

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



More than 9,000 take part in 60th annual Capital Conference

Another successful OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show is in the books. The 60th annual conference, held Nov. 8-11, drew more than 9,000 public education leaders to the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The conference held onto its ranking as the second-largest public education convention in the nation, while the Trade Show — with 559 exhibitor booths — maintained its status as the largest in the U.S. Mark your calendars for next year. Planning already is underway for the 2016 Capital Conference, which will run Nov. 13-16.

Five board members earn association's highest honor

OSBA recognized the 2015 All-Ohio School Board on Nov. 11 during the Capital Conference. The recognition, presented to one board member from each of OSBA's five regions, is the association's most prestigious honor. This year's honorees and their districts and regions are: **Mary Tedrow, Groveport Madison Local (Franklin)**, central; **Sue Williams, Southeast Local (Wayne)** and **Wayne County Schools Career Center**, northeast; **Bob Vasquez, Toledo City**, northwest; **Sandra Poe, Green Local (Scioto)**, southeast; and **Kevin A. Johnston, Preble County ESC**, southwest.

Northeast Ohio board member picked as 2016 OSBA president-elect

The OSBA Delegate Assembly elected **Denise Baba, Streetsboro City**, 2016 OSBA president-elect during its annual business meeting on Nov. 9 at the Capital Conference. Baba will become OSBA president in 2017, following her term as president-elect. Current President-elect **Eric K. Germann, Lincolnview Local (Van Wert)** and **Vantage Career Center**, will assume the presidency on Jan. 1, 2016.

Veteran educator, administrator is 2015 President's Award winner

OSBA President **Ed Penrod, Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**, presented the 2015 President's Award to **Dr. T. Richard Murray** on Nov. 9 during the Capital Conference. Murray has had an exemplary career in public education as a teacher, principal and superintendent. He was superintendent in two local districts before taking the helm at **Muskingum Valley ESC**, where he retired in 2012. He also has been active in multiple statewide education groups and currently is executive director of the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools.

OSBA offering resources to mark School Board Recognition Month

OSBA has created a Web-based resource kit to help districts celebrate School Board Recognition Month in January. The kit, posted at www.ohioschoolboards.org/school-board-recognition-month, provides ideas and tools to honor board members and let

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Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Board member-elects
- ☐ Newly appointed board members

communities know of their hard work and dedication. OSBA will send personalized certificates to each district in December to present to board members during their celebrations next month. Districts are urged to send articles and photos of their activities to be featured in the *Journal* magazine and on OSBA's website. Materials can be submitted online at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/84691>, emailed to cdavis@ohioschoolboards.org or mailed to **Crystal Davis** at 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235.

State Board set to pick interim superintendent this week

The State Board of Education is expected to select an interim state superintendent of public instruction during its Dec. 14-15 monthly meeting. The interim leader will serve until the board hires a replacement for Dr. **Richard A. Ross**, who is retiring

Classrooms without desks deliver student interaction

When students at **Chillicothe City's** Chillicothe High School walked into foreign language classes for the first time, there was a certain level of shock.

They asked, "Where are the desks?"

The new approach to teaching languages at the high school is designed to create an environment that increases student interaction and immerses them in the language.

The students are responding.

"It allows us to interact with the entire class and combine all of our ideas," student **Olivia Eblin** told a local newspaper.

The Organic World Language approach is focused on community building in the classroom.

Source: *Chillicothe Gazette*

Dec. 31. Ross has served as state superintendent since March 2013.

Bell, 1965 OSBA president, dies at 103

Vance Bell, who served as OSBA president in 1965, died Nov. 27 at the age of 103. Bell served as a board member at **Avon Lake City**.

Capital Conference photos posted on Flickr

Photos from the 2015 Capital Conference, including photos of members with the keynote speakers, are now available on OSBA's Flickr page at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/10798>.

Handouts from Capital Conference posted online

Handouts from most of the sessions at the 2015 OSBA Capital Conference are now posted online. Download the handouts at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/76062>.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org
OSBA's Legal Assistance Fund (LAF) supports school districts involved in litigation of statewide significance. For a recap of 2015 cases, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/86891>. For information on joining LAF, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/24927>.



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: **Ed Penrod**, **Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**

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

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

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

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

Assistant editor: **Scott Gerfen**, communication manager

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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, administrative assistant of communication services

Ohio searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)	Jan. 11	David N. Branch, superintendent, Muskingum Valley ESC, (740) 452-4518

National searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Glendale, Calif.	Dec. 21	McPherson & Jacobson LLC/California School Boards Association, (888) 375-4814
Superintendent	Grandview, Mo.	Dec. 22	McPherson & Jacobson LLC, (888) 375-4814

Board changes

Massillon City Board of Education member **Gary Miller** resigned effective Nov. 3. ●●● Northwest Local (Scioto) Board of Education member Dr. **Ryan McCall** announced his resignation. He is moving out of the district. ●●● Vermillion Local (Erie) Board of Education member **Grant Harding** resigned effective Nov. 16. ●●● Wapakoneta City appointed **Josh Little** to the board effective Nov. 3. He replaced **Eric McKinniss**, who resigned.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Beavercreek City Superintendent Dr. **William McGlothlin** announced his retirement effective July 31. ●●● Forest Hills Local (Hamilton) hired **Scot T. Prebles** as superintendent effective Jan. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Tom Durbin**. Prebles currently is the superintendent at **Brecksville-Broadview Heights City**. ●●● Wynford Local (Crawford) hired **Fred Fox** as superintendent effective Jan. 1. He will replace **Steve Mohr**, who is retiring. Fox currently is an interim assistant superintendent at the **North Central Ohio ESC**.

Treasurers

Bridgeport EV Treasurer **Cheryl Pritts** announced her resignation effective Dec. 31. She has taken the treasurer position at **Buckeye Career Center**. ●●● Brunswick City hired **James E. Estle** as interim treasurer effective Dec. 1. He replaced **Patrick K. East**, who retired Nov. 30. ●●● Hillsdale Local (Ashland) Treasurer **Marjorie Travis** announced her resignation effective Sept. 30. ●●● Riverside Local (Logan) Treasurer **Jennifer Blackford** announced her resignation effective Dec. 31. She has taken the treasurer position at **St. Henry Local (Mercer)**.

Editor's note

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

Sympathies

Former **Anna Local (Shelby)** Board of Education member Dr. **Michael L. Peltier** died Oct. 29. He was 67. ●●● Former **Boardman Local (Mahoning)** Assistant Superintendent **John Leslie Harr** died Nov. 8. He was 88. ●●● **Paul Schimpf**, a member of the former **Crawford County School Board**, died Nov. 15. He was 95. ●●● Former **East Knox Local (Knox)** Board of Education member **Albert S. Winke** died Nov. 14. He was 86. ●●● Former **Fairless Local (Stark)** and **Lake Local (Stark)** Treasurer **Polly A. Whyte Wynn Sommers** died Oct. 25. She was 79. ●●● Former **Franklin Local (Muskingum)** Board of Education member **Kenon E. Mitchell** died Oct. 28. He was 91. ●●● Former **Gahanna-Jefferson City** Board of Education member **James M. Abraham** died Nov. 8. He was 93. ●●● Former **Kettering City** Board of Education member **Richard William Hook** died Nov. 16. He was 87. ●●● Former **Lakeview Local (Trumbull)** Board of Education member **Lucile Harris** died Nov. 15. She was 97. ●●● Former **Mohawk Local (Wyandot)** Board of Education member **Ray L. Weininger** died Oct. 22. He was 77. ●●● Former **Montpelier EV** Board of Education member **Larry Martin** died Nov. 15. He was 79. ●●● Former **New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin)** Board of Education member **Gerald L. Ryan** died Nov. 21. He was 77. ●●● Former **New Miami Local (Butler)** Board of Education member **Gary E. Fox** died Nov. 22. He was 82. ●●● Former **Northridge Local (Licking)** Board of Education member **Richard Wagner Rogge** died Oct. 27. He was 84. ●●● **Dennis W. Whalen**, a longtime member of the OSBA-affiliated Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys, died Oct. 29. He was 77. ●●● Former **Perkins Local (Erie)** Board of Education member and Treasurer **Robert C. "Bob" Koch Sr.** died Nov. 22. He was 95. ●●● Former **Ravenna City** Board of Education member **Reba C. Cook** died Nov. 1. She was 79. ●●● Former **Ridgeway Local (Hardin)** Board of Education member **Robert Paul Ramsey** died Nov. 15. He was 91. ●●● Former **Shaker Heights City** Board of Education member **Oliver Farrar Emerson II** died Nov. 14. He was 88. ●●● Former **West Carrollton City** Board of Education member **James Maxwell "Dick" Fugate** died Oct. 27. He was 80.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

compiled by Angela Penquite, assistant editor

Grants for math or science

The Toshiba America Foundation offers grants for projects in math and science designed to improve student instruction.

Maximum award: \$5,000

Eligibility: teachers of grades six-12

Deadline: Feb. 1

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/14616>

NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership grants

The National Education Association (NEA) provides grants for public school teachers, public education support professionals, and faculty and staff in public

institutions of higher education.

Grants are awarded for one of two purposes: to fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes, conference or action research, or to fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment. All professional development must improve practice, curriculum and student achievement.

Maximum award: \$2,000

Eligibility: K-12 public school teachers and public school education support professionals

Deadline: Feb. 1

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/62235>

Student achievement grants

The National Education Association (NEA) Foundation Student Achievement Grants provide funds to improve the academic achievement of students by engaging in critical thinking and problem-solving that deepen knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work also should improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning and critical reflection. Proposals for

Continued on page 5

Get up to speed quickly!

Don't miss the New Board Member Academy



Two dates and four locations to choose from:

- Jan. 9-10 at the Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South, Miamisburg, or the Embassy Suites Cleveland-Rockside, Independence
- Jan. 23-24 at the Embassy Suites, Columbus, or the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg

School board service is more complex and demanding than ever. To carry out their leadership duties effectively, new school board members must move as soon as possible from the role of involved citizen to that of responsible elected official. 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 two-day intensive academy will focus on the world of boardmanship; effective communication; board policy; Ohio public school funding; transportation; employee relations; and the Sunshine Law and executive sessions.

Cost for the workshop is \$220 per board member. Four books are included with workshop tuition: *Boardmanship*, *Board-Treasurer Partnership*, *Board-Superintendent Partnership* and *Board-Legislature Partnership*. Breakfast and lunch also are included.

Agenda for Jan. 9-10, both locations

Saturday

8 a.m.	Registration and breakfast
9 a.m.	Welcome and overview
9:10 a.m.	Regional manager remarks
9:20 a.m.	Boardmanship — roles and responsibilities
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Boardmanship — conduct and ethics
11:30 a.m.	Media relations and social media
12:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
1:15 p.m.	Legal division
2:30 p.m.	Lightning round with school board services division, communication services division and legal services division
3 p.m.	Legal division (continued)
3:45 p.m.	Daily wrap-up

Sunday

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	Welcome back and overview
9:45 a.m.	Management services division
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Management services division (continued)
11:45 a.m.	Lunch (provided)
12:30 p.m.	Legislative issues, lobbying and finance
1:30 p.m.	Lightning round with management services division and legislative services division
2 p.m.	Legislative issues, lobbying and finance (continued)
2:45 p.m.	Wrap-up and adjourn

Agenda for Jan. 23-24, both locations

Saturday

8 a.m.	Registration and breakfast
9 a.m.	Welcome and overview
9:10 a.m.	Legislative issues, lobbying and finance
11 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m.	Boardmanship — roles and responsibilities
12:15 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
1 p.m.	Legal services division
2 p.m.	Lightning round with school board services division and legal services division
2:30 p.m.	Legal services division (continued)
3:30 p.m.	Daily wrap-up

Sunday

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	Welcome back and overview
9:45 a.m.	Management services division
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Management services division (continued)
Noon	Lunch (provided)
12:45 p.m.	Boardmanship — conduct and ethics
1:45 p.m.	Media relations and social media
2:45 p.m.	Wrap-up and adjourn

OSBA MASTER OF TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (MTA) PROGRAM

Don't miss the upcoming 2016 sessions of the OSBA 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. All classes are scheduled twice; participants may sign up for either session. 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. Tuition is \$90.



Upcoming 2016 session dates and descriptions

Feb. 3 or 9 — Federal regulations, guidance and agencies

Learn about federal agencies, rules and regulations. Review the federal alphabet soup, including FMCSA, NHTSA, NTSB, TSB and ODI and the impacts that these have on daily transportation operations.

April 6 or 12 — Laws, rules and policy

What is the difference between revised code, administrative code and department policy? Where does local board policy fit in? Are they all mandates or just best practices? Review the process through which ideas become a rule or regulation, and how to influence this process.

May 4 or 10 — Hot topics, safety, trends and statistics

Review hot topics in student transportation, including seat belts in school buses. Learn about National Transportation Safety Board accident studies, Ohio school bus accident statistics and any topics that attendees bring from their local districts.

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



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 the OSBA Division of School Board Services at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to get moving in the right direction today.

Become a better board leader

Attend the Board Officers Training

Two dates and four locations to choose from:

- Saturday, Feb. 6, at the OSBA office in Columbus or Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown
- Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Findlay or Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South in Miamisburg

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

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

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

Unfortunately, too many board officers attempt to fulfill these roles by going it alone. They believe on-the-job training is all they need to responsibly lead the board, but it is crucial for you to be well-informed and have the skills to carry out your leadership duties effectively. Bring your questions about leadership roles.

Topics to be covered include legal duties and responsibilities; planning a productive board meeting; practical parliamentary procedure; public participation at board meetings; open meetings and executive sessions; successful communications; responding to media requests; building team relationships; consensus building; indicators of an effective board; and effective facilitation.

Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Registration and continental breakfast	12:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
9 a.m.	Leading the governance team OSBA school board services division	1:30 p.m.	Management matters for 2016 OSBA management services division
10:15 a.m.	You ask us! Open Q&A with OSBA staff	3 p.m.	Wrap-up and adjourn
10:45 a.m.	Break		
11 a.m.	Keeping it legal: what board officers need to know OSBA legal services division		



Cost for the workshop is \$165 per board member, and includes a copy of the *Board Presidents' Handbook*. Register online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

New Board Member Academy

- ☐ Jan. 9-10, Miamisburg, \$220
- ☐ Jan. 9-10, Independence, \$220
- ☐ Jan. 23-24, Columbus, \$220
- ☐ Jan. 23-24, Perrysburg, \$220

OSBA MTA program

- ☐ Feb. 3, Columbus, \$90
- ☐ Feb. 9, Columbus, \$90
- ☐ April 6, Columbus, \$90
- ☐ April 12, Columbus, \$90
- ☐ May 4, Columbus, \$90
- ☐ May 10, Columbus, \$90

Board Officers Training

- ☐ Feb. 6, Columbus, \$165
- ☐ Feb. 6, Rootstown, \$165
- ☐ Feb. 20, Findlay, \$165
- ☐ Feb. 20, Miamisburg, \$165

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

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

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



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

Please photocopy this form for each person

OSBA workshop registration procedures

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

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



Mail

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



Phone
or fax

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



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

Cancellation and refund policy

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

Funding Opportunities, continued from page 4

work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement or other challenging curricula are encouraged.

Maximum award: \$5,000

Eligibility: pre-K-12 public school teachers and support professionals

Deadline: Feb. 1

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/30332>

Grants for scientific education

The American Honda Foundation engages in grantmaking that reflects the basic tenets, beliefs and philosophies of Honda companies, which are characterized by the following qualities: imaginative,

creative, youthful, forward-thinking, scientific, humanistic and innovative. It supports youth education with a specific focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects, in addition to the environment.

Maximum award: \$75,000

Eligibility: public schools with two years of audited financial statements examined by an independent CPA for the purpose of expressing an opinion

Deadline: Feb. 1

Contact: <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/50214>

Supporting the arts

The National Arts and

Humanities Youth Program Award is the nation's highest honor for out-of-school arts and humanities programs that celebrate the creativity of America's young people, particularly those from underserved communities. This award recognizes and supports excellence in programs that open new pathways to learning, self-discovery and achievement.

Maximum award: \$10,000

Eligibility: after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs sponsored by educational institutions

Deadline: Feb. 2

Contact: www.nahyp.org



Get on board with OSBA School Transportation SERVICES

OSBA can help districts assess their transportation needs and offer personal assistance with transportation rules interpretations, policy questions and technical advice. It also provides the following services:

- transportation operation cost analysis and benchmarking studies;
- routing analysis;
- fleet management assistance;
- general operations evaluation;
- regional coordination studies;
- in-service presentations for drivers and administrators;
- evaluation of specific transportation services, including payment in lieu of transportation;
- bus purchasing and specification development;
- driver qualifications compliance review;
- transportation emergency plan development;
- development of local student transportation handbooks.

To learn more, contact **Pete Japikse** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or schoolbus@ohioschoolboards.org.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

ESEA reauthorization legislation loosens federal reins

As of this writing, Congress was on the verge of passing a bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. The reauthorization has been titled the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The U.S. House of Representatives passed ESSA on Dec. 2. The Senate is expected to approve the legislation and send it to the president for his signature by mid-December. The last time ESEA was reauthorized was more than a decade ago as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

Following is a synopsis of ESSA's provisions.

The transition for the new law will occur over the next several years and cover fiscal years 2017-2020. For the 2016 calendar year, existing state plans will remain in effect through Aug. 1. New state

plans under ESSA will take effect beginning with the 2017-18 school year. Existing waivers to states will terminate on or after Aug. 1, 2016.

To receive Title I grants, states will be required to develop and submit plans for increasing achievement among low-income students to the U.S. Department of Education. These plans must be developed in consultation with state policymakers; local education agencies (LEAs); representatives of teachers; principals; school staff; and parents. Once submitted, the plans will undergo peer review by "multidisciplinary teams" appointed by the education department.

As under NCLB, states will develop or demonstrate they currently have "challenging academic standards" for all public school students in mathematics,

reading or language arts, and science. However, ESSA will further require states to demonstrate the standards are aligned with entrance requirements to state postsecondary institutions and relevant state career and technical education standards.

To address over-testing concerns, ESSA will permit states to set targets for total time spent on testing. In addition, states and school districts will be permitted to use federal funds to audit their testing systems and eliminate redundant or unnecessary tests.

The biggest accountability change is that adequate yearly progress (AYP) will no longer be used. AYP will be replaced with state-defined long-term goals that are "ambitious" and include

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You really can make a difference because kids count!

Children are our future and there is no greater investment than a child's education. By joining OSBA's political action committee, *Kids PAC*, you are helping to ensure all children in Ohio receive the quality education they deserve!

You can donate online at www.kidspac.org. To learn more about *Kids PAC*, contact **Marcella Gonzalez** at mgonzalez@ohioschoolboards.org or call (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.





PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

Football players inspire younger students to read

Dressed in their jerseys and equipped with a handful of books, a group of **Riverside Local (Lake)** Riverside High School football players began to read aloud from “The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig.”

Through the district’s Literacy Lineman program, the select group of football players has been visiting the six Riverside elementary schools to promote literacy and inspire younger students to read.

“Our high school guys get to be celebrities and our elementary students see these role models sharing a passion for reading,” **Richard Schmidt**, Riverside’s K-12 literacy and social studies coordinator, told a local newspaper.

The players, who must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA and understand the basics of literacy, spend 25 minutes with each class. They were divided into groups of three to four.

Players engage the elementary

students by asking critical thinking questions about the story and allow the younger students to comment and ask questions.

“This is a great experience because we inspire the kids to read more, and they love it when we come in,” sophomore football player **Ben Hanks** said.

The Literacy Lineman program was created in 2010. It ended for a few years and was re-established in 2014.

Source: *The News-Herald*

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

measures of interim progress. The goals and interim measures will continue to apply to all students and individual subgroups of students.

The NCLB-defined sanctions and prescribed interventions also will be eliminated under ESSA. Instead, the state will identify schools in need of “comprehensive support and improvement” and require LEAs to develop an improvement plan in collaboration with community stakeholders.

ESSA also includes a preschool development grant program and Title II authorization to prepare, train and recruit high-quality teachers, principals or other school leaders without highly qualified

teacher (HQT) requirements and mandated teacher evaluation requirements. In other words, the legislation will eliminate HQT mandates.

As for Title I fund use, ESSA does not include new provisions for Title I portability that could have allowed students the option to transfer to private schools with Title I funds following them. This had been proposed in earlier versions of the bill. Under the current version of the ESSA legislation, the Title I funding formula will not change.

As for local governance, ESSA contains specific legislative language crafted by the National School Boards Association in

collaboration with Senate staff. The language pushes back against federal intrusion into school administration, including in the area of the development and expenditure of school budgets.

The new law will specifically address potential federal reach through nonregulatory means and require local stakeholder (school board) input at the federal level prior to issuing such guidance. This will be extremely important in the coming months, since ESSA gives states and local districts more flexibility in key areas such as testing and accountability.

Editor’s note: The information in this article was current as of Dec. 4, 2015.

December 2015

- 16 OSBA MTA Program: Transportation rules and regulations Columbus
- 16 *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 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, conversion levy or renewal of conversion levy for March election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C) 5705.219(C) and (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 the election).*
- 31 *Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date of the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.*

January 2016

- 9-10 New Board Member Academy Miamisburg

- 9-10 New Board Member Academy Independence
- 15 *Deadline for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; last day for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts to adopt tax budgets for the coming school fiscal year — RC 5705.28(A) (1).*
- 20 *Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.*
- 23-24 New Board Member Academy Columbus
- 23-24 New Board Member Academy Perrysburg
- 29 *Annual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates, political action committees, caucus committees (legislative campaign funds) and political parties (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures from the last day reflected in the previous report through Dec. 31, 2015 — RC 3517.10(A)(3).*
- 31 *Deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14.*

February 2016

- 3 OSBA MTA Program: Federal regulations, guidance and agencies Columbus
- 6 Board Officers Training Columbus
- 6 Board Officers Training Rootstown
- 9 OSBA MTA Program: Federal regulations, guidance and agencies Columbus
- 15 *Last day for voter registration for March election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).*
- 20 Board Officers Training Findlay
- 20 Board Officers Training Miamisburg

March 2016

- 1 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop Miamisburg
- 1 *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; deadline for secondary schools to provide information about College Credit Plus to all students enrolled in grades six through 11 — RC 3365.04(A).*
- 4 Special Education Law Workshop Columbus
- 4 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop Athens