



# Central News

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

## MENTAL HEALTH

### WHAT WE LEARN FROM “WHAT MADE MADDY RUN”

by **Stu Harris, OSBA Central Region President**

“What Made Maddy Run” by **Kate Fagan** is a biographical account of an Ivy League freshman track star, who was supported by her caring and engaged parents and family. Maddy was struggling with mental health issues connected to her transition to college. Tragically, in her second semester at the University of Pennsylvania, Maddy ended her life. **Dublin City Schools** chose this book for a community book read. In March, Fagan visited Dublin Scioto High School to lead a discussion for over 700 people on these emotional issues.

What happened in Maddy’s life to go from a model student-athlete



to death by suicide? This is the book’s enigma, capturing a national dilemma.

Across the Nation and in Ohio, there is an increasing number of students who struggle with mental health issues in high school and college. According to the National College Health Assessment, at any given time, about one-third of U.S. college students have

difficulty functioning due to depression.

Additionally, according to the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, suicide rates for people between ages 15 and 24 have increased alarmingly in the last decade.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FAIR

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and innovative programs from school districts across the state. It is one of the most successful and rewarding exhibitions at the OSBA Capital Conference. We would love to see your district involved.

For many conference attendees, the Student Achievement Fair is the highlight of Capital Conference. The show is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, 2019, during the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show.

Program submissions will be reviewed for acceptance until all booths have been filled. Please note all performance groups have been selected. Submissions are open for district programs only.

Nominate your district program today!

<http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/2019/saf-program-nomination/> or contact **Heather Lantz** at (800) 589-OSBA or [hlantz@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:hlantz@ohioschoolboards.org)

## FALL AWARDS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE!

**Central Region award  
applications are due July 15**

The Central Region executive committee has been intentional about whom and how it chooses to honor excellence in the region.

The **Friend of Public Education** award and the **Exemplary Employee** award epitomize what the region's board members believe to be the heart of effective districts. Please consider nominating an outstanding employee (non-teacher) for the Exemplary Employee Award or an invaluable community member for the Friend of Public Education Award. Forms are available on the Central Region web page at <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/central-region>.

**Each district may nominate one individual for each award.** The award process is simple and it's an opportunity to bring positive press and communication about people who go the extra mile for your district. Nominees are recognized at the Central Region Fall Conference.

### *Mental Health Issues Continued . . .*

Fagan's discussion was emotional and her delivery thoughtful and empathetic. Fagan taught us a lot about mental health misunderstandings and stigmas, social media and how to talk about suicide. First, a person can be thriving on the outside athletically and academically like Maddy and still struggling with mental health issues on the inside.

Additionally, exacerbating all of this is the ever-present role of social media in our society. On social media, according to Fagan—everyone projects a perfect life like a highlight reel. Maddy projected an image of herself as thriving, as did her friends, punctuating every text and post with emojis. In other words, there are not always palpable or noticeable signs of mental health struggles.

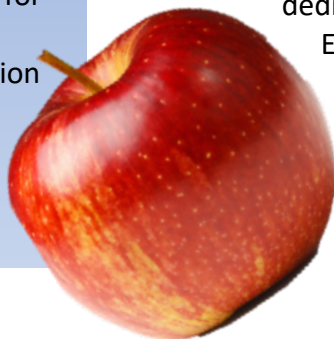
At the parking garage where Maddy died, she left a bag of gifts and a note that started with: "I thought how unpleasant it is to be locked out; and I thought how it is worse perhaps to be locked in." This quote from noted author Virginia Woolf (who drowned herself) captures the Catch-22 between Maddy and her family and friends. The more Maddy locked them out by hiding her illness the more she was locked in alone.

For her parents, there was no understanding how Maddy's happiness could be extinguished in one moment. "Think of all the life that had been breathed into her: the hugs, the laughter, the birthday parties with friends, Saturday morning car rides to soccer practice, the juice boxes and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with the crusts cut off, the tears, the stern words, the I love yous, the endless list of things done for every loved child. So much energy poured into one being: their daughter."

In seeking to provide guideposts and answers, Fagan places additional chapters about important aspects of mental health and suicide. First and foremost, the message is about reducing the stigma around mental illness "for all those seeking hope." (the dedication page in the book.) And as noted by her

Editor: "The book ... is a special work .... Read it.

Think about it. Talk about it. Share it. Be a part of changing the narrative." In our schools, let us continue to include educators, advocates, teachers and parents across the country to find a comprehensive approach to mental health and education.



## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Board members from around the state serve on state and regional committees. Their efforts shape the Capital Conference, nominate members to elected OSBA positions and assist and plan regional events.

All members are encouraged to seek a nomination. By serving as an elected official or a committee member, you will have an opportunity to interact with board members from other districts, represent your district at state and regional events and help strengthen OSBA.

Consider serving on the Central Region Executive Committee. The committee meets 3 times a year - once via teleconference, once at capital conference and once in the summer. We plan region events, gain insight about educational happenings from our state board or legislative contacts and make sure our work at the region level is relevant to our members.

Download the "Call for Region Offices and Committees" at <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/sites/default/files/2020CallNom-committeesform.pdf>

Please call Central Regional Manager, Kim Miller-Smith at (614) 540-4000 for more information about the committees and their time requirements.

**Applications are due by June 28.**

## OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBER

Five Ohio school board members, one from each region, will take center stage in November to receive the Ohio School Boards Association's most prestigious honor, the All-Ohio School Board Award.

Consider nominating an outstanding board member. **The deadline is June 28. All board members who are nominated will be recognized at the Central Region Fall Conference on Sept. 25.** One outstanding board member will be selected by the region's award committee as the All-Ohio recipient.

**This nomination requires board action so ACT NOW!** We have many deserving candidates in our region – let's recognize them for their dedication to our schools and the communities they serve. A link to the brochure follows: <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/sites/default/files/19AllOhioNominationForm.pdf>

## LEGISLATIVE OPEN HOUSE

Plan to join us on Aug. 28 for the region's fourth summer legislative open house. The topic of the evening will be "a legislative update for school leaders." The presentation will be delivered by **Jay Smith**, deputy director of legislative services.

**Tri-River Career Center** will host the open house in the Giaugue Auditorium on the west side of the building. The career center is located at 2222 Marion-Mt Gilead Rd, Marion, OH 43302. **This is a free event** and will begin with social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. We will end by 8 p.m.

The open house is a great kickoff for the 2019-20 school year and an opportunity to hear the latest important legislative news and network with fellow board members. We hope to see you there.

## RECORD NUMBERS EARN AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT

The region enjoyed a record number class of Award of Achievement earners. The Award of Achievement was presented to 32 Central Region board members who participated in extensive professional development and demonstrated leadership at both the local and state level. OSBA President **John Halkias** and OSBA Chief Executive Officer **Richard Lewis** presented the Award of Achievement pins.

The following board members received this distinct honor: **Charlie Andrews, Miami Trace Local (Fayette); Joseph Begeny, Reynoldsburg City; Dr. Marguerite Bennett, Mount Vernon City and Knox County Career Center; Renda M. Cline, Mansfield City; Tim Cooper, Lucas Local (Richland); Deborah Dunlap, Reynoldsburg City; Kandee Snider Engle, Southwest Licking Local (Licking); Amy Eyman, Lancaster City; Ronald Rae Fowler, Fairfield County ESC; W. Shawna Gibbs, Columbus City; Nancy Gillespie, Groveport Madison Local (Franklin); Dr. Paul Johnson, Bucyrus City and Pioneer Career and Technology Center; Karen Keller, Walnut Township Local (Fairfield); Jane McGinty, Madison Local (Richland); Ted McKinniss, Marion**



*Richard Lewis, OSBA chief executive officer, Warren Weber, board member Newark City, John Halkias, president, OSBA*

**Local (Fairfield); Carol Mohr, Upper Arlington; Debbie Reidy, Crestview Local (Richland); A. Lise Ricketts, Lancaster City; Nan Savidge, Marysville EV; Lee Schreiner, South-Western City; Richard Smith, Marysville EV; Greg Spencer, ESC of Central Ohio; H. Lewis Stemen, Fairfield County ESC and Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School; Ray Storts, Union Scioto Local (Ross); Julie Wagner Feasel, Olentangy Local (Delaware); Warren Weber, Newark City; Charlie Wilson, Worthington City; and Roger Zeune, Southwest Licking Local (Licking).**

## EVENTS & DATES

**June 26**  
***Levy University***

**June 28**  
***Outstanding Board Member and OSBA Committee applications due***

**July 10**  
***Summer Urban Network Meeting***

**July 13**  
***Pre-Board Candidate Workshop***

**July 15**  
***Region Award Applications Due***

**July 19**  
***Refocusing you board from conflict to kids***

**August 2**  
***Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop***

**August 28**  
***Central Region Legislative Update***

Check out details for all training events at  
<https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events>



## MILESTONE SERVICE RECOGNITION



*Full house at the 2019 Spring Conference*



*Richard Lewis, CEO; James Bope, Fairfield Union – 20 years of service; John Halkias, president, OSBA.*



*Richard Lewis; Nancy Nestor-Baker, Westerville – 20 years of service; John Halkias, president, OSBA.*



*Richard Lewis, Paul Lambert, Hilliard – 10 years of service; John Halkias, president, OSBA.*

Forty-two milestone service recognition pins will be awarded to well-deserving board members in 2019.

The following board members are being recognized for 10 years of board service:

**Marlee Snowdon, Bexley City; Mark Milless, Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield); Brian Niceswanger, Canal Winchester Local (Franklin); Jennifer Buchanan, Elgin Local (Marion); Ronald Rae Fowler, Fairfield County ESC; James Blanchard, Fredericktown Local (Knox); Charles Streby, Fredericktown Local; Jennifer Cornman, Granville Exempted Village and C-Tec of Licking County; Russell Ginise, Granville Exempted Village; Nancy Gillespie, Groveport Madison Local (Franklin); Bryan Shoemaker, Groveport Madison Local; Eric Thacker, Highland Local (Morrow); Paul Lambert, Hilliard City; C. R. McCloskey, Huntington Local (Ross); Mary Jo Boyd, Jonathan Alder Local (Madison); Donald Rogers, Knox County ESC and Knox County CC; Kathy Kittredge, Lancaster City; Shaun Hochradel, Liberty Union-Thurston Local (Fairfield); Mary Kay Martin, Licking Valley Local (Licking); Michael Linton, Logan Elm Local (Pickaway); Chris Elswick, Mansfield City; Robert Dawson, Miami Trace Local (Fayette); Michael Henry, Miami Trace Local; Mary Dixon, Mid-Ohio ESC and Pioneer Career & Technology; Stephen Thompson, Mount Vernon City and Knox County Career Center; Beverly Niccum, Newark City; Jeffrey Schrock, Northridge Local (Licking); Dave King, Olentangy Local (Delaware); Kevin O'Brien, Olentangy Local; Robert Bower, Pickaway County ESC and Pickaway-Ross JVS; Bill Hope, Pioneer Career and Technology Center; Angela Burns, Ridgedale Local (Marion); Andy Ricketts, Ridgedale Local; Steve Crall, Wynford Local (Crawford).**

The following board members are being recognized for 20 years of board service:

**Jamie McGraw, Crestview Local (Richland); James Bope, Fairfield Union Local (Fairfield); David Schutte, Hamilton Local (Franklin); David Harper, Jefferson Local and Tolles Career & Technical Center; Sam VanCura, Ontario Local (Richland); James McGowan, Teays Valley Local (Pickaway) and Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools; Sara Cochenour, Union Scioto Local (Ross); Nancy Nestor-Baker, Westerville City.**

## MASTER BOARD MEMBER

OSBA's annual Award of Achievement and Master Board Member program recognizes Ohio public school board members who work hard to become better board members. They earn credits toward the award by enrolling and participating in workshops and conferences, volunteering for service to their association and working on behalf of their own board.

The Master Board Member Award, a lifetime distinction, is given to those leaders who earn 300 Award of Achievement credits over a four-year period. The designation of Master Board Member was conferred upon **W. Shawna Gibbs** (top photo), **Columbus City** and **Patty Miller** (bottom photo), **Fredericktown Local** (Knox).



## THE CENTRAL REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lee Schreiner  
South-Western City, OSBA president-elect

Stu Harris  
Dublin City, president

Renda M. Cline  
Mansfield City, president-elect

Amy Eyman  
Lancaster City, immediate past president

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



*Richard Lewis, OSBA Chief Executive Officer; Sue Miller, Twin Oak Elementary principal, Mount Vernon City; and John Halkias, president, OSBA*

## OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS

The following school districts were recognized for their outstanding programs as exhibited at the 2018 Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair: **Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield), Bucyrus City, Cardington-Lincoln Local (Morrow), Columbus City, Crestview Local (Richland), Dublin City, Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools, Hamilton Local (Franklin), Marion City, Olentangy Local (Delaware), Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Southwest Licking Local (Licking) and Whitehall City.**

## BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

The Central Region boasts three 2018 Blue Ribbon School recipients – Central Elementary School, **Lexington Local (Richland)**; Mansfield Spanish Immersion School, **Mansfield City**; and Twin Oak Elementary School, **Mount Vernon City**. A national recognition, the program honors elementary and secondary schools in the United States that make significant progress in closing achievement gaps or whose students achieve at the highest levels in their state.

## SCHOOL OF PROMISE

One district earned the Ohio Department of Education School of Promise criteria for 2018. Mansfield Spanish Immersion School-Mansfield City was recognized for this distinction.

## OVERALL A

Finally, **New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin), Bexley City** and **Granville EV** earned the Overall A Award, a designation created by the Ohio Department of Education.

## 10 STRATEGIC PRACTICES FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION

### *Ohio Appalachian Collaborative*

1. Analyze student growth and achievement data
2. Create a systemic approach to learning communities
3. Align curriculum to common core and Ohio's new learning standards
4. Embed formative instructional practices through peer coaching
5. Build a learning community and collaborative teams
6. Focus on teacher-led professional development
7. Engage in cross-district collaboration and community engagement
8. Focus teams for college and career readiness
9. Embrace change leadership and extended distributed leadership
10. Increase student ownership and personalized learning

*Source: Ohio Appalachian Collaborative: Paving a new path for rural education, Battelle for Kids, 2013.*



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OSBA established the Get on Board campaign to increase the number of qualified candidates who run for open seats and encourage effective and representative school boards that can meet the challenges of the diverse districts they serve.

Why? After recent elections, an increasing number of school districts have had to fill board member vacancies via appointments rather than through the electoral process. OSBA fully supports current board members' continued service to their districts and communities. By identifying resources, removing barriers and delivering information, OSBA hopes to encourage community members to consider engaging in the important service boards of education provide.

Resources to set up and conduct your board of education candidate campaign are available at [www.getonboardohio.org](http://www.getonboardohio.org).

You will also find webinars that cover common topics such as what it means to be a school board member; being a school board candidate; campaign first steps; and contributions, expenditures and reporting requirements.

OSBA also offers several board candidate workshops. The Pre-Board Candidate Workshop is held on Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m. to noon at the OSBA Office in Columbus. This is a free workshop; others will be offered across the state for the cost of \$50. Check out the Get on Board website and "get on board."