

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Final two Capital Conference General Session speakers announced

The 2011 OSBA Capital Conference General Session lineup is complete. Speaking at the Nov. 14 session will be **Wes Moore**, a youth advocate, decorated Army combat veteran, business leader and author. Award-winning public education champion and acclaimed author **Jaime Vollmer** will address the Nov. 15 session. They join the Nov. 16 speaker, legendary journalist **Dan Rather**, to round out the General Session keynote slate. The conference runs Nov. 13-16 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Watch OSBA's website and publications for conference program updates.

Report: Ohio's proposed K-12 funding cuts are sixth highest in U.S.

Ohio's proposed reductions in state aid to K-12 education are the sixth largest in the nation, according to the Spring 2011 Fiscal Survey of States, published jointly by the National Governors Association and National Association of State Budget Officers. (The Ohio General Assembly has added some K-12 funds to the budget since data for the survey was collected.) The only states in the report with higher cuts to K-12 education, by rank, are New York, Texas, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Wisconsin. The full report is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/79109>.

OSBA hosting NSBA Central Region meeting next month

OSBA will host the National School Boards Association Central Region meeting in Cleveland from July 22 to 24. The meeting, which is held in a different state each year, features keynote speakers, NSBA and state association updates, networking, training and the region's business meeting. The states in the NSBA Central Region are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

National website provides data on rural education trends

New data on rural education in the United States are now available on the Rural Education in America website, hosted by the National Center for Education Statistics. The site compiles and disseminates rural education data in four general areas: students, teachers, school environment and finances. More specific topics are covered within these areas. Access the website at <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ruraled>.

Research shows investing in early childhood education reduces crime

An anti-crime group's study — "Pay Now or Pay Much More Later" — found that investing in high-quality early childhood education significantly reduces the likelihood that children will go on to commit crimes. That, in turn, will save taxpayer dollars through reduced prison costs. The group, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, is a national, bipartisan, nonprofit organization of more than 5,000 law enforcement

June 27, 2011

Volume 42 Issue 12

Contents

More news..... 2
A few openings still available for Student Achievement Fair; Meetings encourage support for military families, kids; OSBA online

Bulletin Board..... 3

Legal briefs..... 5

Legislative Report 6

Public Schools Work!..... 7

Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- Principals

officers and court officials. Montgomery County Prosecutor **Mathias Heck Jr.**, a member of the group's Ohio chapter, said at a recent press conference that keeping children from becoming future prisoners can save Ohio taxpayers as much as \$2.5 million per child. Noting that the state's taxpayers are spending \$1.72 billion a year on corrections, Heck called on state and federal lawmakers to support high-quality early education as a critical strategy to reduce crime, lower prison costs and save taxpayers money.

A few openings still available for Student Achievement Fair

A limited number of booths are still open for the 2011 OSBA Achievement Fair. The fair, held Nov. 15 at the Capital Conference in Columbus, showcases 100 displays of innovative school programs. The deadline to apply is Aug. 1. For details and to apply

Graduating class has 10 sets of twins, one set of triplets

Canfield Local's (Mahoning) 2011 graduating class includes 10 sets of twins and one set of triplets.

According to Canfield High School Principal **John Tullio**, the students, the largest group of multiples he can recall in one graduating class, have all been in the district since kindergarten.

"I think it's really unique that out of 282 graduates we have so many sets of twins," Tullio told a local newspaper. "In fact, we have a photo of some of them from kindergarten that we're putting in the yearbook."

The multiples don't end with this class. The class of 2012 has three sets of twins enrolled in the school while the class of 2013 has one set and the class of 2014 has eight sets.

Source: United Press International

online or download a nomination form, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/SAF. A form also is available in this issue of the *Briefcase*.

Meetings encourage support for military families, kids

The Ohio National Guard (ONG) Community Outreach

Office has scheduled another round of Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee meetings across the state. The outreach office works to build community support for ONG Family Readiness programs. The meetings are designed to encourage community resources, such as school boards, to get involved in programs that support military families. For dates, locations and contacts for the next series of meetings, visit www.ong.ohio.gov/family/newsletter.htm, click on "Buckeye Families Winter 2011," download the newsletter and scroll to page 2.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA has many resources to help you be a successful school board member. The association's website offers several short guides with tips on some boardmanship basics. Access the guides at www.ohioschoolboards.org/guides-to.



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

OSBA President: **Cathy Johnson, South-Western City**

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

Editor: **Crystal Davis Hutchins**, deputy director of communication services

Managing editor: **Gary Motz**, editorial manager

Assistant editor, layout and design: **Angela Penquite**, communication design manager

A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$110 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.

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

© 2011 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 and creative solutions.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

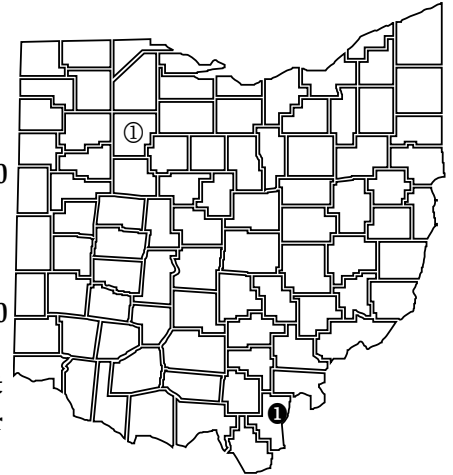
OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
① Gallipolis City	July 15	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
① Van Buren Local (Hancock)	June 30	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



① = Superintendent
① = Treasurer

Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Licking Heights Local (Licking)	July 8	Dr. Ralph Johnson , director of leadership, ESC of Central Ohio, (614) 301-5639
Treasurer	Granville EV	July 7	Alan Hutchinson , treasurer, ESC of Central Ohio, alan.hutchinson@escoco.org
Treasurer	Bellaire Local (Belmont)	July 8	Kevin Spears , search consultant, Bellaire Local, (330) 308-9939

Board changes

Chippewa Local (Wayne) Board of Education member **Chris Crawford** announced his resignation effective immediately. He is moving out of the district. ●●● The **Painesville City Local (Lake)** Board of Education appointed **Alyea Barajas** effective June 7. She replaces **John Ehrbar**, who moved out of the district.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Beaver Local (Columbiana) hired **Kent Polen** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. **Sandra DiBacco**, who is retiring effective July 31. Polen is currently an elementary principal at **Canfield Local (Mahoning)**. ●●● **Butler County ESC** Superintendent **Daniel E. Hare** announced his resignation effective Jan. 1. ●●● **Clearview Local (Lorain)** hired **Stanley P. Mounts** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Thomas Jama**, who is resigning effective

Editor's note

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

July 31. Mounts is currently superintendent at **Benjamin Logan Local (Logan)**. ●●● **Cleveland Municipal** hired **Eric Gordon**, as chief executive officer effective July 1. He will replace interim CEO **Peter Raskind**. Gordon is currently the district's chief academic officer. ●●● **East Holmes Local (Holmes)** hired **Joe Edinger** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He replaces **Joe Wengerd**, who is retiring effective June 30. Edinger currently is an elementary principal at **Triway Local (Wayne)**. ●●● **Girard City** hired **David M. Cappuzzello** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He replaces **Joseph R. Jeswalk**, who is retiring effective July 31. Cappuzzello currently is the high school principal at **Columbiana EV**. ●●● **Mason City** hired Dr. **Gail Kist-Kline** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Dr. **Kevin Bright**, who took the assistant superintendent position at **Lakewood City**. Kist-Kline currently is superintendent at **Wyoming City**. ●●● **Niles City** hired **Mark A. Robinson** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Rocco D. Adduci**, who is retiring July 31. Robinson is currently superintendent at **Ashland City**. ●●● **Oak Hill Union Local (Jackson)** hired **Michael McCoy** as superintendent effective June 13. He replaced **Carl H. McCrory**, who resigned in April. McCoy previously was an assistant principal and transportation coordinator at **Bloom-Vernon Local (Scioto)**. ●●● **Shelby City** hired **Tim Tarvin** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He replaces **Bryan Neff**, who is retiring. Tarvin currently is the district's middle school principal. ●●● **Twinsburg City** hired **Kathryn M. Powers** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Steve J. Marlow**, who took the superintendent position at **Independence Local (Cuyahoga)**. Powers currently is director of human resources at **Brecksville-Broadview Heights City**. ●●● **Warren City** hired Dr. **Bruce W. Thomas** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He replaces Interim Superintendent **Loree Richardson**. Thomas currently is superintendent at **Marietta City**.

Treasurers

Granville EV Treasurer **Margaret "Peg" Betts** announced her retirement effective Oct. 31. ●●● **Liberty Local (Trumbull)** hired **James Wilson** as interim treasurer. He replaces **Tracey E. Obermiyer**, who resigned effective May 31.

Sympathies

Former **Bellevue City** Board of Education member **Charles William Nottke** died June 5. He was 90. ●●● Former **Buckeye Central Local (Crawford)** Board of Education member **Gary E. Green** died June 1. He was 57. ●●● Former **Defiance City** Board of Education member Dr. **Charles Krouse** died May 31. He was 90. ●●● Former **East Cleveland City** Treasurer **Donna Mahon** died May 24. She was 95. ●●● Former **Mount Healthy City** Board of Education member **James Harold Myers** died June 3. He was 79. ●●● **Kenneth W. Robinson**, a member of the former **Plainfield (Coshocton)** School Board, died May 27. He was 92. ●●● **Barbara Brehm**, a former member of the **Pike-Delta-York Local (Fulton)** board and a member of the former **Delta (Fulton)** Board of Education, died May 30. She was 85. ●●● Former **Sandusky City** Assistant Treasurer **Ruth M. Nemitz** died June 6. She was 96. ●●● Former **Solon City** Board of Education member **Paul Steve Sanislo** died June 2. He was 84. ●●● **Alva H. Brichford**, a member of the former **Willoughby** School Board, died June 4. He was 102. ●●● Former **Zane Trace Local (Ross)** Superintendent **Gary N. Walsh** died June 1. He was 82.

OSBA Communications Coordinator position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is seeking a communication coordinator whose primary responsibilities include contributing to association publications and coordinating website content. The ideal candidate must have a strong background in writing and editing; creating and maintaining web pages; graphic design and photography. Candidates should have a degree in journalism, communication, public relations or related field with a minimum of two years of experience. Evening and weekend work along with travel required. Send resume, writing samples and salary expectations to Communication Coordinator Search, OSBA, 8050 N High St Ste 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Application deadline is July 8. Electronic applications will not be accepted. EOE



2011 Student Achievement Fair

OSBA Capital Conference

Nov. 15, 2011



OSBA invites your school district to:

- *Showcase the exemplary programs that are improving student achievement in your district!*
- *Show us your best programs and tell us about your best practices!*

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding initiatives from school districts across the state. OSBA is seeking another round of fresh, innovative programs or practices your district is willing to share with thousands of Ohio school district representatives. Programs and practices will be selected based on creativity and impact on student achievement. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions.

Student Achievement Fair application

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011 ● 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

____ Enclosed is a concise title and description of our **student achievement program** in 25 words or less, including what we think others will learn from our booth. (You may submit additional material that describes your program.)

Will you need electricity? Yes No

Title of program: _____

Description: _____

Submitted by: _____

(Please inform the contact person as to your submission.)

Title: _____

Daytime phone: () _____

E-mail: _____

(Please print)

Contact person: _____

Title: _____

Daytime phone: () _____

E-mail: _____

(Please print)

Superintendent: _____

E-mail: _____

(Please print)

School district: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Ohio

ZIP: _____

If selected, your district's program will be showcased in a 10x10-foot booth that can accommodate up to five people. (More details to follow). Applications may be submitted online at www.ohioschoolboards.org/SAF, or mail **student achievement program** applications to **Kathy LaSota**, director of school board services, OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/SAF for specific details regarding the Student Achievement Fair. **Application deadline is Monday, Aug. 1, 2011.**

OSBA Pre-Board Candidate Workshop

Know someone who is thinking of running for your school board or someone who would be an asset to your board? Encourage them to attend this workshop to learn the responsibilities of boardmanship!



This free workshop describes the roles and responsibilities of school board service and requirements of running for a seat on a local board of education. Held Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to noon at the OSBA office, this workshop will be led by two veteran OSBA staff members and will allow time for questions.

This session is for people who are thinking about running for their school board and those current board of education members who were appointed to office.

Space is limited, so please contact OSBA Events Manager Laurie Miller at (614) 540-4000; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org to register.

For more information on running for a board of education seat, visit OSBA's board candidate Web page www.ohioschoolboards.org/candidate-for-school-boards. Learn more about this and other board candidate workshops at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.

Budget Analysis and Discussion (BAD) Seminar



Wednesday, Aug. 17, Hyatt Regency, Columbus

Attend the Budget Analysis and Discussion (BAD) Seminar for the most comprehensive information on the fiscal year 2012-13 state budget, Amended Substitute House Bill 153.

The General Assembly has faced unprecedented economic challenges in crafting a balanced budget. Hear about these challenges from some of the top policymakers and analysts in the state.

This comprehensive seminar, hosted by the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA), Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) and Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA), will provide insights and answers on the budget process and final version of the legislation.

This workshop is \$185 per person for OSBA, OASBO and BASA member school district representatives. The fee covers workshop registration, materials, lunch and refreshments. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/25055 for registration information and directions.

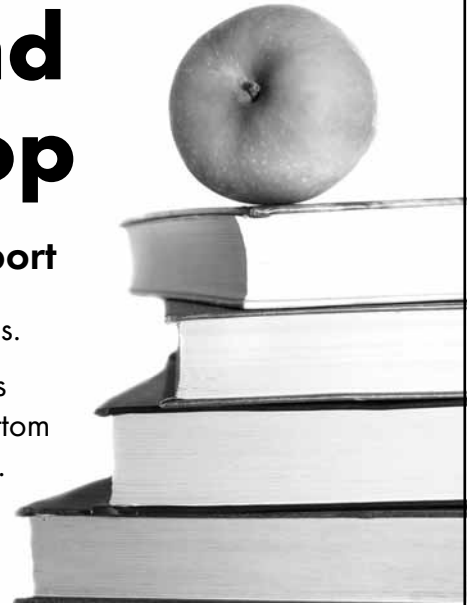
Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop

Friday, Aug. 5

Embassy Suites Columbus Airport

Cost: \$140, includes registration, continental breakfast, lunch and materials.

The law addressing attendance and tuition matters is complex and changes frequently. How your district handles these matters affects your district's bottom line. Learn the latest legal developments at this information-packed seminar.



AGENDA

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

9 a.m. Attendance and enrollment policy refresher

Start the day with a review of the board policies and district administrative guidelines governing attendance options, enrollment procedures and tuition issues.

Jessica L. Spears, staff attorney, OSBA

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. They're back ...

Columbus City School's in-house counsel will focus on the issues districts face when students return to their "home" school from community schools, home schooling, the Ohio Department of Youth Services or foster care.

Wanda T. Lillis, Esq., Columbus City Schools

11:30 a.m. Lunch (provided)

12:30 p.m. High-need/high-risk student issues – working with outside resources

District administrators routinely face complex situations with students and their families. This diverse panel will share best practices and highlight the resources available to assist administrators with complex issues regarding at-risk students and their families.

1:30 p.m. Break

1:40 p.m. Deciphering divorce decrees and other court orders

Court orders may determine which parent is entitled to enroll a student in school and who has the right and responsibility to sign important school documents and consent to school services. Get a primer on reading, understanding and modifying court orders.

Julie C. Martin, Esq., Scott, Scriven & Wahoff LLP, Columbus

2:25 p.m. When the attendance officer comes knocking ...

Have issues relating to student absences and truancy? Confused about when a doctor's note may be required? What can you do with 18-year-olds who have stopped coming to class? OSBA's chief legal counsel will address your questions on student absences and truancy.

Hollie F. Reedy, chief legal counsel, OSBA

3 p.m. Adjourn

Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

Location: Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Drive, Columbus, OH 43219 • (614) 536-0500



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Pre-Board Candidate Workshop

July 16, Columbus, free

Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop

Aug. 5, Columbus, \$140

Budget Analysis and Discussion Seminar

Aug. 17, Columbus, \$185

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 at 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.



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. Please include a purchase order number.

You may register on our Web page at www.ohioschoolboards.org. Events are listed at the bottom of the page.

Cancellation and refund policy

- Cancellations received by OSBA at least four workdays before the date of the workshop will receive a full refund or no charge to the district.
- Cancellations received less than four workdays before the date of the workshop will have one-third of the fee charged to the district.
- No-shows and cancellations the day of the workshop will be charged the full registration amount.



LEGAL BRIEFS

by George Sarmiento, legal services division extern

OSBA Legal Assistance Fund assists in Barberton City case

On April 3, 2009, two taxpayers filed a complaint in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas against the **Barberton City** Board of Education to prevent the board from applying Ohio's prevailing wage requirement to its bid specifications for a new middle school construction project. In response, the board argued that the plaintiffs lacked standing to sue over the decision. The OSBA Legal Assistance Fund (LAF) provided supplemental funding to the board and submitted an *amicus curiae* brief supporting its position.

The Court of Appeals ruled that the taxpayers lacked standing to pursue their complaint against the board of education. In its opinion, the court ruled that the taxpayers had no "special interest" different from any other taxpayer whose property was affected by the levy being used to finance Barberton City's new middle school building and therefore could not prevent the district from spending the money for the project. In ruling that the taxpayers lacked standing to sue, Judge **Beth Whitmore**, writing for the majority, relied on the Ohio Supreme Court ruling in *State ex rel. Masterson v. Ohio Racing Commission* (1954), 162 Ohio St. 366. In that case, the Ohio Supreme Court found that in

absence of statutory authority, a taxpayer cannot prevent a public entity from spending public funds unless he has some special interest therein and can "allege and prove damages different in character than sustained by the public generally." The Barberton case was ultimately appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court, which held hearings, but later rejected the case as moot.

Regarding the prevailing wage issue, the Summit County Court of Appeals found that while the taxpayers were correct that an exception to the prevailing wage law existed for school districts, there was no obligation at the time for the school district to use the exception and exclude the

prevailing wage requirement from its bid specifications. However, this changed on Feb. 24, 2011, when the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) adopted Resolution 11-16, which prohibits school districts from requiring prevailing wages on OSFC projects. A copy of Resolution 11-16 is available online at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/14414>.

This case is good news for Ohio's public school districts because it preserves local control for school district decisions according to local community issues. If you have any questions regarding this case, please contact the OSBA legal services division at (614) 540-4000.



Are you involved in litigation that may have issues of statewide significance?

The OSBA Legal Assistance Fund (LAF) is available to provide financial or legal assistance in matters of statewide importance to local school districts. LAF offers direct financial assistance or other support in the form of *amicus curiae* briefs.

Call Susan Czeh, administrative assistant of legal services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to join LAF or to obtain an application if you have a pending matter that may meet the above description.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, lobbyist

Budget moves to Conference Committee; voucher expansion bill amended

Senate passes budget and Conference Committee meets

The biennial budget bill, amended substitute House Bill (HB) 153 has passed the Ohio Senate and is now before the Conference Committee to resolve the differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill. Members of the Conference Committee include:

- Rep. **Ron Amstutz** (R-Wooster),
- Rep. **John Carey** (R-Wellston),
- Rep. **Vernon Sykes** (D-Akron),
- Sen. **Chris Widener** (R-Springfield),
- Sen. **Shannon Jones** (R-Springboro),
- Sen. **Michael Skindell** (D-Lakewood).

OSBA, the Ohio Association of School Business Officials and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators recently sent a joint letter to members of the Conference Committee outlining our concerns about the budget bill. A copy of the letter is available by going to OSBA's BillTracker Web page at www.ohioschoolboards.org/129th-general-assembly and searching "HB 153." Some of the concerns highlighted in the letter include:

- the equitable distribution of any

new revenues;

- electricity pre-purchase arrangements;
- teacher evaluations, merit pay and reductions in force;
- special education vouchers;
- the expansion of school choice and its unintended consequences;
- home-schooled students and extracurricular activities;
- highlights of the Ohio Smart Schools Benchmark Study.

A final vote on the budget is expected by June 28 and it must be signed by the governor by June 30. Please watch for the latest budget information in Calls to Action and "Facts in a Flash."

Voucher expansion

HB 136, sponsored by Rep. **Matt Huffman** (R-Lima), would create the Parental Choice and Taxpayer Savings (PACT) voucher program and Special Education voucher program. (The Special Education voucher proposal has also been amended into the state biennial budget bill, HB 153).

The House Education Committee recently accepted a substitute version of HB 136. A copy of the substitute bill and a comparison document from the

Legislative Service Commission are available by going to www.ohioschoolboards.org/129th-general-assembly and searching "HB 136."

OSBA is adamantly opposed to HB 136. It is critical we continue to contact members of the House on the detrimental impact of this proposal. Contact your legislators when they are back in their district during the summer recess. Testimony and activity on this bill will continue in the fall when the General Assembly returns. We are encouraging board members to be ready to testify in opposition to this bill at that time.

Below are some talking points on each voucher proposal.

PACT voucher

- PACT creates a statewide voucher program that qualifies students based solely on household income.
- The bill expands vouchers into every district regardless of how well the resident public school district performs.
- HB 136 allows students already enrolled in private schools to be eligible for the PACT voucher.

Continued on page 7



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Crystal Davis Hutchins, editor

Emerson's award-winning water team

"The Waterboy" was a movie about a perfectionistic football team waterboy turned star player, but students at **Westerville City's** Emerson World Languages and Cultures Magnet Elementary School take their water just as seriously. You might call them the "water team." So far, they've raised enough money to provide at least 547 children with safe drinking water for a year, and they've won awards for their efforts.

"This project is growing in size

and has presented a rich and relevant learning opportunity for our students across all grade levels," said Principal **Vicki Jarrell**.

It began after Emerson students learned that more than 4,000 children die every day from diseases caused by unsafe drinking water. They began increase awareness of those without access to clean drinking water worldwide and raise money to buy purification packets through the P&G Safe Drinking Water Project.

Project details can be found at www.csdw.org/csdw/csdw_program.shtml.

They have collected \$4,100, and last year Emerson gained national recognition. They were selected by The League, a youth service program, as the number one elementary school in Ohio in overall community service programs, and the number six school nationwide in a League competition.

Source: Ohio Department of Education

Legislative Report, continued from page 6

- The program allows parents to "bank" excess dollars for college if the private school tuition is less than the voucher amount.
- Public school funds should not be diverted to support voucher-type programs at the expense of students remaining in public schools.
- State resources should be used to improve public school districts' abilities to serve and educate students, not encourage them to leave.

Special education vouchers

- The bill does not require private providers of special education to provide services for voucher students in the least restrictive

environment or require access to the same general education curriculum offered and taught by highly qualified teachers in traditional public schools.

- The program weakens the due process rights afforded to parents and students by requiring voucher students to opt out of their due process rights under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act and Ohio Operating Standards for Students with Disabilities.
- The resident school district still would be responsible for re-evaluating the Individualized Education Program (IEP), even though the district would have no interaction with the voucher

student or the benefit of knowing firsthand the progress of the student or his or her ability level.

- The current system allows school districts to use outside providers if the district cannot meet the needs of a particular student.
- It is impossible to hold private special education service providers accountable for the expenditure of public dollars.

For the latest legislative updates, please contact the OSBA legislative services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Editor's Note: All information in this article was current as of June 20, 2011.

June 2011

30 2010-2011 school year ends — RC 3313.62.

July 2011

1 2011-2012 school year begins — RC 3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching and nonteaching employees of succeeding year salaries — RC 3319.082, 3319.12; board may adopt appropriation measure, which may be temporary — RC 5705.38(B); treasurer must certify available revenue in funds to county auditor — RC 5705.36(A)(1).

5 Last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19 (30 days prior to the election).

6 OSBA Central Region Executive Committee Meeting Columbus

10 Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of education — RC 3319.15.

15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1).

16 OSBA Pre-Board Candidate Workshop Columbus

22-24 NSBA Central Region Meeting Cleveland

29 Semiannual campaign finance reports due (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures through June 30, 2011 — RC 3517.10(A)(4) (last business day of July).

August 2011

1 Last day to file statistical report with Ohio Department of Education — RC 3319.33; last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).

2 OSBA Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting College Corner

2 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).

3 OSBA Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting TBD

5 OSBA Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law Workshop Columbus

5 Last day to submit November emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for November general election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219 (95 days before election).

10 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 November election —

RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for November election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy or conversion levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.195, 5705.219(G), 5748.02(C); last day to submit emergency levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A); last day to file (by 4 p.m.) nominating petitions for board of education and ESC governing board with board of elections — RC 3513.254, 3513.255 (90 days prior to the election).

13 OSBA Legislative Platform Committee Meeting Columbus

14 OSBA Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting Logan

17 OSBA Budget Analysis & Discussion (BAD) Seminar Columbus