



# Central News

January 2019 – News of the Ohio School Boards Association Central Region

## DEBORAH SMITH SPRING CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**“And One More Thing –  
You Have to Translate the Culture Too!”**

We are delighted to welcome **Deborah Smith**, associate professor of health sciences at **Ohio University Lancaster Campus**, as our spring conference keynote speaker. Smith will speak about the differences between families in middle class and those living without resources as barriers for success in formal education. The expectations of students and families defined by middle class perceptions do not translate well for those who live in poverty. Based on Bridges Out of Poverty principles, this presentation will challenge participants to consider the need for schools to serve as the translator of cultural

norms for students and families.



*Deborah Smith*

*Photo: Matthew Berry/ Eagle-Gazette*

A resident of Lancaster, Ohio and an alumnus of **Fairfield Union Local's** (Fairfield), Fairfield Union High School, Smith has worked as a physical therapist, faculty member and program director at Ohio State University Newark and Central Ohio Technical College and assistant professor of Health Technology at the Ohio University Lancaster Campus.

Smith served as chair of the Sharing Hope Leadership Team, a group that builds relationships across economic and class lines in order to fight poverty in Fairfield County Ohio. Make it a point to attend the OSBA Central Region Spring Conference on March 13 (see related article) to hear this engaging keynote presentation.

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

State Legislative Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 19, at the Sheraton Columbus at Capital Square. The event provides district leadership teams a great venue to meet with their state legislators and discuss issues impacting public education. It is a perfect opportunity to get the message out on the importance of investing in strong public schools 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. Participants will also hear from legislative leaders about their views on public education and other priorities.

Reservations for this conference are made by using the following link:

<https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events/view/state-legislative-conference-1>

## BOARD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE APRIL 26 - 27



Make plans to attend the only two-day (Friday-Saturday) professional development event in the state designed by and exclusively for school board members. The Board Leadership Institute (BLI) provides new and veteran board members across Ohio information to help guide their districts forward. Attendees receive up-to-date information on topics such as student achievement, finance, school law, legislative issues, and board development.

The institute also features enlightening keynote speakers, networking luncheons, an on-site OSBA Bookstore and plenty of opportunities to share ideas and best practices with other board members and association staff.

To register for BLI, visit <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events/view/board-leadership-institute-1> or contact OSBA Events Manager Laurie Miller at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

The event is held at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris. Look for more information in upcoming editions of the *Briefcase*.

## SPRING CONFERENCE 2019

Reserve your seat today for the OSBA Central Region Spring Conference on **Wednesday, March 13**. The event will be held at Villa Milano Banquet and Conference Center, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus.

Central Region will recognize outstanding schools, outstanding programs and board members with 10, 15 and 20 years of experience. Additionally, we will honor board members who have earned the Award of Achievement or Master Board Member distinction. The awards portion of the spring conference provides the region's membership an opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of fellow board members and instructional leaders.

Likewise, spring conference is a professional development opportunity for district leadership. OSBA's experts will deliver pertinent legislative and association updates and like other conferences, we will feature a keynote speaker. Deborah Smith, associate professor, Ohio University Lancaster Campus, will deliver our keynote address. This session promises to be thought-provoking. (See related article on front page.)

Reservations will be made online at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/crspring2019> allowing individuals and school districts to pay with a personal or district credit card. Registration deadline for this event is March 6.

We are looking forward to seeing you on March 13.



## SCHREINER NAMED CENTRAL REGION ALL-OHIO SCHOOL BOARD and OSBA PRESIDENT-ELECT

**Lee Schreiner**, board member **South-Western City**, *and* OSBA president-elect, was selected as our All-Ohio Board member. Lee is a retired teacher from the South-Western City Schools and has served as a board of education member in the district for the past six years.

All-Ohio winners are selected from the region's Outstanding Board Member nominations. The selection committee evaluates nominees who are concerned for the education and welfare of children, make the necessary time commitments, invest in their personal professional development, practice good decision-making, work with their fellow board members as a team and follow OSBA's code of ethics.



*Lee Schreiner accepting the  
OSBA president-elect  
nomination*

Schreiner retired from teaching in June of 2013 after 37 years in the classroom. He was appointed to fill an unexpired term and was then elected to the board. He has served as his board's vice president and serves on many committees directly and indirectly associated with the district. He has served on the Central Region Executive Committee, is

a past president of the Central Region, has served on the OSBA Board of Trustees since his board

appointment and currently serves as a member of the OSBA Executive Committee. Lee is active in the Federal Relations Network and has served with that group since his first year on the school board.

A multiple year earner of the Award of Achievement and recipient of the Master Board Member award, Schreiner is recognized as a leader who can build consensus and work with all groups of people. We are very proud of our All-Ohio Board Member and OSBA president-elect.

## EVENTS & DATES

Feb. 5

Decoding Human Resources for the  
Board and Administrative Team

Feb. 9

Board Member 201: Mastering your  
board leadership skills

Feb. 12

Urban Network Winter Meeting

Feb. 23

Intentional Practices in Public  
Education Workshop

March 1

Special Education Law Workshop

March 9

Valuing Evaluation Workshop

March 13

Central Region Spring Conference

March 15

Cyberlaw Workshop

March 19

State Legislative Conference

April 12

Diversity and Inclusion and the  
Workplace

April 26-27

Board Leadership Institute

Check out details for all training  
events at

[https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/  
events](https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)



## CENTRAL REGION EXCELLENCE FALL 2018



*Another full house Fall Conference 2018*



*Columbus City, Jennifer LaPlace, Outstanding Teacher and Jonathan Juravich 2018 Ohio Teacher of the Year*



*Richard Lewis, Randy Smith, Licking County ESC Heather Ross, and Amy Eyman – Exemplary Employee*



*Mayor Tom Kneeland, Gahanna-Jefferson personnel celebrating - Friend of Public Education*

**One hundred ninety-three people attended** the 2018 Central Region Fall Conference, Villa Milano's served an excellent lasagna dish and participants enjoyed the social hour prior to dinner. Attendees were entertained by Lancaster City's Lancaster High School Chamber Choir and heard presentations from OSBA Chief Executive Officer, **Rick Lewis**, OSBA President **Randy Smith**, and OSBA Director of Legislative Services **Jennifer Hogue**. **Jonathan Juravich**, 2018 Ohio Teacher of the Year, presented an excellent keynote address, "Top 10 Lessons Learned from the State Teachers of the Year."

One **Outstanding Teacher** (teacher nominated for the Ohio Teacher of the Year) **Jennifer M. LaPlace**, Columbus City, Centennial High School was awarded the Central Region Outstanding Teacher award.

Additionally, the region awarded the following:

**Exemplary Employee** — **Cheryl Ward**, Columbus City; **Jill Elliott**, Gahanna-Jefferson City; **Cheri Berlin**, Grandview Heights City; **Sara Phelps**, Hamilton Local (Franklin); **Amber Eaton**, Lancaster City; **Heather Ross**, Licking County ESC; **Brendan Cain**, Ontario Local (Richland); **Brenda Amspau**gh, Walnut Township Local (Fairfield).

**Friend of Public Education** — **Bradley P. Murtiff**, Bucyrus City; **"I Know I Can"**, Columbus City; Mayor **Greg Peterson**, Dublin City; Mayor **Tom Kneeland**, Gahanna-Jefferson City; **Galion Building and Loan**, Galion City; **Jack Kukura**, Grandview Heights City; **Jamie Conley**, Hamilton Local (Franklin); **Becky Tener**, Lancaster City; **Verdie Abel**, Licking County ESC; **Julia Roll**, Olentangy Local (Delaware); **Amy M. Hoovler**, Southwest Licking Local (Licking); **Rita Mohler**, Walnut Township Local (Fairfield).

**Outstanding Board Member** — Lee Schreiner, South-Western City.

Congratulations to all of our award winners!

## 25 and 30 YEARS STRONG

Five Central Region board members were recognized at Capital Conference for reaching the 25-year board service milestone.

**25-year recipients** were **Ed Bischoff**, ESC of Central Ohio and Delaware Area Career Center; **Douglas Theaker**, Mid-Ohio ESC; **Thomas White**, Ross-Pike ESC; **Jan Leeth**, Ross-Pike ESC and **Roger Zeune**, Southwest Licking Schools (Licking).

Board members with more than 25 years of service are honored at the Central Region Fall Conference.

### 30 -year recipients

Being a school board member is rewarding and challenging. Effective board service requires skills and effort not always apparent to some onlookers and serving a district as a board member for 30 years is certainly not a common occurrence.

The following board members were recognized: **Larry Campbell**, East Knox Local (Knox); **Joyce Galbraith**, ESC of Central Ohio and Eastland-Fairfield CTC and **David Hice**, Southeastern Local Schools (Ross).

Thanks to all of our veteran board members for your service to our students and communities.



Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or help me connect you with fabulous OSBA services!  
[kmillersmith@ohio.schoolboards.org](mailto:kmillersmith@ohio.schoolboards.org)  
(614) 635-1926

## THE CENTRAL REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lee Schreiner  
South-Western City, OSBA president-elect

Amy Eyman  
Lancaster City, immediate past president

Stu Harris  
Dublin City, president

Renda M. Cline  
Mansfield City, president-elect

Kevin Archer, Teays Valley Local (Pickaway)  
Dr. Marguerite Bennett, Mount Vernon City and Knox County Career Center

Edward Bischoff, ESC of Central Ohio and Delaware Area Career Center

Kevin Butler, Canal Winchester Local (Franklin)

W. Shawna Gibbs, Columbus City

Robert Haas, Tri-Rivers Career Center

David Harper, Jefferson Local (Madison) and Tolles CTC

Paul Wayne Hinkle, Highland Local (Morrow)

Dr. Paul Johnson, Bucyrus City and Pioneer CTC

Brian Luke, Marysville EV

Jane McGinty, Madison Local (Richland)

Ted McKinniss, Marion City and  
Tri-Rivers Career Center

Richard McLarnan, Knox County ESC and Knox County Career Center

Robert Ragland, South-Western City

Leslie Schneider, Marion City

Ray Storts, Union Scioto Local (Ross)

Charlie Wilson, Worthington City

Roger Zeune, Southwest Licking Local (Licking)

Kim Miller-Smith, regional manager

## GERALD STEBELTON CHAMPION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Central Region Executive Committee established the Champion of Public Education award in 2016 to recognize public servants with a demonstrated career history of supporting and advocating for public education. This award marks only our region's third recognition honoring individuals. Gerald Stebelton, was awarded the 2018 Central Region Champion of Public Education.

Stebelton retired in 2014 after serving four terms in the Ohio House of Representatives for Ohio's 77th House District.



While in the Ohio House of Representatives, Stebelton was named as a member of the Judiciary and Ethics

Committee, the Finance and Appropriations and the Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee, as well as the Chairman of the Education Committee.

As the chair of the House Education Committee, he worked for (among other things) a fair school funding formula, retention and support of Ohio's Learning Standards and reduced state mandated testing. Jerry also served his community as a member of the Lancaster City Council and the Lancaster City Board of Education.

Steve Wigton, superintendent of Lancaster City Schools, noted that during Jerry's tenure on the board of education, "he worked to develop a cohesive, unified board which set policy to support students, staff and administration and developed a culture to trust the educators to manage the operations of the district.

"In his service to the students and communities of Lancaster and the state, he was accessible to constituents, was very deliberate in ensuring our 'public' school voices were heard and was known for his ability to work across the aisle promoting legislative bi-partisanship."

Since retirement from the General Assembly, Stebelton has supported the bipartisan group, Revive Civility in Politics and has returned to an "of-counsel" position with the law firm he founded in 1978, **StebeltonSnider**.

Congratulations, Gerald Stebelton.

There is no shortage of fun and learning when you attend OSBA and Central Region events. Consider joining us at the next region conference, Legislative Day, Board Leadership Institute, our summer legislative update and the 2019 Capital Conference. Other ways to be involved include scheduling a board development or student achievement workshop in your district, attending an OSBA sponsored workshop, contacting your legislators when legislative alerts are sent and reading your newest copy of Central Region News. Best of all, we are always open to new ideas!



*Sheryl Weber, Mansfield City; Kim Miller-Smith and Ray Storts, Union Scioto Local (Ross) working at Capital Conference.*



## CENTRAL REGION LEADERSHIP



*Amy Eyman, 2018 Region President    Stu Harris, 2019 Region President*

Each January the Central Region greets a new president and sets goals for the year ahead. We thank Amy Eyman who served capably as our 2018 region president. Amy has served on the Lancaster City board of education for 11 years, leading as president for five of those years and serves on numerous board standing committees. Eyman is the Executive Director of the Fairfield County Foundation serving Fairfield County.

Under Eyman's leadership the region encouraged school boards to focus on its student achievement role and responsibility. Keynote speakers for our Spring and Fall Conference addressed pressing student achievement issues. Likewise, Region Manager Kim Miller-Smith and available executive committee members continued visiting districts at board of education meetings to present awards or meet and greet.

And, we look forward to Stu Harris leading the region in 2019. Stu has served on the Dublin Board of Education for 12 years and has also served on the Board of Directors at Tolles Career and Technical Center.

Harris is assistant general counsel at Nationwide Insurance. Early in his career, Stu served as a judicial law clerk in federal district court and later worked for Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery, where he became Assistant Chief of the Criminal Justice Section. Following his tenure with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Harris was an associate at Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter, where he worked with property owners and small businesses.

Stu and his family are involved in Special Olympics, Miracle League, Dublin Youth Athletics and the YMCA. Harris will continue to make the Central Region a vibrant support for its 102 public school districts.

## NEWS AND NOTES . . .

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Send all correspondence to region manager, **Kim Miller-Smith, 8050 N. High Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235.**

### HUNGER HURTS

1.7 million Ohioans grapple with food insecurity and its impact on their lives - and 529,000 of these individuals are children, 1 in every 5. (Map the Meal Gap 2016). Be sure to check out the next OSBA Journal!

### CHRONIC ABSENCE

A student is chronically absent if he or she misses as few as **two days of school a month.**

**2 DAYS PER MONTH x 9 MONTHS =  
CHRONIC ABSENCE**

### END THE SILENCE

One in five teens aged 13 to 18 experience a mental health condition in any given year. Eighty percent of these young people are not receiving treatment. For more information on the free "End the Silence" presentation, call NAMI Ohio at (614) 224-2700.

### SAVE THE DATE

Central Region Legislative Open House – Aug. 28 at Tri-Rivers Career Center.



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## CONFRONTING POVERTY, ONE MYTH AT A TIME

*Kim Miller-Smith, OSBA senior student achievement consultant*

William Parrett and Kathleen Budge's Framework for Action, "Turning High-Poverty Schools into High-Performing Schools" is a framework I recommend for your consideration. Misconceptions about children and families who live in poverty abound. Here is just one I've heard often over the years. Is this thinking clouding your district's efforts to work with students living in poverty?

**Myth:** Parents of students who live in poverty are uninvolved in their children's education because they do not value it.

**Research:** Parents with low-income are rarely unconcerned with their child's education. Rather, it is more likely they do not know how to help, and the current system provides them with limited opportunities to be involved in ways that fit into the realities of their lives.

Research has shown that people living in poverty have similar attitudes about their children's education as do their more affluent counterparts. Conversely, they often have far less access to school involvement opportunities because they work multiple jobs, work evenings, do not have paid leave, are unable to afford child care, or do not have transportation (Gorski, 2008).

People living in poverty also may appear not to value education because of reasons related to its relevancy in their lives. In her study, Beegle (2006) suggests that education lacked meaning for many of the people she studied. They attended school for such reasons as "it was the law" and for all of the participants, school was "a source of discomfort, unhappiness, and stress" and a place they felt they did not belong.