

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



It's time to get ready for School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month in Ohio. OSBA created a Web-based resource kit to help districts recognize their board members. The kit, posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/60187>, includes tips for honoring board members and many other resources. Districts are urged to submit articles and photos of their activities to OSBA, which will feature them online and in the *Journal* magazine. OSBA also will send each district personalized certificates to present to board members. Submit articles and photos to **Crystal Davis Hutchins** at cdavishutchins@ohioschoolboards.org or 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235. You also can submit materials online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/forms/sbrm.php.

Thousands take part in 57th annual Capital Conference

Nearly 10,000 school district leaders, staff, students and guests celebrated four days of learning, sharing and fellowship in Columbus last month at the 57th annual OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show. Attendance at the Nov. 11-14 education convention — the nation's second-largest — was 9,422. In addition to hundreds of learning sessions, the conference featured world-class keynote presenters and the largest education trade exhibition in the U.S. See the next issue of the OSBA *Journal* for complete coverage. Next year's conference is set for Nov. 10-13.

Five school board members earn OSBA's highest honor

OSBA recognized members of the 2012 All-Ohio School Board during last month's Capital Conference. The recognition is the association's most prestigious honor. Earning the distinction were: **Nancy Decker, Springfield Local (Lucas); Jaynie Lambert, Fairbanks Local (Union) and Tolles Career & Technical Center; Sue Steele, Goshen Local (Clermont) and Great Oaks ITCD; Doug G. Stuart, Rittman EV and Wayne County Schools Career Center; and W. Bryce Watt, Muskingum Valley ESC.**

Franklin City's Feltner chosen as 2013 OSBA president-elect

The OSBA Delegate Assembly elected **Jo Ann W. Feltner, Franklin City**, as OSBA's 2013 president-elect during its annual business meeting at the November Capital Conference. A 15-year board member, she will become OSBA president in 2014, following her term as president-elect. Current president-elect **Charlie Wilson, Worthington City**, becomes president on Jan. 1, 2013.

Ohio tops most states in using data to boost student achievement

Ohio is one of the nation's top 10 states in using data to improve student achievement, according to a national report released last month by the Data Quality

Dec. 10, 2012

Volume 43 Issue 22

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Route workshop information to:

- Administrative Assistants
- Administrators
- Assistant treasurers
- Principals

Campaign (DQC). Ohio met eight of the 10 criteria DQC uses to assess states' work in using data systems to support teaching and learning. The assessments put a strong focus on efforts that link key data on K-12, higher education and the workforce, as well as the extent to which states make that data public and use it in student-level progress reports. DQC is a Washington-based nonprofit, nonpartisan, national advocacy group that supports state policymakers and other leaders in developing and effectively using statewide longitudinal data systems. To learn more, visit www.dataqualitycampaign.org.

STEM advocate receives OSBA President's Award

Dr. Vincent Adams, site director at the U.S. Department of Energy's Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, is the 2012 OSBA President's Award winner. The award honors

Springfield students make commitment to community service

More than 100 **Springfield Local (Lucas)** students took advantage of a day off school to volunteer in their community.

Classes were canceled at Springfield High School for a teacher in-service day in November. Students used the chance to help put up holiday decorations at a local nursing home and complete other volunteer work. The effort was coordinated by Students In Action, a student-led group that encourages community service.

"Our main objective is to help out in the community," student **Azaree Whitehead** told a local newspaper.

The group said nearly a quarter of all students enrolled at the high school have volunteered for community service this school year, and the goal is to log 15,000 hours of total volunteer work.

Source: *Toledo Blade*

those who have had a tremendous impact on public education. OSBA President **Sharon E. Manson, Waverly City and Pike County Career Technology Center**, presented Adams with the award last month during the Capital Conference. He was recognized for his commitment to education,

including his role in the annual Science Alliance, a science fair that draws nearly 900 high school students and educators to the southern Ohio diffusion plant each year. The science fair focuses on topics related to STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 North High Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 — (800) 589-OSBA
fax: (614) 540-4100 • www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA President: **Sharon E. Manson, Waverly City and Pike County Career Technology Center**

OSBA Executive Director: **Richard Lewis, CAE**

Editor: **Crystal Davis Hutchins**, deputy director of communication services

Managing editor: **Gary Motz**, editorial manager

Assistant editor, layout and design: **Angela Penquite**, communication design manager

Assistant editor: **Bryan Bullock**, communication coordinator

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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 and creative solutions.

This month in OSBA history

On Dec. 31, 1969, OSBA's first executive director retired.

Dr. **Lewis E. Harris** had led the association since its founding in 1955. The OSBA Board of Trustees named Dr. **Willard "Bill" Fox**, a Bowling Green State University professor, as Harris' successor.

OSBA online

• www.ohioschoolboards.org

Handouts from many of the breakout sessions and other workshops at the 2012 OSBA Capital Conference are posted online at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/30928>.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

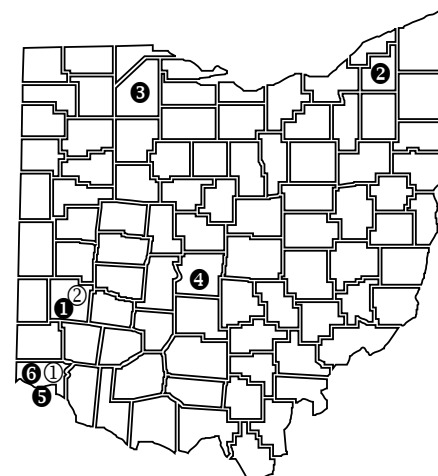
OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
① Oakwood City	Dec. 20	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Chardon Local (Geauga)	Dec. 14	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
③ Rossford EV	Jan. 4	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
④ Whitehall City	Jan. 16	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑤ Finneytown Local (Hamilton)	Feb. 8	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑥ Winton Woods City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
① Lockland Local (Hamilton)	Jan. 4	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Dayton City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



① = Superintendent
① = Treasurer

Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Ripley Union Lewis Huntington Local (Brown)	Jan. 17	James V. Frazier, superintendent, Brown County ESC, (937) 378-6118
Assistant superintendent	Reynoldsburg City	until filled	Cliff Hetzel, personnel/operations, (614) 501-1027

Board changes

Beaver Local (Columbiana) Board of Education member **Brian McKenzie** announced his resignation effective Oct. 18. The board appointed **Pat O'Hara** to the board effective Oct. 29 to replace McKenzie. The board appointed **Greg Eisenhart** to the board effective Oct. 9 to replace **Brad Buchhelt**, who resigned in September. ●●● **Bucyrus City** appointed **Bradley Murtiff** to the board effective Oct. 25. He replaced **Tony Lipscomb**, who resigned. ●●● **Clermont Northeastern Local (Clermont)** Board of Education member **Emily McCarthy** announced her resignation effective Nov. 5. ●●● **Lorain County ESC** appointed **Lois Von Gunten** to the board effective Oct. 16. She replaced **Maureen Walsh**, who resigned. ●●● **Triad Local (Champaign)** Board of Education member **Annette Rittenhouse** announced her resignation effective Dec. 31. ●●● **Vermilion Local (Erie)** Board of Education member **Tim Rini** announced his resignation effective Oct. 18.

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

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Antwerp Local (Paulding) Superintendent **Mark Hartman** announced his resignation effective immediately. ●●● **Canal Winchester Local (Franklin)** hired **James Sotlar** as superintendent

effective Jan. 1. He replaces Dr. **Kimberley Rae Miller-Smith**, who is retiring effective Dec. 31. ●●● **Canton City** hired Assistant Superintendent **Adrian E. Allison** as interim superintendent effective Nov. 4. He replaced **John Christopher Smith**, who passed away Nov. 2. ●●● **Fostoria City** hired **Andrew Sprang** as superintendent effective Jan. 1. He will replace **Steven Pritts**, who is retiring. Sprang currently is the district's middle school principal. ●●● **Lincolnview Local (Van Wert)** hired **Jeffrey T. Snyder** as superintendent effective Jan. 2. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Douglas E. Karst**. Snyder is currently a high school principal at **Otsego Local (Wood)**. ●●● **Marion City** Superintendent Dr. **James S. Barney** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Mississinawa Valley Local (Darke)** Superintendent Dr. **Lisa J. Wendel** announced her retirement effective June 30. ●●● **North Ridgeville City** Superintendent **Larry Brown** announced his resignation effective Jan. 1. He has taken the superintendent position at **Wauseon EV**. ●●● **Ridgewood Local (Coshocton)** hired **William Zanders** as interim superintendent effective Nov. 1. He replaced Interim Superintendent **Debbie Kapp-Salupo**. ●●● **Vandalia-Butler City** Superintendent Dr. **Christy Donnelly** announced her retirement effective June 30. ●●● **Winton Woods City** Superintendent Dr. **Camille A. Nasbe** announced her retirement effective Dec. 31. The district hired **James Smith** as interim superintendent effective Nov. 1.

Treasurers

Fostoria City hired **Norman Eichert** as treasurer effective Dec. 3. He replaced Interim Treasurer **Pamela Barber**. ●●● **Jefferson Area Local (Ashtabula)** Treasurer **Bonnie S. Brockway** announced her resignation effective Feb. 1. ●●● **New Knoxville Local (Auglaize)** hired **Catherine Doseck** as treasurer effective Feb. 1. She will serve as assistant treasurer in December and January, and replaces **Marcia Wierwille**, who is retiring. ●●● **Oberlin City** Treasurer **Diane Wolf** announced her retirement effective Dec. 31. ●●● **Salem City** hired **James Wilson** as treasurer effective Dec. 1. He replaced Interim Treasurer **A. Michael Bichsel**. Wilson was the treasurer at **Liberty Local (Trumbull)**. ●●● **Strongsville City** hired **Debbie Herrmann** as treasurer effective Dec. 1. She replaced Interim Treasurer **Denise J. Holcomb**. Herrmann previously was the treasurer at **Cuyahoga Heights Local (Cuyahoga)**.

Sympathies

Former **Belpre City** Board of Education member **Carolyn Sue Pratt Wilcoxon** died Nov. 9. She was 67. ●●● Former **Canal Winchester Local (Franklin)** Board of Education member **Harold L. Schacht** died Nov. 13. He was 85. ●●● **Canton City** Superintendent **John Christopher Smith** died Nov. 2. He was 51. ●●● **Mary E. Sturgeon**, a member of the former **Columbiana County** Board of Education, died Nov. 16. She was 91. ●●● Former **Columbus City** Board of Education member **David D. Hamlar Sr.** died Oct. 25. He was 88. ●●● **Donald Lewis McGhee Sr.**, a member of the former **Fairhaven** Board of Education, died Oct. 20. He was 89. ●●● **Howard Post**, superintendent at the former **Greene County** Schools, died Nov. 13. He was 76. ●●● **Richard Doughman**, a member of the former **Kings Mills** Board of Education and treasurer at the former **South Lebanon** School District, died Nov. 12. He was 90. ●●● Former **Lima City** Treasurer **Bettie J. Binkley** died Oct. 28. She was 90. ●●● Former **Marietta City** Board of Education member **Charlie Meredith Ballard** died Oct. 31. He was 85. ●●● Former **McComb Local (Hancock)** Board of Education member **Robert Howard Shafer** died Nov. 13. He was 87. ●●● Former **Sandusky City** Superintendent **Robert L. Smith** died Oct. 29. He was 82. ●●● **Roy N. "Buck" Hertenstein Jr.**, a member of the former **Scioto Valley** Board of Education in Ross County, died Nov. 19. He was 90. ●●● Former **St. Bernard-Elmwood Place City** Assistant Superintendent **Larry E. Irwin** died Nov. 16. He was 72. ●●● **Frank E. Hanson Jr.**, a member of the former **Stow** Board of Education, died Nov. 9. He was

Continued on page 5

Free webinar: **What can PFR Inc. do for you?**

Learn about the core services PFR Inc. can provide your school district, including using data to understanding your district's financial reality; how to use powerful financial software; and training to help board members, administrators and the community understand financial concepts.

This free, informative webinar will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. To register, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284 or (800) 589-OSBA, or visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.

SchoolComp Safety Seminar

Nonviolent responses to difficult people



Friday, Dec. 14
OSBA office, Columbus

Cost: \$145
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This annual safety seminar will focus on nonviolent responses to difficult people and allow employers to meet the two-hour Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation safety training requirement. The training will combine presentations with practical scenarios and techniques to effectively deal with personal confrontations and maintain a personal defense strategy. Topics include an overview of nonviolent strategies; a review of strategies for conflict resolution; recognizing crisis behaviors; and practical skills to cope with safety issues.

Agenda

- 8:30 a.m. Registration**
- 9 a.m. Introduction to nonviolent strategies**
Statistical review of workplace violence issues, locations where you are most vulnerable and methods to minimize potential violence.
- 10:10 a.m. Strategies for prevention rather than reaction; conflict resolution; and verbal and nonverbal communication**
Review the main causes of conflict, what escalates conflicts, six steps to conflict resolution, communication and listening skills, and nonverbal signs.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1 p.m. Recognizing and identifying crisis behaviors**
Learn the signs of anger; common triggers to anger; levels of anger; appropriate interventions for each level of anger; and self-protection tips.
- 3 p.m. Practical skills to cope with personal fears, safety issues and physical interventions**
Learn about fear and the panic/fear relationship; the body's reactions to fear; and methods to defuse potential violence. Rehearse and practice various personal safety techniques, such as blocking and escaping from grabs, bites and hair pulls.

The seminar will be led by **William D. Healy** and **Susan Rance-Locke**. Healy is a career law enforcement officer who was a member of the law enforcement community for more than 29 years. He was a member of the Ohio State Highway Patrol for nearly 25 years, served as a lieutenant at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy for more than five years and was in charge of all Highway Patrol recruit and in-service training programs.

A career law enforcement officer who served with the Ohio State Highway Patrol for more than 28 years prior to her retirement in 2010, Rance-Locke was the employee development commander in the Office of Training; director of administration at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy; an investigator for the internal affairs section; labor relations officer in the HRM section; academy instructor; and trooper assigned to the Chardon Highway Patrol Post.

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.

New board members: Trying to maneuver the maze of boardmanship? Find your way at the New Board Member Workshop



- **Designed for new board members**
- **Intensive, one-day workshop**
- **Plenty of networking opportunities**
- **Saturday, Jan. 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m**
- **OSBA office, Columbus**

School boardmanship is more complex and demanding than ever. To carry out their leadership duties effectively, new school board members must move from the role of an involved citizen to that of a responsible elected official as soon as possible. High-quality board member education, designed specifically for newly elected board members, can help you become a more effective educational leader in your community.

This intensive workshop will focus on:

- the world of boardmanship
- communicating effectively
- board policy 101
- how Ohio schools are funded
- collective bargaining and employee relations issues
- the Sunshine Law and executive sessions

Cost for the workshop is \$160 per board member. Four books are included with workshop tuition: *Boardmanship*, *Board-Treasurer Partnership*, *Board-Superintendent Partnership* and *Board-Legislature Partnership*.

To register, call (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA or register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.

Become a better board leader

Attend the Board Presidents Workshop

Two dates and four locations to choose from:

- **Saturday, Jan. 26, at the OSBA office in Columbus or Owens Community College in Findlay**
- **Saturday, Feb. 2, at the Dayton Marriott in Dayton or Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown**

The workshops run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

These workshops, led by experienced OSBA staff, will present all the tools you need to improve your boardmanship skills and effectively lead your district. You don't have to be the board president to attend; board members looking to increase their leadership skills also can benefit.

School board presidents serve critical leadership roles in their districts. The president is the visible leader of the board and responsible for the efficient and legal operation of board business.

Unfortunately, too many board presidents attempt to fulfill these roles by going it alone and feel that on-the-job training is all they need to responsibly lead the board. It is crucial to you and a benefit to your school district to be well-informed and skillful enough to carry out your leadership duties effectively. Bring your questions about leadership roles.

Topics to be covered include legal issues affecting board members; effective board meetings; using parliamentary procedure effectively; dealing with controversy and public participation; open meetings and executive sessions; successful communications; working as a team; consensus building; indicators of an effective board; and networking with your colleagues.

Cost for the workshop is \$160 per board member, and includes a copy of the *Board Presidents' Handbook*. To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. You can register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.





WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

What can PFR Inc. do for you? webinar

Dec. 12, free webinar

New Board Member Workshop

Jan. 12, Columbus, \$160

Board Presidents Workshop

Jan. 26, Columbus, \$160

Jan. 26, Findlay, \$160

Feb. 2, Dayton, \$160

Feb. 2, Rootstown, \$160

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 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 Web page 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.



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.

You may register on our website at www.ohioschoolboards.org. Events are listed at the bottom of the page. You will need a username and password.

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.

Bulletin Board, continued from page 4

86. ●●● Former **Struthers City** Board of Education member **John B. Pape** died Nov. 9. He was 94. ●●● Former **Westfall Local (Pickaway)** Board of Education member **Dennis Jay Morris** died Nov. 16. He was 65. ●●● Former **Youngstown City** Board of Education member **Rev. Lonnie Kwajo Asim Simon** died Oct. 29. He was 87.

Correction

The “Regional Roundup” article in the Nov. 5 *Briefcase* incorrectly listed the Northwest Region All-Ohio School Board honoree on page 7. The article should have said the 2012 All-Ohio School Board winner from that region is **Nancy Decker, Springfield Local (Lucas)**.

Omission

The “Regional Roundup” article in the Nov. 5 *Briefcase* omitted one of the OSBA Northeast Region past presidents honored at the region’s fall conference. **Marie D. Dockry, Mahoning County ESC and Mahoning County Career & Technical Center**, was among the former Northeast Region presidents recognized.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, deputy director of legislative services

OSBA shares its concerns on report card, accountability bill

The Ohio General Assembly recently returned for an extremely busy lame-duck session. One of the top priorities is House Bill (HB) 555, which will make changes to Ohio’s report card and accountability system. The bill is on the fast track and expected to move quickly through the process.

When the House Education Committee returned after the November elections, they immediately introduced a 150-plus-page substitute version of the bill before taking time off for the Thanksgiving holiday. The committee then returned at the end of the month to make final changes to the bill. The full House passed the bill on Nov. 29 by a vote of 58-27.

OSBA, along with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio Association of School Business Officials and Alliance for High Quality Education, testified jointly on HB 555 before the House Education Committee. Our testimony highlighted the positive changes to Ohio’s report card system

contained in the bill, as well as troublesome provisions that will have a negative effect on school districts. A copy of the testimony is available on the OSBA BillTracker website at www.ohio.schoolboards.org/legislative.

HB 555 now moves to the Senate for consideration. We have sent

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**Searching for the right direction?
Let OSBA put you on the path to success!**

OSBA can help your district create a strategic plan to ensure you always know which path to take. Call **Kathy LaSota** at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to get started on the right path today!

Legislative Report, continued from page 5

out multiple calls to action urging school board members, superintendents, treasurers and other school administrators to contact their legislators about this bill.

While there are a number of provisions in the legislation that we support, there are several issues that still concern us. We are sharing the following points with senators and requesting the following changes.

While the bill includes a small transition period (in an attempt to allow for implementation of the Common Core Standards), it begins to make changes within the current school year. This changes the rules in the middle of the game

and before implementation of the new Common Core Standards and testing protocols. OSBA believes changes to the report card system should not begin until the next school year (2013-2014).

Some items on the proposed list of measures — or “dashboard” — are beyond the control of school districts, and some districts may not have the necessary resources to excel in those areas. These items should be for information-only purposes. The information may be valuable for the district, parents and even state policymakers, but districts should not be penalized through a letter grade for the following components:

- Advanced Placement participation rate and test scores;
- Dual Enrollment Program participation rate;
- national standardized test for college admission — the participation rate and average score;
- kindergarten through third-grade literacy rate.

The bill postpones the implementation of a “composite” or “overall” score for the dashboard, but only for two years. OSBA opposes the use of a composite score, both during the transition and in the future, because:

- Using a composite score — especially with

an increasing number of components on the dashboard — gives the casual observer an unrealistic and distorted view of what is really happening in the school district or building. It also diminishes the importance of each variable in the dashboard.

- Each component of the dashboard may have different significance among districts and communities. It would be impossible to determine an appropriate “weight” for each component in a composite score calculation that satisfies the needs and preferences in every community across the state.
- Blending the scores into one overall score fails to demonstrate any link between one component and another, thereby rendering an “average” of all the components irrelevant and misleading.

The bill makes changes to the report card related to proficiency tests and districts’ rates of success for students passing the tests. Movement to the Common Core Standards and the anticipated implementation of correlating Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments are expected to result in an increase in the “cut score” for students to pass the tests. HB 555 raises the benchmark standard that districts must meet to be considered successful from 75% to 80%.

These changes would occur as the Common Core Standards are being implemented, and the more

Continued on page 7

Where can you find the *real* facts?



The **Education Tax Policy Institute**

(ETPI) continues to be the *only* organization in Ohio dedicated to research and analysis of education public policy issues.

Become a **member** of ETPI to help make future research possible. For more information, visit www.etpi-ohio.org.

Ohio's Resource for Reliable Data & Analysis

ETPI

8050 N. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43235 ● (614) 540-4000



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

Marlington Local debuts innovative oil and gas school program

In an effort to prepare students for careers in an emerging Ohio industry, **Marlington Local (Stark)** has rolled out the state's first gas and oil technology program for high school students.

Nearly two dozen Marlington High School juniors and seniors are enrolled in the first-year program, which is receiving attention from other school districts, as well as oil and gas businesses.

The program provides students

90 minutes of daily instruction designed to prepare them for entry-level careers in the gas and oil industry. After receiving several months of instruction, students in the class are allowed to leave school early for work if they are employed in a related industry.

Student **T.J. Mathes**, 18, hopes the class will prepare him for a rewarding career.

"I want to work my way up (in the industry)," Mathes told a local newspaper.

The program teaches students practical skills, such as how to operate a forklift, as well as the soft skills needed for employment. The district is covering the cost of the class. Instructor **Bob Givens** said Marlington has big aspirations for the program.

"The ultimate goal is to develop a curriculum and use it elsewhere," Givens said, as well as to "give students a leg up on everyone else."

Source: *Akron Beacon Journal*

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

rigorous content will definitely increase the difficulty of the tests. We understand the need to set high expectations. However, the simultaneous convergence of these three factors — more rigorous curriculum; new and more challenging assessments; and higher cut scores — has the potential to devastate students and districts unnecessarily. The movement of the 75% standard to 80% should be removed from the bill.

Additionally, raising the cut score and benchmark standard for the percentage of students passing at the same time will undermine the ability to make comparisons about the results of the increased rigor that will come with the

Common Core Standards and the current curriculum. Apples to apples comparisons, year over year, will be impossible.

Because of the report card reform provisions in the bill, school districts are very likely to see diminished results in their report card ratings. This could lead to an increase in the number of buildings and districts falling under the provisions for students to qualify for the EdChoice voucher program and charter school eligibility (challenged school district designation). School districts performing at continuous improvement status or above in the current school year should not be subject to losing students to the

EdChoice voucher program or new charter school start-ups for three years.

For the latest information on HB 555, please contact the OSBA legislative division at (800) 589-6722.

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of Nov. 30.

OSBA can help facilitate your labor agreements

OSBA has:

- highly trained negotiators,
- a wealth of auxiliary services,
- consultants who work with the board's interest in mind.

Please call Renee L. Fambro, OSBA deputy director of labor relations, at (614) 540-4000 for more information.

December 2012

- 12 What can PFR Inc. do for you? webinar
- 14 OSBA SchoolComp Safety Seminar Columbus
- 14 *Post-general election campaign finance reports must be filed by candidates, political action committees, caucus committees (legislative campaign funds) and political parties (by 4 p.m.) (38 days after general election) detailing contributions and expenditures through Dec. 7, 2012 (seven days before the report is filed) — RC 3517.10.*
- 31 *Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date of the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.*

January 2013

- 7 *Last day for voter registration for February election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).*
- 12 OSBA New Board Member Workshop Columbus
- 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).*
- 18 OSBA Capital Conference Planning Task Force Meeting..... Columbus
- 18 OSBA Executive Committee Meeting Columbus
- 19 OSBA Board of Trustees Meeting Columbus
- 20 *Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.*
- 22 *Last day to submit certification for May conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days before election).*
- 26 OSBA Board Presidents Workshop Columbus
- 26 OSBA Board Presidents Workshop Findlay
- 28 *Last day to submit certification for May income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).*
- 31 *Annual campaign finance reports due (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures through Dec. 31, 2012 — RC 3517.10(A)(3) (last business day of January); deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14.*

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- 1 *Last day to submit May emergency levy, current operating expenses levy or conversion levy to county auditor for May election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219 (95 days prior to the election).*
- 2 OSBA Board Presidents Workshop Dayton
- 2 OSBA Board Presidents Workshop Rootstown
- 5 *Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).*
- 6 *Last day for school district to file resolution of necessity, resolution to proceed and auditor's certification for bond levy with board of elections for May election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for May election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy, conversion levy or renewal of conversion levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.195, 5705.219(G), 5748.02(C).*