

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## State funding diverted to charter schools nears \$900 million

Ohio Department of Education data shows traditional public schools will lose more than \$870 million in state funding to charter schools in fiscal year (FY) 2014. That's an increase of 5.4% over FY 2013, when approximately \$824 million was transferred from traditional public schools to charters. This increase comes amid ongoing reports of charter school mismanagement, conflicts of interest and felony indictments and convictions.

## State school board member resigns amid ethics questions

State Board of Education member **Bryan C. Williams** has resigned amid concerns that his work as a lobbyist could violate Ohio ethics laws. In his resignation email to board President **Debe Terhar**, Williams wrote, "Recent media reports made me aware of the Ohio Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion 2007-03 which advises that elected members of a state board should not be registered lobbyists." Williams, a lobbyist for Associated Builders and Contractors of Ohio and a former state legislator, was elected to the board in 2012 after previously being appointed to a vacant seat by Gov. **John Kasich**.

## ODE recognizes High Progress Schools of Honor

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has named 37 schools High Progress Schools of Honor for improving academic achievement among their students, including many from economically disadvantaged homes. Those honored scored in the top 10% of schools as ranked by gains over the past five years in combined reading and math proficiency, graduation rates and other criteria. ODE previously recognized 141 Schools of Promise and 37 High Performing Schools of Honor. The schools of honor initiative builds on ODE's Schools of Promise program, which was developed as an incentive to help close achievement gaps.

## Reminder: Subscribe to the *Briefcase* electronically and get it free

As a member benefit, OSBA offers the *Briefcase* newsletter free to districts in which all subscribers agree to receive the publication electronically. Districts opting to receive paper copies must pay the annual subscription fee of \$130 for up to 15 copies. Districts should indicate their preference on the OSBA membership invoice.

## Straight A Fund board recommends 24 programs for approval

The Straight A Fund Governing Board has recommended for approval 24 grant requests totaling \$88.6 million. The requests were to go to the Ohio Controlling Board on Dec. 16. The Straight A Fund board received 570 applications for grants to improve achievement and increase efficiency. The \$250 million Straight A Fund was

**Dec. 23, 2013**

Volume 44 Issue 23

### Contents

More news..... 2

*Technology  
conference keynote  
speakers set; OSBA  
offers special rate  
to electronic SMN  
subscribers; OSBA  
online*

Bulletin Board..... 3

News ..... 4

Legislative  
Report ..... 6

Public Schools  
Work! ..... 7

### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Assistant treasurers
- ☐ Board member-elects
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

created in the most recent state budget. A new round of grant funding will be held next year. Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/13982> for more information.

### Technology conference keynote speakers set

The slate of keynote speakers at the Ohio Educational Technology Conference includes **Kevin Honeycutt**, a teacher, curriculum designer and “tradigital learning” advocate; **Jack Uldrich**, a global futurist and best-selling author; Col. **Casey Wardynski**, one of *eSchool News*’ 2013 Tech- Savvy Superintendents of the Year; and international educational technology leader **Alan November**. The conference — Jan. 27-29 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center — also features more than 300 sessions on subjects such as gaming, mobile learning, new classroom technologies and digital learning models, as well as

### Ohio students turn snowplow trucks into mobile art

Plow trucks in some parts of Ohio will display student-made art this winter while they push snow.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 10 has partnered with schools in southeastern Ohio on the Paint the Plow project, which allows students to decorate plow blades on trucks.

Art and industrial art classes in **Nelsonville-York City** worked together to decorate a plow blade. “This has been a unique way to collaborate our classes,” Nelsonville-York High School industrial arts teacher **Josh Woodburn** told a local newspaper. “It’s also great exposure for the arts in schools.”

ODOT districts in northern Ohio piloted the painting program last year and it was expanded to other parts of the state this year.

Source: *The Athens Messenger*

education initiatives such as the PARCC assessments and Common Core curriculum. For more information and to register, visit <http://oetc.ohio.gov>.

### OSBA offers special rate to electronic SMN subscribers

OSBA will provide its *School*

*Management News* newsletter at a 21% discount to member districts in which all subscribers choose to receive the publication electronically. The electronic subscription rate is \$150 annually for up to 15 subscribers, a \$40 savings over the paper newsletter. Please indicate which option your district prefers on the OSBA membership invoice.



## 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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

OSBA President: **Charlie Wilson**, **Worthington City**

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: **Bryan Bullock**, communication coordinator

A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$125 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email or by fax. For more information, contact Ann Herritt at the address or fax number above or email [aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org). Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association. Postage paid at Westerville, Ohio. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Briefcase, Attn.: Mailroom, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481

© 2013 Ohio School Boards Association

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.

### OSBA online

#### • [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

OSBA has launched a mobile-optimized version of its website to make accessing association information easier on a smartphone. Users can access all of the features of the desktop website — including members-only content, event registration and the OSBA store — on their mobile devices with the clean, simple interface. More people are accessing OSBA’s website with a mobile device, including 16% of all visitors over the past year.



# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Clear Fork Valley Local (Richland)	Jan. 3	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❷ Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking)	March 1	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

❶ = Superintendent



### Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Clinton-Massie Local (Clinton)	Feb. 6	Tony Long, superintendent, Southern Ohio ESC, (937) 382-6921, ext. 1039
Superintendent	Hillsboro City	Feb. 12	Tony Long, superintendent, Southern Ohio ESC, (937) 382-6921, ext. 1039
Treasurer	Norwalk City	Jan. 24	Douglas Crooks, superintendent, North Point ESC, (419) 627-3908
High school principal	Northeastern Local (Defiance)	Jan. 15	James C. Roach, superintendent, Northeastern Local, (419) 497-3461

### National searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Springfield, Mo.	Jan. 15	McPherson & Jacobson LLC, executive recruitment & development, (888) 375-4814

### 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

Fairview Park City Superintendent **Brion Deitsch** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking) hired Dr. **Nelson McCray** as interim superintendent effective immediately. He will continue as superintendent at **Licking County ESC**. ●●● Teays Valley Local (Pickaway) Superintendent **Jeff Sheets** announced his retirement effective May 30. ●●● Tiffin City hired **Vickie A. Wheatley** as superintendent effective Jan. 2. She will replace **Donald E. Coletta**, who is retiring. Wheatley currently is assistant superintendent at **Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools**.

### Treasurers

**Avon Local (Lorain)** hired **James M. Hudson** as treasurer effective Dec. 16. He replaced **Kent Zeman**, who resigned. Hudson previously was treasurer at **Medina City** and **Cloverleaf Local (Medina)** through a shared services agreement. ●●● **Marysville EV** hired **Todd J. Johnson** as treasurer effective Jan. 1. He will replace **Cindy Ritter**, who is retiring. Johnson currently is assistant treasurer at **Olentangy Local (Delaware)**. ●●● **Western Buckeye ESC** hired **Kimberly Jones** as treasurer effective immediately. She replaces **Gary Ginter**, who took the treasurer position at **Wayne Trace Local (Paulding)**.

### Sympathies

Former **Benjamin Logan Local (Logan)** Board of Education member **Andrew Bolton Stoner** died Dec. 1. He was 87. ●●● Former **Black River Local (Medina)** Board of Education member **Donald Glenn Wandel** died Nov. 17. He was 90. ●●● Former **Clearview Local (Lorain)** Board of Education member **Tony Misko Jr.** died Nov. 29. He was 91. ●●● **James E. Ulmer**, a former member of **Colonel Crawford Local** and the former **North Robinson** boards of education in Crawford County, died Nov. 27. He was 98. ●●● Former **Groveport Madison Local (Franklin)** Assistant Superintendent **Stephen E. Drummond** died Nov. 23. He was 82. ●●● **Donald E. Haines**, superintendent of the former **Leavittsburg** School District in Trumbull County, died Nov. 14. He was 96. ●●● Former **Leipsic Local (Putnam)** Board of Education member **Earl E. Goodwin** died Nov. 16. He was 83. ●●● **Robert Russell Clarke**, a member of the former **Rush Township** School Board in Tuscarawas County, died Nov. 19. He was 88. ●●● Former **Wellston City** Board of Education member **Floyd F. Hollberg** died Nov. 19. He was 94. ●●● **Union-Scioto Local (Ross)** Board of Education member **James Lovensheimer** died Nov. 21. He was 75.



## NEWS

by Angela Penquite, assistant editor

### Award of Achievement deadline is Jan. 20

Do you spend extra hours improving your boardmanship skills? Do you attend workshops and conferences that let you learn from the experts and network with other board members? Do you

faithfully serve your school board?

Did you know that you may be eligible for the OSBA Award of Achievement or Master Board Member awards?

OSBA rewards Ohio public

school board members for their dedicated service to their boards, as well as their work to strengthen their boardmanship skills. The OSBA Award of Achievement and

*Continued on page 5*

## OSBA Central Region manager position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is looking for a part-time regional manager for OSBA's Central Region. Working from his or her home or office, this person will plan and coordinate meetings, facilitate the activities of regional committees and keep the executive director informed about regional issues. Knowledge about OSBA, school boards and public education is essential. The position requires the ability to work independently, as well as excellent computer, proofreading, record keeping and organizational skills. For more information or an application, contact OSBA Executive Director **Richard Lewis** at (614) 540-4000. Send résumés to Central Region Manager Search, OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Application deadline is Jan. 17, 2014. Electronic applications will not be accepted. EOE



# PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

This new series of workshops will help those involved in student transportation better understand and perform day-to-day operations.

These half-day workshops will include a working lunch and time for questions. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/event\\_listing](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing) or contact Laurie Miller, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



## PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM #1 *RULES AND LAWS GOVERNING OHIO PUPIL TRANSPORTATION*

Wednesday, Jan. 8 • 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. • \$90 • OSBA office, Columbus

Ohio schools transport more than 900,000 students daily, using approximately 13,000 school buses. These school buses, which have been repeatedly proven to be the safest form of pupil transportation — nearly 30 times safer than the typical passenger vehicle — travel nearly 1 million miles daily to accomplish this monumental task.

Because of this and other factors, pupil transportation is one of the most regulated services nationwide, as well as in Ohio. Recently, changes were enacted in a number of the administrative rules, as well as in the Ohio Revised Code through House Bill 59. This workshop will explore the various federal and state regulations that transportation administrators need to be familiar with to ensure that their student transportation is safe, dependable and compliant with both laws and best practices.

Join OSBA school transportation services staff for a fast-paced, in-depth discussion of current laws and best practices used throughout the state.

## PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM #2 *PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION*

Wednesday, Jan. 22 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. • \$90 • OSBA office, Columbus

In today's economic climate, school districts across the state are exploring cost-saving measures to streamline their budgets and maximize efficiencies. Because of this, several districts are considering payment in lieu of transportation.

The Ohio Revised Code provides detailed procedures districts must follow to determine transportation for a particular student is impractical. When followed successfully, this resolution leads to paying the parent in lieu of transportation, and subsequently bus service is not required.

This workshop will review the detailed steps that must be followed, discuss the reasons why it may be considered and help administrators and others better understand this option and how to successfully implement it.

OSBA Senior Transportation Consultant **Pete Japikse** will lead this session. As the former state pupil transportation director, he has firsthand knowledge of this process and what it entails.

# Get up to speed quickly!

## Don't miss the New Board Member Academy



Two dates and four locations to choose from:

- Jan. 11-12 at the Dayton Marriott, Dayton, or the Embassy Suites Cleveland-Rockside, Independence
- Jan. 18-19 at the Columbus Airport Marriott, Columbus, or the Findlay Inn & Conference Center, Findlay

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 training, designed specifically for newly elected board members, can help you become a more effective educational leader in your community.

This intensive Saturday-Sunday academy will focus on the world of boardmanship; communicating effectively; board policy 101; Ohio public school funding; transportation, policy and employee relations issues; and the Sunshine Law and executive sessions.

Cost for the workshop is \$200 per board member. Four books are included with workshop tuition: *Boardmanship*, *Board-Treasurer Partnership*, *Board-Superintendent Partnership* and *Board-Legislature Partnership*.

### Agenda

#### 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.	Coffee 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
2:30 p.m.	Lightning round with OSBA school board services, communications services and legal services staff
3 p.m.	Legal (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
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Management services
11:45 a.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Legislative issues, lobbying and finance
1:30 p.m.	Lightning round with OSBA management services and legislative services staff
2 p.m.	Legislative issues, lobbying and finance (continued)
2:45 p.m.	Wrap-up and adjourn

Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/event\\_listing](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing) or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

# Become a better board leader

## Attend the Board Presidents Workshop

Two dates and four locations to choose from:

- Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Dayton Marriott in Dayton or Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown
- Saturday, Feb. 8, at the OSBA office in Columbus or Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg

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

These workshops, led by experienced OSBA staff, present 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. They believe on-the-job training is all they need to responsibly lead the board, but it is crucial that you are 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 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 productively as a team; consensus building; and indicators of an effective board. There will be ample time to network with colleagues.

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

# OSBA webinars



Register for these webinars by visiting [www.ohioschoolboards.org/event\\_listing](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing) or by contacting **Laurie Miller** at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

### Board Meeting Best Practices

Wednesday, Jan. 15 • 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. • Paid webinar • \$35

In Ohio, there are many examples of best practices used at board of education meetings. Learn some of these best practices and discuss these ideas and see if there are some you could implement.

### A Walkthrough of the New Days-to-Hours Requirement

Tuesday, Feb. 11 • 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. • Paid webinar • \$35

In 2013, House Bill 59 changed the minimum school year requirement for Ohio school districts. Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, the minimum school year will change from 182 days to 455 hours for students in half-day kindergarten; 910 hours for students in grades one-six or all-day kindergarten; and 1,001 hours for students in grades seven-12. This webinar will walk you through the statutory changes and identify what steps boards can take now to prepare for the 2014-15 school year.





# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

**Pupil Transportation  
Administrator Training Program  
#1: Rules and laws governing  
Ohio pupil transportation**  
☐ Jan. 8, Columbus, \$90

**New Board Member Academy**  
☐ Jan. 11-12, Dayton, \$200  
☐ Jan. 11-12, Independence,  
\$200  
☐ Jan. 18-19, Columbus, \$200  
☐ Jan. 18-19, Findlay, \$200

**Board Meeting Best Practices**  
☐ Jan. 15, webinar, \$35

**Pupil Transportation  
Administrator Training  
Program #2: Payment in lieu of  
transportation**  
☐ Jan. 22, Columbus, \$90

**Board Presidents Workshop**  
☐ Feb. 1, Dayton, \$160  
☐ Feb. 1, Rootstown, \$160  
☐ Feb. 8, Columbus, \$160  
☐ Feb. 8, Perrysburg, \$160

**A Walkthrough of the New  
Days-to-Hours Requirement**  
☐ Feb. 11, webinar, \$35

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org). Events are listed at the bottom of the page. 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](mailto: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.



News, continued from page 4

Master Board Member awards honor these board members by recognizing their efforts.

Board members can earn points for attending OSBA workshops; serving as president of their boards of education; attending OSBA region events; and serving as a delegate, an OSBA officer or on an OSBA committee.

The Award of Achievement is available only to Ohio school board members from OSBA member districts. Board members earning 100 points within a two-year period are eligible for the Award of Achievement. The credits must have been accumulated between January 2012 and December 2013. In-service and special activity credit values are listed on the application. Excess credits submitted may not be carried over for other Awards of Achievement, but may be used toward the Master Board Member Award. The Master Board Member Award, a lifetime distinction, is given to leaders who earn 300 Award of Achievement credits over a four-year period.

The application deadline for the awards is Jan. 20. Applications can be downloaded at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085>. Award winners will be notified after the application information is verified. The 2013 awards will be presented at the 2014 regional spring conferences.

Board members can confirm the OSBA committees they have served on and workshops they've attended by visiting the OSBA

website ([www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)). Click on "Login" and sign in to see a list of workshops attended, upcoming training and 2013 committees and roles. If you do not have a username or password, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA. If you forgot your password, you can

reset it by clicking on the "Login" button.

If you have questions about the Award of Achievement, Master Board Member award or the application process, contact **Judy Morgan** at (614) 540-4000; (800) 589-OSBA; or [jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org).



### Why you should join

- Relevant and engaging professional development.
- Statewide networking opportunities and the chance to meet new colleagues.
- Learn about dynamic, on-trend topics related to public education.
- Speak with and hear from selected publications' authors in person and/or via video conference.
- It's free – the only cost is the books, which are available to participants at a discount.

### How the program works

- Books will be selected in January, April and September.
- Pick the book or books you're interested in reading, then register for the OSBA Book Club.
- Book club members will read publications and participate together in webinars and videoconferences hosted by OSBA staff.

### Ready to join? Its easy:

- Sign up for the OSBA Book Club at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/bookclub](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/bookclub). Fill out the registration form for each person in your district joining the club so they receive information about book discussions, author meetings and more.
- Follow the link sent to you to order a book for each participating reader. Discounted prices are available through OSBA's bookstore on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).
- Note the dates and times for the webinars in your calendar and participate in the statewide conversation. You'll receive a reminder about the webinars.
- Enjoy the read! OSBA is excited to create this opportunity for discussion in your district and across the state.

For questions or to join the OSBA Book Club, contact **Cheryl W. Ryan**, deputy director of school board services, at (614) 540-4000 or [cyran@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:cyran@ohioschoolboards.org).

**Sign up today at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/bookclub](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/bookclub)!**



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, deputy director of legislative services

### Committee makes changes to Ohio graduation requirements

On Dec. 10, the Ohio House Education Committee adopted 27 amendments to House Bill (HB) 193, legislation that makes changes to Ohio's graduation requirements. The bill was then passed by the committee in a bipartisan manner with only one "no" vote. Primary changes include delaying online assessments and creating "safe harbor" provisions for schools and districts in relation to sanctions for the 2014-15 school year.

A complete list of amendments to HB 193 and a copy of the bill, as passed by the House Education Committee (including the amendments), are available on the OSBA Billtracker page at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker) by searching for "HB 193." Below is a summary of some of the changes made by amendments to the bill:

- Extends deadlines for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to

select equivalent end-of-course examinations and score levels for those examinations; adds nationally normed assessments to the list of potential end-of-course equivalent examinations.

- Permits ODE to add two optional end-of-course examinations (one English language arts and one mathematics) to the five required examinations already included in the bill.

- Permits schools and districts to form consortia for the purpose of purchasing and administering equivalent end-of-course examinations. This provision also would permit ESCs to serve as fiscal agents and coordinate such consortia.

- Provides for reimbursement to schools and districts choosing to administer equivalent end-of-course examinations in lieu of state-chosen assessments. Reimbursement shall be the lesser

of the actual cost of the equivalent assessment or the cost of the state-designated assessment.

- Permits schools and districts to select more than one end-of-course assessment or equivalent assessment per subject area.

- Revises the workforce-ready graduation option to require industry-recognized credential (or occupational license) *or* designated scores on workforce skills/employability assessment instead of both.

- Clarifies that the workforce credential necessary to meet graduation requirements be "industry-recognized."

- Requires ODE to create a model textbook/instructional material adoption process that includes opportunities for public input.

- Requires schools and districts to adopt a process for selecting textbooks and instructional materials that includes consultation with teachers, parents and residents of the school district.
- Deletes "model curriculum" in reference to assessments; assessments remain aligned to content standards.

- Deletes language from the bill that would make administering elementary social studies assessments optional.

*Continued on page 7*

### 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!



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

### Hamilton City high schoolers study school board, city council

**Hamilton City** students recently received a real-life civics lesson by studying school board and city council meetings.

A group of Hamilton High School students shadowed city employees and participated in mock school board and city council meetings. The activities were part of Civics Day, a day set aside since the 1950s to help students learn about local government.

"You can tell that these youngsters are paying attention to

what's going on in the city and have opinions and ideas," Hamilton Mayor **Pat Moeller** told a local newspaper. "The future is bright because they are leaders now and they will be leaders, hopefully with the city."

Moeller, who participated in Civic Day in 1976, said some of the ideas outlined by the students, like hosting a beverage manufacturer convention, are initiatives the schools and city administration should consider.

**Ashley Glomb**, a senior at Hamilton High School, said Civics Day activities gave her a new sense of gratitude for the work of city council and school board members.

"It's like a backstage pass for the school system," said Glomb. "It gives an appreciation of the elected officials and the behind-the-scenes work they do in order to prepare for the meetings and guide the city or school district."

Source: *Journal-News*

---

*Legislative Report, continued from page 6*

- Delays the phase-out of the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) to the class of 2019. Students entering ninth grade after July 1, 2015, will be subject to the new graduation requirements.
- Establishes a "safe harbor" provision for schools and districts for the 2014-15 school year only. Sanctions (other than those required under federal law) will not apply for report card measures or ratings for the 2014-15 school year.
- Prohibits, except in the case of field-testing of assessments, online administration of assessments until the 2015-16 school year.
- Requires ODE to complete a comprehensive survey of the capacity and readiness for

administering online assessments. The survey must include recommended specifications for hardware, software, bandwidth, technical support, security requirements, training of teachers to administer assessments online and training of students with regard to taking assessments online.

- Prohibits the State Board of Education from creating diplomas and endorsements not specified in statute.

- Prohibits the release of students' names and addresses to any multi-state assessment consortium.

Several of these changes were requested by school districts in interested party meetings with

legislators and through grassroots efforts at the local level by members. HB 193 now goes to the full House for a vote. However, both the House and Senate have recessed for the holidays. Therefore, a vote on the entire bill in the House will not occur until legislators return next year. Please contact members of the Ohio House of Representatives over the holiday break while they are in their districts and let them know we support the changes included in HB 193.

For the latest legislative updates, contact the OSBA legislative division at (800) 589-6722.

*Editor's note:* All information in this article was current as of Dec. 13.

## December 2013

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

## January 2014

- 6 Last day for voter registration for February election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).  
8 Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #1..... Columbus  
11-12 New Board Member Academy .. Dayton  
11-12 New Board Member Academy..... Independence  
14 Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....Franklin  
15 Board Meeting Best Practices webinar  
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).  
18-19 New Board Member Academy.....Columbus  
18-19 New Board Member Academy ..Findlay

- 20 Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.  
21 Last day to submit certification for May conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days prior to election).  
22 Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #2..... Columbus  
27 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, 2013 — RC 3517.10; deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; 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).

## February 2014

- 1 Board Presidents Workshop . Rootstown  
1 Board Presidents Workshop..... Dayton  
4 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01(first Tuesday after the first Monday).  
5 Northeast Region Executive Committee meeting.....Wadsworth

- 5 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 5748.02(C), 5705.219 (C) and (G); last day to submit emergency levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to the election).  
9 Northwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....Bowling Green  
9 Southeast Region Executive Committee meeting..... Logan  
11 A Walkthrough of the New Days-to-hours Requirement webinar  
12 Transportation Workshop..... Columbus  
24 Last day to file (by 4 p.m.) as a write-in candidate for May election — RC 3513.041 (72 days prior to the election).