

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## OSBA Board Leadership Institute keynote speakers announced

The keynote speakers at the 2015 OSBA Board Leadership Institute will be Dr. **James Mahoney** and Ohio Sen. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering). The institute is set for May 1 and 2 at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris. Mahoney, executive director of Battelle for Kids, will headline the Opening General Session. Lehner, chair of the Senate Education Committee, will speak at the Closing Luncheon. The Friday-Saturday institute, designed exclusively for board members, also features 18 breakout sessions and plenty of networking opportunities with colleagues and OSBA staff. For details and to register, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/34026> or contact **Laurie Miller** at (614) 540-4000 or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

## Study finds closing achievement gap would boost U.S. economy

A Washington Center for Equitable Growth study finds that raising academic achievement, especially for those not at the top of the economic ladder, would promote widely shared and faster economic growth. The study quantifies how much greater U.S. economic growth, as measured by gross domestic product, would be, and assesses the reductions in economic inequality that would result from narrowing education gaps. Researchers also reported that the increase in economic growth would more than offset the cost of education reforms that would be needed to narrow achievements gaps. Access the study at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/78520>.

## Speak up for your school district at State Legislative Conference

March 25 is the date and the Statehouse is the place for the 2015 State Legislative Conference, hosted by OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. The annual conference enables school district leaders to hear from key policymakers and discuss education-related issues with their state representatives. See the *Briefcase* blue pages for details.

## ETPI changes name to Ohio Education Policy Institute

The Education Tax Policy Institute, an independent research organization founded by OSBA, has changed its name to the Ohio Education Policy Institute (OEPI). The institute's key researcher is Dr. **Howard Fleeter**, one of Ohio's foremost school-funding experts. OEPI's mission is to inform policymakers and the public on a wide range of policy issues affecting funding for Ohio's public school districts.

## USDA issues new Summer Food Service Program guidance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released the 2015 Summer Food Service Program handbook. The program enables schools and nonprofit groups that offer

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### Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Newly appointed board members
- Technology directors
- Transportation supervisors

summer activities for children living in low-income areas to receive federal funding to provide summer meals. The handbook, which provides guidance for groups wishing to sponsor a meals program, is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/25414>. The Ohio Department of Education administers the program at the state level, and provides details at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/24778>. A survey to determine eligibility can be found at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/61815>.

### Yost wants law against felons on charter school boards

State Auditor **Dave Yost** has called on the state legislature to create a "legislative remedy" to prevent individuals with felony convictions from serving on charter school boards. In a letter to Sen. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering), who chairs the Senate Education Committee, he said his office has

**Northeast Ohio school district aims for archery course**

**East Holmes Local (Holmes)** hopes to score a bull's-eye with a new physical education program.

Seventh- and eighth-graders in the district have the opportunity to learn how to use a bow and arrow at school. The National Archery in the Schools Program will be offered at Chestnut Ridge Elementary School in the spring thanks to a \$2,500 grant through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Superintendent **Joe Edinger** said the program was reviewed favorably by the Amish Advisory Board and educators have completed training necessary for the course.

"This is a unique program that fits well into our culture," Edinger told a local newspaper.

Source: *Holmes Bargain Hunter*

discovered charter school board members with a variety of felony convictions and that current law does not prevent most of them from serving on those boards.

### Central Ohio seniors urged to apply for leadership academy

The Central Ohio Leadership

Academy (COLA), created in 2011 by the New Albany Community Foundation and presented by the **ESC of Central Ohio**, is seeking high school seniors to participate in the 2015 academy. COLA provides a high-impact, six-day leadership development experience for Central Ohio high school seniors. The academy enables students to connect with one another in a safe, educational space that is focused on their personal growth. For further information, visit <http://colleadershipacademy.com>. The application deadline is April 18.

### OSBA online

● [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

The 2015 OSBA Capital Conference website is now up and running at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org>. You can access the site to complete nominations for conference learning sessions and for the Student Achievement Fair.



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

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

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

*A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$130 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*

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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

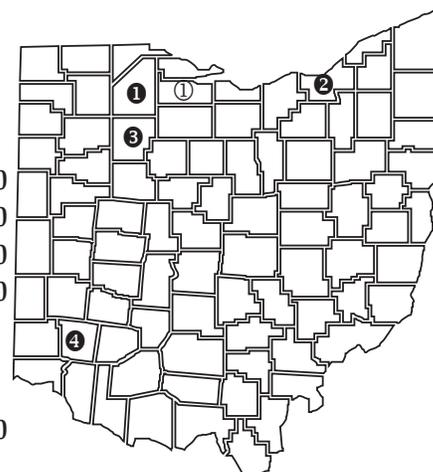
## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Bowling Green City	Feb. 25	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❷ Warrensville Heights City	Feb 27	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❸ Arcadia Local (Hancock)	March 2	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❹ Kings Local (Warren)	March 23	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

### Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Fremont City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



## Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Geneva Area City	March 13	<b>John M. Rubesich</b> , superintendent, Ashtabula County ESC, john.rubesich@neomin.org
Treasurer	Louisville City	March 5	<b>Larry Morgan</b> , superintendent, Stark County ESC, (330) 492-8136, ext. 1350
Treasurer	North College Hill City	March 6	<b>Bill Sears</b> , search lead, <b>Hamilton County ESC</b> , (513) 674-4207
Assistant superintendent	Maumee City	March 14	<b>Sandra Frisch</b> , superintendent, <b>ESC of Lake Erie West</b> , (419) 246-3078

## National searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Van Buren, Ark.	March 3	McPherson & Jacobson LLC, executive recruitment & development, (402) 991-7031

### Editor's note

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

<b>Position</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Superintendent	Birmingham, Ala.	March 9	McPherson & Jacobson LLC, executive recruitment & development, (402) 991-7031

### **Board changes**

Bexley City appointed **Alissha Mitchell** to the board effective Feb. 9. She replaced **Carol Fey**, who resigned last month. ●●● Perry Local (Stark) Board of Education member **Michael Brenner** announced his resignation effective Jan. 31.

### **Administrative changes**

#### **Superintendents**

Fairview Park City hired Interim Superintendent Dr. **Bill Wagner** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. ●●● Independence Local (Cuyahoga) hired **Ben Hegedish** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace superintendent **Steve Marlow**, who announced his retirement effective July 31. Hegedish currently is the district's middle school principal. ●●● Marietta City hired **Will Hampton** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. **Harry Fleming**, who is retiring. Hampton currently is the district's middle school principal. ●●● Perry Local (Stark) Superintendent **Marty Bowe** announced his resignation effective Aug. 1. ●●● Sylvania City hired Assistant Superintendent **Scott Nelson** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. **Bradley J. Rieger**, who is resigning effective June 30. Nelson will serve as interim superintendent during July.

#### **Treasurers**

EHOVE Career Center hired **Betty Schwiefert** as interim treasurer effective Dec. 23. She replaced **Larry Hanneman**, who retired Dec. 31. ●●● Stark County ESC hired James Carman as treasurer effective Feb. 1. He replaces Interim Treasurer **Tamra Hurst**, who will continue as the ESC's director of business operations. Carman previously was the treasurer at Louisville City.

### **Sympathies**

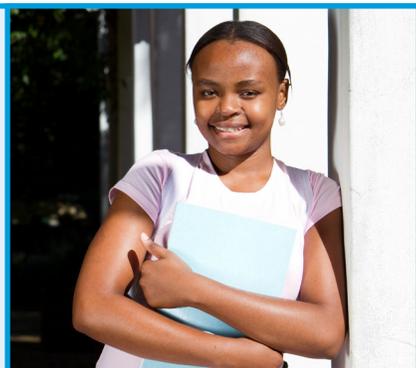
Former Adena Local (Ross) Board of Education member **Louise Mae Drummond** died Feb. 4. She was 76. ●●● Former Ashland County JVSD, Medina City and Medina JVSD Treasurer **Sally A. Eaken** died Jan. 29. She was 78. ●●● Former Barnesville EV Board of Education member **Thomas Preston Welch** died Jan. 25. He was 77. ●●● Former Bradford EV Board of Education member **James "Jim" Theodore Hunt** died Feb. 3. He was 93. ●●● Former Jefferson Area Local (Ashtabula) Board of Education member Dr. **Richard L. Waters** died Jan. 30. He was 81. ●●● Former Maysville Local (Muskingum) Board of Education member **Linda S. Brown** died Jan. 25. She was 71. ●●● Former Niles City Board of Education member **James D. Flick** died Feb. 2. He was 58. ●●● Dr. **Paul Russell**, a member of the Williamsburg Local (Clermont) and former Clermont County boards of education, died Jan. 26.

## **Scholarship deadline March 16**

OSBA is accepting applications for the 2015 OSBA Black Caucus Leo Lucas Scholarship, a program that provides graduating African-American high school seniors funds for college. The program is named for the late **Leo Lucas**, a Dayton City school board member and educator who founded the caucus.

Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/73957> to download an application. The application deadline is March 16.

For more information, contact **Van D. Keating** or **Damon Asbury** at (614) 540-4000 or [vkeating@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:vkeating@ohioschoolboards.org) or [dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org).





## REGIONAL ROUNDUP

by Angela Penquite, assistant editor

### Spring region conferences pop up in March

It might seem a little early to be talking about spring, but it's not too early to start planning for the OSBA spring region conferences. Regional managers are now accepting reservations for these highly popular events.

The five OSBA regions host conferences in the spring and fall. These meetings bring together board members, administrators and guests for dinner, networking, keynote speakers, legislative updates, recognitions and outstanding student entertainment. The spring conferences feature the presentation of the OSBA Award of Achievement and Master Board Member honors.

School board members can earn five credits toward the OSBA Award of Achievement for attending a regional conference. For more information on the Award of Achievement program, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/43085> or contact OSBA. In addition, Ohio Revised Code Section 3315.15 authorizes the establishment of a service fund for board members. These funds can be used for expenses incurred for meetings such as this.

OSBA President **Ed Penrod**, **Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**, and OSBA Executive Director

**Richard Lewis** will travel to all of the meetings to greet attendees and provide association updates. Region officers and other OSBA staff members also will deliver updates and presentations.

Registration forms for all of the region events were published in the Jan. 26 issue of the OSBA *Briefcase*. The same information also is available on the OSBA website. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/regions](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/regions), then choose your region to download a registration form.

Following are brief previews of the 2015 spring region conferences, along with registration information.

#### Central Region

The Central Region will host its conference at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, at the Villa Milano in Columbus. Region President Dr. **Marguerite Bennett**, **Mount Vernon City** and **Knox County Career Center**, will preside over the evening.

Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed by a legislative update by OSBA Director of Legislative Services **Damon Asbury** and a performance by the Mount Vernon City Mellow Jackets Jazz Band. The program will begin at 7 p.m., with a presentation by keynote speaker Otterbein University President Dr.

**Kathy A. Krendl**. Following her presentation, the region will recognize its outstanding schools and board members, as well as its veteran board members.

Registration is \$40 per person, or \$320 for a table seating eight. The registration deadline is Friday, March 6. For more information or questions, contact Dr. **Kim Miller-Smith**, regional manager, at (614) 635-1926 or [kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org).

#### Northeast Region

The Northeast Region will meet on Wednesday, March 4, at **Plain Local's (Stark)** GlenOak High School in Canton. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with registration and socializing. Region President **John W. Halkias**, Plain Local, will preside.

Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m., following a performance by a musical group from GlenOak High School. OSBA Lobbyist **Jennifer Hogue** will present a legislative update, and outstanding board members and teachers and veteran board members will be honored during the recognition portion of the program. The night will wrap up with the presentation of the President's Award.

Registration is \$35 per person;

*Continued on page 6*

# Questions about workers' comp rates?

## Get answers at the 2015 Spring SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshops



Hear the latest on the SchoolComp program, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) changes and experience review. These sessions meet BWC's two-hour safety training requirement.

The workshops will be held at sites around Ohio, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. While there is no fee, registration is requested to accommodate those attending.

You can register on the Ohio Association of School Business Officials website at [www.oasbo-ohio.org](http://www.oasbo-ohio.org) or by calling (614) 431-9116.

### Dates and locations:

Program members should mark their calendars now to attend one of the following workshops:

#### **Tuesday, March 3**

Owens Community College, Findlay

#### **Wednesday, March 4**

Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown

#### **Wednesday, March 11**

Ohio University Inn and Conference Center, Athens

#### **Thursday, March 26**

Holiday Inn, Sharonville

#### **Monday, March 30**

OSBA office, Columbus

### *Management Development Series #1:*

## Are you taking school safety for granted?

**Friday, March 13**

**OSBA office, Columbus**

**10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Cost is \$90**

Hopefully the answer is "no." School safety and security are not only high stakes, but also very detail oriented. Recently, the Ohio legislature enacted new laws on filing emergency management plans, while trends such as ALICE training and arming staff continue to evolve. However, identifying all the various pieces of comprehensive emergency management planning and clearly recognizing the side benefits are a challenge.

This workshop will review legal compliance, the emerging direction of emergency management planning and some of the unexpected benefits from a comprehensive plan.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).





# Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement

OSBA and the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council (OLAC) are offering a new student achievement workshop for board members and administrators. This free workshop will introduce boards of education and their administrative team members to OLAC resources that make governance and shared leadership decisions affecting student achievement more efficient and impactful. OLAC tools have been used throughout Ohio school districts, where they have contributed to closing the achievement gap.

OSBA experts will discuss the role of the board in improving student achievement and the research-based steps boards must take to assist in improving achievement. OLAC experts will explain the proven resources and tools they have built through years of discussion and piloting with school districts.

Individual board members or administrators are invited and welcome to attend, but complete teams of board members and administrators will gain the most from this powerful workshop. Free workshops will be offered regionally:

**March 4** Southern Ohio ESC, Wilmington

**March 5** Fairfield County ESC, Lancaster

**March 10** Wayne County Schools Career Center, Smithville

**March 18** Vantage Career Center, Van Wert

The workshop will begin with networking and refreshments at 5:30 p.m. and conclude by 9 p.m. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



## What can PFR do for you?

OSBA is working with Public Finance Resources Inc. (PFR) to offer district financial forecasting services. This is an OSBA service, provided exclusively for OSBA by PFR.

PFR can:

- analyze internal and external data to develop your district's school budget report card;
- develop customized reports to make your financial information understandable and believable;
- provide effective and efficient financial modeling to identify options and results;
- build local capacity that is based on understanding, believing and planning.

With more than 100 years of combined strategic financial experience, PFR consultants will help you get the information, resources and training you need to achieve maximum effectiveness in your financial leadership role.

**PFR** For more information, contact PFR at  
CFO (614) 732-5948 or visit [www.pfrco.com](http://www.pfrco.com).



Friday, March 20  
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.  
Embassy Suites, Columbus  
Cost is \$160

# Special Education Law Workshop

**8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**

**8:50 a.m. Welcome**

**9 a.m. ODE update: 2015 outlook**

Hear about the recent changes and initiatives at the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Office for Exceptional Children, including an overview of what's ahead for special education in 2015 and beyond. Time for Q&A provided.  
*representatives from ODE Office for Exceptional Children*

**10 a.m. OCR guidance: a look at what's new**

The federal Office for Civil Rights (OCR) recently issued several significant guidance documents that explain a district's obligations to students with disabilities and provide insight into how OCR analyzes complaints involving students with disabilities. Hear a summary of these new directives.  
*Christina H. Peer, Esq., Walter Haverfield LLP, Cleveland*

**10:45 a.m. Break**

**11 a.m. Resolving disputes before the due process hearing**

A school attorney partners with a parent attorney to discuss how mediation and facilitation can effectively be used to rebuild communication between the parties and avoid or resolve disputes before they proceed to a due process hearing.  
*Laura G. Anthony, Esq., Bricker and Eckler LLP, Columbus; and Kerry Agins, Esq., Siegel, Agins & Gilman LLC*

**Noon Lunch (provided)**

**1 p.m. Hot topics in special education**

Review some of the current hot topics in special education, including special education in online/virtual education; handling requests for accessibility features and testing accommodations for students with disabilities; and serving children with diabetes.  
*Julie C. Martin, Esq., Scott, Scriven & Wahoff LLP, Columbus*

**2 p.m. Break**

**2:15 p.m. The discipline dirty dozen**

Identify and analyze 12 of the most common mistakes schools make when disciplining special education students. Learn practical strategies for improving school district discipline procedures.  
*Jeremy J. Neff, Esq., Ennis Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati*

**3:15 p.m. Adjourn**

Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

The Embassy Suites Columbus is located in north Columbus at 2700 Corporate Exchange Drive, 43231. Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/embassy-columbus> for directions.



*Photo courtesy of the Ohio Statehouse Photo Archive*

# State Legislative Conference

Wednesday, March 25

Ohio Statehouse Atrium, Columbus

9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost is \$130

Public education continues to be a hot topic at the Statehouse as we face yet another challenging year. It is likely to be filled with more education reform, policy initiatives and possible revisions to the school-funding formula.

As we begin our work with the new 131st General Assembly, what can we expect for schools? How will the governor's proposed biennial budget impact public education? School officials need to be involved and have their voices heard by attending the annual State Legislative Conference.

The 2015 State Legislative Conference provides school board members, administrators and treasurers a great venue to meet with their state legislators and discuss issues impacting public education. It is a golden opportunity to get the message out on the importance of investing in a strong public school system and putting a local face on these issues.

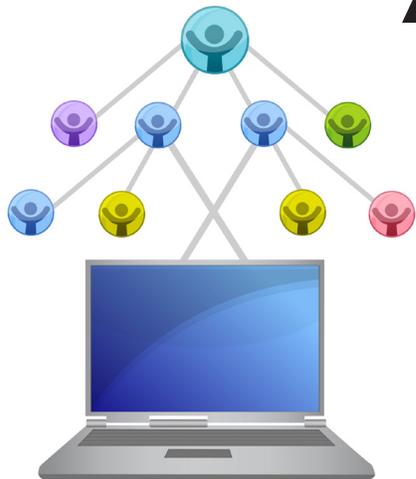
During the morning session, school district leaders will hear briefings on proposed legislation that can be used in discussions with their legislators during lunch and in office visits later that day. Attendees also will hear from legislative leaders about their views on public education and other priorities.

**Attendees are urged to schedule office appointments to meet individually with their legislators and their aides following the luncheon, which concludes at 1 p.m. We also encourage you to extend a personal invitation to them to attend the luncheon.**

Don't miss this annual event and chance to have your voice heard at the Statehouse. Registration will begin at 8:45 a.m. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/28276> for driving directions and links to parking information.

# OSBA Cyberlaw 2015



## Technology and the law seminar

Friday, March 27, 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.  
OSBA office, Columbus  
Cost is \$150

- |            |  |           |   |
|------------|--|-----------|---|
| 8:30 a.m.  | <b>Registration and continental breakfast</b>  | 11 a.m.   | <b>District data breaches</b><br>What should your district do when confidential data is lost, stolen or compromised? With a focus on both preventive and response measures, this session will help you create and evaluate your data breach and response plan.<br><i>Thomas B. Allen, Esq., and Lauren K. Hunter, Esq., Frost Brown Todd LLC, West Chester</i>        |
| 8:50 a.m.  | <b>Welcome</b>   | Noon      | <b>Lunch (provided)</b>   |
| 9 a.m.     | <b>Beyond the schoolhouse gate: student expression on the Internet</b><br>Can they really say that? Review recent and developing case law on electronic off-campus student speech and what district administrators can address without offending students' constitutional rights.<br><i>Christine Cossler, Esq., Walter Haverfield LLP, Cleveland</i>  | 1 p.m.    | <b>Lessons learned from social media litigation</b><br>Using recent litigation as examples, an experienced litigator will prepare districts to navigate the challenges of handling cases involving workplace disputes over social media.<br><i>Jessica Philemond, Esq., Scott, Scriven &amp; Wahoff LLP, Columbus</i>   |
| 10 a.m.    | <b>Tweets, texts and tags: a look at public officials' digital communications</b><br>Discuss the legal issues associated with public officials' digital communications, including the implications such communications have under public records law, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the open meetings act and the First Amendment.<br><i>Stacy Pollock, Esq., Mazanec, Raskin &amp; Ryder Co. LPA, Columbus</i> | 2 p.m.    | <b>Break</b>  |
| 10:45 a.m. | <b>Break</b>   | 2:15 p.m. | <b>Using district-owned property off campus</b><br>Granting students and staff off-campus access to district-owned digital devices like iPads and Chromebooks raises potential legal issues. Learn how to proactively protect your district's interests before distributing these devices.<br><i>Pamela A. Leist, Esq., Ennis Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati</i> |
|            |  | 3:15 p.m. | <b>Adjourn</b>  |

Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

# OSBA MASTER OF TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (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 — each offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — will include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is 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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs) to read workshop descriptions and learn about the MTA certification program.

The cost is \$90 per workshop. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops). You also can purchase a subscription plan for all the workshops in this series. For any questions about the program, contact **Diana Paulins**, OSBA senior administrative assistant of policy services, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [mta@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:mta@ohioschoolboards.org).



## Routing and technology — April 1 or April 7

Maximizing route efficiency is essential in today's school environment. No one can afford to run extra buses or those that only serve a few students. Look at proven strategies for determining how many buses you need and routing styles. This session also discusses technologies to help with routing and the costs and benefits of that technology.

## Buy that bus and put the plan together — May 6 or May 12

Review the bus purchase process and how to determine when it is time to buy or lease, including a review of the data you need to make the right decision. Learn about operational plans, work calendars and how to schedule or delegate projects. Much of what you do has a critical work path, so it's important to plan ahead. Learn how building your stakeholder groups and support network is key to your success.



## Leadership for Learning

Learning session nominations due **March 16**.

Student Achievement Fair program and performing group nominations due **June 26**.

Registration opens **July 13**.

OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show — **Nov. 8-11**.

Save the dates



OSBA Capital Conference • <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org>



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement

- March 4, Wilmington, free
- March 5, Lancaster, free
- March 10, Smithville, free
- March 18, Van Wert, free

## Management Development Series #1: Are you taking school safety for granted?

- March 13, Columbus, \$90

## Special Education Law Workshop

- March 20, Columbus, \$160

## State Legislative Conference

- March 25, Columbus, \$130

## OSBA Cyberlaw 2015: Technology and the law seminar

- March 27, Columbus, \$150

## 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/workshops](http://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](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.

Regional Roundup, continued from page 5

the deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 25. For additional information, contact **Reno Contipelli**, regional manager at (330) 485-3731 or rcontipelli@ohioschoolboards.org.

### Northwest Region

The Northwest Region gathers on Thursday, March 12, at **Sandusky City's** Sandusky High School in Sandusky. Northwest Region President **Kevin Landin, Ottoville Local (Putnam)**, will preside over the evening.

The event will feature a student art showcase. The viewing, along with registration and socializing, begins at 4:45 p.m., followed by dinner shortly after 6 p.m. The Sandusky High School A Capella Choir, directed by **Brian Nitschke**, will perform following dinner.

OSBA Deputy Director of Legislative Services **Jay Smith** will present a legislative update. The region will recognize its past president, Award of Achievement recipients, veteran board members and 2014 OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair participants. It also will present the Outstanding Board Participation Award; Northwest Region Excellence in Community Service Award; the Northwest Region Who's Who Excellence in Outstanding Leadership Award; and the Northwest Region Humanitarian Award.

Registration is \$30 per person, or \$160 for a table of six. The deadline to register is Friday, March 6. For questions or more information, contact Dr. **Judy**

**Jackson May**, regional manager, at (419) 581-9782 or jjacksonmay@ohioschoolboards.org.

### Southeast Region

The Southeast Region hosts two spring conferences. This year's events are Tuesday, March 17, at the **Pike County Career Technology Center** in Piketon, and Thursday, March 19, at **Zanesville City's** Zanesville High School in Zanesville. Region President **Gail Requardt, East Muskingum Local (Muskingum) and Mid-East Career and Technology Centers**, will preside over the conferences.

Both sessions begin at 5:30 p.m. with a social period followed by dinner. Honorees will include Student Achievement Fair participants, Award of Achievement recipients and veteran board members. The events also will include an OSBA legislative update.

Registration is \$35 per person; the deadline is Friday, March 13. For more information, contact **Paul D. Mock**, regional manager, at (740) 469-2724 or pmock@ohioschoolboards.org.

### Southwest Region

The Southwest Region will meet at the **Miami Valley Career Technology Center** in Clayton on Tuesday, March 10. The conference begins at 5:15 p.m. with a social period, followed by dinner. Region President **Gail Martindale, Cedar Cliff Local (Greene) and Greene County Career Center**, will preside.

The program will include a

legislative update by OSBA Deputy Director of Legislative Services **Jay Smith**. The region will honor **Janet Smith**, coordinator of the Hamilton County Special Olympics, with the 2015 President's Award.

The region also will recognize its veteran board members, 2014 effective school boards, Award of Achievement and Master Board Member recipients and outstanding staff members.

Registration is \$38 per person; the deadline is Wednesday, March 4. For further information, contact **Ronald J. Diver**, regional manager, at (937) 634-9025 or rdiver@

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## OSBA Contract Analysis Service

OSBA provides a cost-effective professional analysis of both certified and classified collective bargaining agreements. These written reviews serve as a critique of current contract provisions, suggest potential pitfalls regarding legal compliance and provide specific recommendations as you go into your next round of collective bargaining.

Contact Van D. Keating, director of management services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for more information.

Regional Roundup, continued from page 6

ohioschoolboards.org.

The region conferences are great places to network with school districts in your area. They also are

full of valuable information from around the state and region. Be sure to take advantage of these outstanding opportunities to pick

up new ideas, get updated on OSBA activities and learn from your fellow board members.

We hope to see you there.



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

### Legislators launch discussions on 'education deregulation' bill

Both the Ohio House and the Senate are currently entertaining discussions on giving more flexibility to school districts, especially those that are considered "high-performing."

The Senate introduced Senate Bill (SB) 3, which would provide districts relief from state-imposed mandates and has been termed "education deregulation." The legislation, sponsored by Senate President **Keith Faber** (R-Celina) and Sen. **Cliff Hite** (R-Findlay), is undergoing hearings in the Senate Education Committee. According to Hite, the legislation would free school districts from unnecessary state regulations as well as exempt high-performing districts from additional state mandates.

The reforms proposed in SB 3 include testing reform, reducing burdensome regulations on school leaders and providing regulatory relief for high-performing districts.

The testing reform provisions stem mostly from recent recommendations made by state Superintendent of Public

Instruction Dr. **Richard A. Ross**. They include no longer requiring districts to administer the first- and second-grade math diagnostic test and the writing diagnostic for grades one through three. The bill also eliminates the fall administration of the third-grade reading test. In addition, the bill proposes limiting state-mandated testing time to no more than 2% of the school year on standardized tests and no more than 1% on practice tests. The legislation would give school districts the option to exceed these limits if their school boards pass a resolution authorizing it.

SB 3 also would raise the competitive bid threshold from \$25,000 to \$50,000 to reduce the number of requests for proposals for small projects. In addition, it would add clarifying language to allow school districts to contract for health services with hospitals, licensed health care plans and ESCs.

Finally, SB 3 would allow high-performing school districts more flexibility on fulfilling state-

regulated mandates. The bill defines high-performing districts as those earning at least 85% of the total possible points on the Performance Index score; an "A" grade for performance indicators met; a four-year graduation rate of at least 93%; and a five-year graduation rate of at least 95%.

These districts would be exempt from teacher credentialing requirements included in the third-grade reading guarantee and teacher placement requirements based upon licensure. SB 3 also would allow a superintendent to hire individuals to teach who are not credentialed teachers, but have been endorsed by the school board as having the necessary experience and expertise to fulfill the position. In addition, the bill would require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to create a plan that would allow high-performing districts to draw down on a portion of the state funds they are eligible to receive and use them for technology, building expansion

*Continued on page 8*



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

## Small school district collaborative is achieving big results

A partnership among small, rural Ohio school districts is helping students succeed.

Twenty-one school districts in the southeastern part of the state formed the Ohio Appalachian Collaborative (OAC) in 2009. The districts have leveraged the partnership to attract more than \$25 million in public and private grants from a variety of sources, including the state's Race to the Top grant and Straight A Innovation Fund.

The funding has allowed the districts to give teachers more opportunities for professional learning about formative instructional practices, the use of value-added data to adjust their instruction, college and career readiness planning and change leadership. It also helps the districts collaborate and offer more advanced classes to students.

"The glue that brought the districts together was the goal of enhancing opportunities for kids

in rural communities," said **Brad Mitchell**, who facilitates the collaborative on behalf of the nonprofit group Battelle for Kids.

OAC has made an impact on students. The graduation rate among the districts increased from 85% in 2010 to 92% in 2012, more students are earning college credits while still in high school, more students are taking the ACT college entrance examination and college enrollment is up.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Education

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*Legislative Report, continued from page 7*

and physical changes to improve school safety or security.

The House also is expected to have similar discussions with pending language contained in House Bill 64, the state biennial budget legislation. At the time this article was written, the actual budget language had just been formally introduced in the House and contains many of the provisions that appear in SB 3.

Some additional provisions included in the budget proposal include: eliminating requirements for a district or school to report, and the Ohio Department of Education to post, information on extracurricular services offered to students; providing teachers rated

"accomplished" with true off-years from annual evaluation requirements; giving administrators the option to exempt teachers from annual evaluation requirements in the year the teacher is taking the Resident Educator Summative Assessment; reducing the mentoring requirements for the Resident Educator Program to years one and two; and allowing districts to decide the professional development needs for Resident Educator Program participants.

The budget bill also defines high-performing districts differently than SB 3. It defines a high-performing district as one that has an "A" in the overall value-added score; at least 95% of its third-grade students

scoring proficient or higher on the third-grade reading assessment; and a four-year graduation rate of 93% or higher. Flexibility that the budget bill would provide to these districts includes relief from class size requirements; third-grade reading guarantee credentialing requirements; mandatory contracts for services with an ESC; and required consultation with ESCs for services for students with disabilities.

For the latest updates contact the legislative division at (800) 589-6722 or use the OSBA BillTracker page at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker).

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

**February 2015**

23 *Last day to file (by 4 p.m.) as a write-in candidate for May primary election — RC 3513.041 (72 days prior to the election).*

**March 2015**

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.*

3 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Findlay

4 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Rootstown

4 OSBA Book Club webinar #2

4 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Wilmington

4 Northeast Region Spring Conference..... Canton

5 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Lancaster

10 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Smithville

10 Southwest Region Spring Conference..... Clayton

11 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Athens

11 Central Region Spring Conference..... Columbus

12 Northwest Region Spring Conference..... Sandusky

13 Management Development Series #1: Are you taking school safety for granted? ..... Columbus

17 Southeast Region Spring Conference..... Piketon

18 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Van Wert

19 Southeast Region Spring Conference..... Zanesville

20 Special Education Law Workshop ..... Columbus

24 OSBA Book Club webinar #3

25 State Legislative Conference.. Columbus

26 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Sharonville

27 Cyberlaw Seminar ..... Columbus

30 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Columbus

31 *End of second ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).*

**April 2015**

1 OSBA MTA Program: Routing and technology ..... Columbus

6 *Last day for voter registration for May election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).*

7 OSBA MTA Program: Routing and technology ..... Columbus

7 Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting..... TBD

15 *Last day for certain board members and administrators to file financial disclosure forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02.*

16 New JVSD Board Member Workshop ..... Columbus

21 Student privacy in a digital age webinar

23 Management Development Series #2 Workshop ..... Columbus

26 Southeast Region Executive Committee meeting..... Zanesville

27 *Last day to submit certification for August income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).*

**May 2015**

1 *Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor for August election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the election).*

1-2 Board Leadership Institute .... Columbus