

Ohio School Boards Association

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Public school board delegates approve amendments to OSBA Legislative Platform

COLUMBUS — The Ohio School Boards Association's (OSBA) Delegate Assembly today approved a number of amendments and added a plank to the association's legislative platform. The platform conveys to legislators, policymakers, the public and the media where OSBA stands on issues impacting public education.

The Delegate Assembly is made up of representatives of public school districts from around the state. Delegates held their annual meeting today during OSBA's 63rd annual Capital Conference and Trade Show. More than 9,000 school board members, administrators and other education leaders regularly attend the annual conference at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The conference runs through Nov.13.

Delegates added a new plank to the platform supporting legislation that provides for enhanced mental health services and substance abuse treatment in schools; increases access to school safety measures such as school resource officers, school safety infrastructure and other security measures to protect students and staff; provides training for school employees and enhanced coordination with law enforcement agencies and first responders to ensure appropriate responses to incidents of violence in schools; and provides full funding for the items listed above.

The new plank opposes legislation that mandates implementation of any safety and security measure that is not fully funded by the state and mandates any security measure to be implemented without the approval of the local school district board of education.

In other action, delegates approved amendments supporting legislation that:

- Prohibits mandated zero-tolerance policies.
- Provides for the composition of academic distress commissions and review teams to reflect the demographics — geographic, economic and social — of the school district.

School board delegates approve amendments 2/2/2/2/2

- Prohibits a township, municipality or county from imposing a unilateral tax exemption upon a school district.
- Repeals the right of first refusal to purchase property to private, charter/community and online schools and allows local school boards the flexibility to make facility sales and purchasing decisions based on the needs of their district.

In its 63rd year, 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.

For more information, contact OSBA or your local school board members.