when it's really tough.

TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS
TO ALL PEOPLE
ALL THE TIME!

You must make decisions based on the needs of all students.

There will be pressure to "make an exception".

A final deep thought...

Stephen
R.
Covey

□ **"Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall."**

Thank you!

Cheryl W. Ryan
cryan@ohioschoolboards.org
614-540-4000 ext. 289
