

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## OSBA research publication examines charter schools' impact

The continued expansion of charter schools in Ohio presents the state's traditional public schools with increasing challenges. The nearly 400 charter schools operating in Ohio siphoned almost \$825 million from public schools in fiscal year 2013. To help its members better understand the impact of charter schools on their districts, OSBA has published the "Guide to Charter or Community Schools." The publication features an overview of charter school law, funding and facilities. It also provides data detailing the dismal academic performance of most charter schools, especially when compared to public schools. The guide is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/90320>.

## More findings of illicit spending leveled against charter school officials

Ohio Auditor of State **Dave Yost** has issued a finding for recovery against former Cincinnati College Preparatory Academy charter school Superintendent **Lisa Hamm** and former Treasurer **Stephanie Millard** for making \$37,604 in expenditures not related to school business. The finding follows a 2013 audit citing Hamm and Millard for \$520,000 in inappropriate expenditures. The auditor's office said Hamm and Millard have been indicted on 26 charges related to the 2013 audit.

## Auditor: Ex-charter school board member owes taxpayers over \$500,000

The state auditor's office recently released a \$507,206 finding for recovery against **Gilbert Singerman**, a former board member of the Greater Heights Academy charter school in Cuyahoga County, for having an unlawful interest in public contracts. The auditor alleges that Singerman had family ties to Northbound Inc., a company contracted by the academy for construction work. The auditor also alleges that Singerman wrote letters to the academy on Northbound Inc. letterhead demanding payment for services and endorsed the checks issued by the academy for payment.

## NSBA partnership to distribute '12 Years a Slave' to public high schools

The National School Boards Association is partnering with filmmakers and others to distribute copies of the film and book "12 Years a Slave" to public high schools. The nationwide initiative, coordinated by **Montel Williams**, begins in September. Williams also has joined NSBA as a celebrity spokesman in its Stand Up 4 Public Schools campaign that showcases public schools' achievements. OSBA is partnering with NSBA on the campaign. Learn more at <http://standup4publicschools.org>.

## State senator invited to speak at OSBA Board Leadership Institute

State Sen. **Randy Gardner** (R-Bowling Green) is scheduled to address the Closing Luncheon at the 2014 OSBA Board Leadership Institute (BLI) on May 3 in Columbus.

**March 24, 2014**

Volume 45 Issue 6

### Contents

More news.....	2
<i>Thousands of schools to field test new state assessments; OSBA still needs moderators for Capital Conference; OSBA online</i>	
Bulletin Board.....	3
OSBA Leadership..	5
Legislative Report .....	6
Public Schools Work! .....	7

### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Assistant treasurers
- ☐ New board members
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

Gardner is a veteran legislator, having served in both the Ohio House of Representatives and Senate. A former educator, he is chairman of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Education, a member of the Senate Education Committee and serves on other Senate panels. Leadership expert and author Dr. **Mike Thomson** will kick off BLI with his opening General Session talk on May 2. The institute also offers 18 breakout sessions, two luncheons and time to network with other board members and OSBA staff. For details and to register, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/33166>.

### Thousands of schools to field test new state assessments

The Ohio Department of Education is launching field tests for computer-based state exams scheduled for the 2014-15 school year. Approximately 2,000 schools will conduct field tests for the

### Gahanna-Jefferson students show they care with pillows

**Gahanna-Jefferson City** students are learning a lesson in compassion by making pillows for young hospital patients.

First- and second-grade students at Jefferson Elementary School stuff the pillows, and third- through fifth-grade students sew them together. Students add a self-written note to each pillow for a patient at Nationwide Children's Hospital; more than 4,000 pillows have been made over the years, including nearly 600 this year.

"It's the caring, the compassion, the empathy," Principal **Roben Frentzel** told a local newspaper. "Those lessons are so important for kids to learn and they're not tested on pencil and paper, but they're tested from the heart, and so it's a great project for our students to know about, caring for other people."

Source: WCMH-TV

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) in English language arts and math. About 670 schools will take field tests for the state-developed exams in social studies and science. For more information, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/44754>.

### OSBA still needs moderators for Capital Conference

There are still openings for breakout session moderators at the 2014 OSBA Capital Conference, Nov. 9-12 in Columbus. Moderators introduce workshop presenters and serve as liaisons between the audience and speakers. Board members serving as moderators will earn five OSBA Award of Achievement credits. Contact **Judy Morgan** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org) for details.



## 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: **Susie Lawson**, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center

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

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

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

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

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

*A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$125 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*

© 2014, Ohio School Boards Association; all rights reserved

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.

### OSBA online

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

Student transportation operations are highly regulated in Ohio, with a number of key sections of rules and standards that must be followed. OSBA offers a school transportation reference library for easy access to these rules. Visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/24965> to learn more.



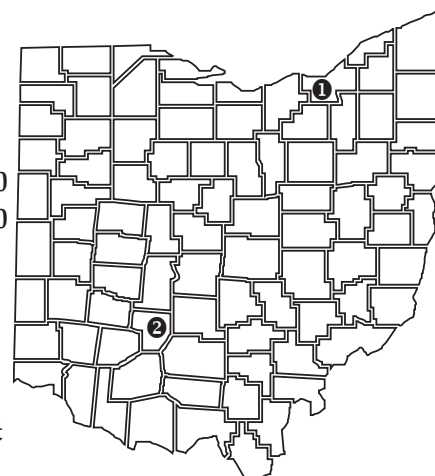
# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Fairview Park City	March 24	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❷ Washington Court House City	April 18	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



❶ = Superintendent

### Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Buckeye Central Local (Crawford)	April 14	Dr. Gene Linton or Dr. Dwight McElfresh, Ashland University Telego Center, (419) 289-5921
Superintendent	Felicity-Franklin Local (Clermont)	April 14	Christina Laubach, treasurer, Felicity-Franklin Local, (513) 876-2113, ext. 307
Treasurer	Bellaire Local (Belmont)	March 28	Kevin Spears, search consultant, East Central Ohio ESC, (330) 308-9939, ext. 8203
Treasurer	Arcadia Local (Hancock)	April 1	Rick Ernest, board member, Arcadia Local, ernestr@arcadia.noacsc.org

## Board changes

**Buckeye Local (Jefferson)** Board of Education member **James Cesario** announced his resignation effective Feb. 24. ●●● **Strongsville City** Board of Education member **Ruth Brickley** announced her resignation effective March 3. ●●● **Waterloo Local (Portage)** appointed **Victoria L. Brock** to the board effective immediately. She replaced **Steven Jones**, who resigned.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

**Batavia Local (Clermont)** Superintendent **Alison Jill Grubb** announced her retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Clear Fork Valley Local (Richland)** hired **Janice J. Wyckoff** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She replaces Interim Superintendent

### Editor's note

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

**David L. Ritter.** Wyckoff currently is superintendent at **Black River Local (Medina)**. ●●● **Felicity-Franklin Local (Clermont)** Superintendent **Glenn A. Moore** announced his retirement. ●●● **Hubbard EV** hired **Raymond Soloman** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Richard J. Buchenic**, who is retiring. Soloman currently is the district's elementary school principal. ●●● **Lordstown Local (Trumbull)** hired **Terry Armstrong** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **William Pfahler**, who is retiring. Armstrong currently is a teacher at **Windham EV**. ●●● **Ottawa-Glandorf Local (Putnam)** Superintendent **Kevin Brinkman** announced his retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Richmond Heights Local (Cuyahoga)** hired Dr. **Robert A. Mengerink** as interim superintendent effective immediately. He will continue to serve as superintendent of the **ESC of Cuyahoga County**. ●●● **Teays Valley Local (Pickaway)** hired **Robin Halley** as superintendent effective June 1. He will replace **Jeff Sheets**, who is retiring. Halley currently is an elementary principal in the district.

### **Treasurers**

**Medina City** hired **David M. Chambers** as treasurer effective April 1. He will replace **James M. Hudson**, who resigned to take the treasurer position at **Avon Local (Lorain)**. Chambers is currently the treasurer at **Fremont City**. The district also hired **Jeanne Blankenship** as assistant treasurer effective immediately. She replaced **Jacqui Pursley**, who resigned. Blankenship previously was an assistant treasurer at **Midview Local (Lorain)**. ●●● **Middletown City** Treasurer **Kelley Thorpe** announced her resignation effective July 31.

### **Sympathies**

Former **Bellaire City** Superintendent **Harry Clark Thompson** died March 1. He was 86. ●●● Former **Buckeye Local**

*Continued on page 5*

## **Management Development Series #2: Student welfare — suicide prevention, key policies and more**

**Thursday, April 24**  
**OSBA office, Columbus**

**10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**Cost is \$90**

Student welfare encompasses a variety of topics, including suicide prevention. In-service training in youth suicide awareness and prevention is now required for nurses, teachers, counselors, school psychologists and administrators. In this workshop, the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation will lay the groundwork for this training and highlight resources to use in your schools. OSBA policy experts will discuss hot topics in student welfare policies, including an update on restraint and seclusion and an overview of district obligations regarding bullying. Attendees will leave this session with a much better understanding of hot topics in student welfare, as well as a wealth of resources to support their efforts in their districts.

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).

### **Agenda**

**9:30 a.m.**

### **Registration**

**10 a.m.**

### **Welcome and overview**

**10:15 a.m.**

### **Youth suicide prevention training**

Learn about the warning signs of suicide and steps to decrease risk. Also, gain an understanding of resources to help train your staff and reach your students.

*Carolyn Givens, executive director, Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation*

**Noon**

**12:45 p.m.**

### **Lunch (provided)**

### **Hot topics in student welfare policies**

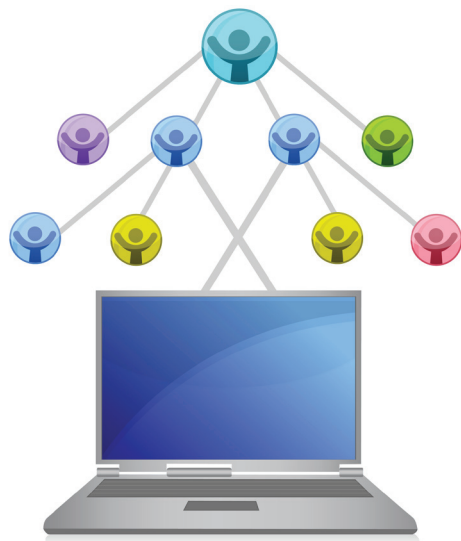
Get updates on restraint and seclusion, including an overview of resources and policy implications. Other topics include bullying policy requirements and student tobacco use.

*Megan Greulich and Kenna S. Haycox, policy consultants, OSBA*

**2 p.m.**

### **Questions and final thoughts**





# Cyberlaw Seminar

Friday, March 28, 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

OSBA office, Columbus

Cost is \$150

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

8:50 a.m. Welcome

9 a.m. **To surf and protect: a district's duties under CIPA**

Review a district's obligations under the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), including if the district must filter privately and district-owned devices used off campus.  
*Pamela A. Leist, Esq., Ennis, Roberts & Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati*

9:45 a.m. **Better than "acceptable": how to upgrade your district's AUP**

Ensure your district has a comprehensive and current acceptable use policy (AUP), and learn how to set policies and monitor network use to effectively enforce it.  
*Donna M. Andrew, Esq., Pepple & Waggoner Ltd., Cleveland*

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. **Data privacy: how safe is your cloud data?**  
Sending your data "to the cloud" may have legal repercussions for your district. Identify legal and technical issues you should consider and resolve before making the jump to online storage applications.  
*Lindsay F. Gingo, Esq., Britton, Smith, Peters & Kalail Co. LPA, Cleveland*

11:45 a.m. Lunch (provided)

12:30 p.m. **Negotiating school software contracts**  
Review some of the key clauses found in many school software contracts and learn best practices to ensure the district's interests are protected when it enters into these contracts.  
*Gregory Krabacher, Esq., Bricker & Eckler LLP, Columbus; and Wayne M. Serra, Esq., Bricker & Eckler LLP, Cleveland*

1:15 p.m. **Making schools safer through technology**  
Schools should consider technology when developing and implementing their school safety and crisis management plans. Discover how technology can help in a crisis, particularly in the areas of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.  
*Nicholas E. Subashi, Esq., Subashi & Wildermuth, Dayton; and Thom Jones, director of sales and marketing, Lauren Innovations*

2:15 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. **What's trending now?**  
Close your day of learning on the "bleeding edge" with the latest court decisions affecting schools and technology. Leave with practical tips and potential effects on your district.  
*Candice L. Christon, staff attorney, OSBA*

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.

# PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

This new series of workshops will help those involved in student transportation better understand and perform day-to-day operations.

These half-day workshops will include a working lunch and time for questions. 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).



## PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM #4

### *Emergency planning*

Wednesday, April 9 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. • \$90 • OSBA office, Columbus

A transportation department must have a viable emergency plan in place. These plans should be documented and include not only the routine crisis incidents that occur in this industry (breakdowns, sick children, minor accidents), but also the major events we hope will never happen. Learn how to identify what should be included in an emergency plan, how to develop the action plans and how to make a plan that anyone can follow, even in your absence.

## PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING PROGRAM #5

### *Fleet compliance*

Wednesday, May 7 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. • \$90 • OSBA office, Columbus

This class will focus on bus maintenance and safety checks, compliance with Ohio State Highway Patrol inspections and how to make the best use of the driver pre-trip inspection. We also will delve into the value of a preventive maintenance plan, bus purchasing and using alternative fuels.

## What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio



Value-added information was first introduced in Ohio in 2002, but are you aware of its significance for your district, teachers and students? If your answer is “No,” or “I am not sure,” you are not alone.

These two-hour regional seminars will shed some light on value-added information and help inform local policy decisions that impact student learning. Learn how your district can use value-added information to its benefit.

Choose from the following dates and locations:

**Tuesday, April 15**

Southern Ohio ESC, Wilmington

**Tuesday, April 22**

Portage County ESC, Ravenna

**Thursday, April 17**

Tri-County Career Center, Nelsonville

**Thursday, April 24**

Wood County ESC, Bowling Green

### Agenda

5:50 p.m. Registration  
6 p.m. Welcome and introduction to value-added information  
6:10 p.m. Understanding and using value-added data

7:15 p.m. Break  
7:30 p.m. Panel discussion: how districts are using value-added data  
8 p.m. Adjourn

Cost for these workshops is \$50. 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).



Ohio School Boards Association

# Board Leadership Institute

Professional development designed by board members for board members

May 2-3, 2014 • Hilton Columbus/Polaris

The Board Leadership Institute enables board members to:

**Attend a seminar designed for and by board members**

Board members plan BLI breakout sessions during the Capital Conference

**Receive superb professional development**

Experience a comprehensive two-day training event

**Network with other board members**

Meet with colleagues to share success stories and learn from each other

**Strengthen board governance skills**

Choose from 18 breakout sessions

**Review information on sessions you missed**

Receive all of the handouts from this board member-only event

**Earn Award of Achievement points**

Attendees receive 20 points toward the OSBA Award of Achievement

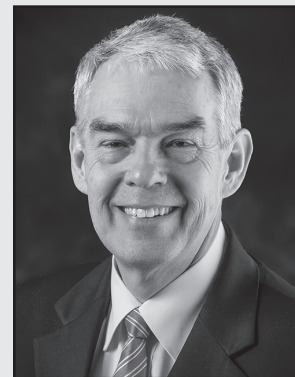
## Keynote speakers set the tone for BLI

BLI will kick off on Friday, May 2, with Dr. **Mike Thomson**. Thomson fills his high-energy talks with real-life examples and practical applications for board members. He will share strategies for saving your sanity in today's world.

OSBA has invited Ohio Sen. **Randy Gardner** (R-Bowling Green) to close BLI on Saturday, May 3. Hear an update on the General Assembly's work and how it affects local school boards.



Thomson



Gardner

## Registration and hotel details

Cost for the institute is \$240, and includes breakfast and lunch on both days and materials. 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).

The Hilton Columbus/Polaris is the site of the 2014 Board Leadership Institute. The Hilton is in north Columbus, is easily accessible from I-71, offers free

parking and is close to many shopping and dining opportunities. OSBA secured a reduced hotel rate for BLI attendees: just \$125 per night if the room is booked by April 11. To reserve your hotel room, contact the Hilton Columbus/Polaris at (614) 885-1600 and mention you are with OSBA.

For more details, visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/board-leadership-institute](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/board-leadership-institute).



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## Cyberlaw Seminar

☐ March 28, Columbus, \$150

## Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #4: Emergency planning

☐ April 9, Columbus, \$90

## What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio

☐ April 15, Wilmington, \$50

☐ April 17, Nelsonville, \$50

☐ April 22, Ravenna, \$50

☐ April 24, Bowling Green, \$50

## Management Development Series #2: Student welfare — suicide prevention, key policies and more

☐ April 24, Columbus, \$90

## Board Leadership Institute

☐ May 2-3, Columbus, \$240

## Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #5: Fleet compliance

☐ May 7, Columbus, \$90

## 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.

Bulletin Board, continued from page 4

(Medina) Board of Education member **Lloyd E. Naragon** died March 5. He was 104. ●●● Former **Granville EV** Board of Education member **Dr. Frederick N. Karaffa** died Feb. 27. He was 81. ●●● Former **Kenton City** Board of Education member **Howard Watkins Jr.** died March 7. He was 78. ●●● Former **Kettering City** Assistant Superintendent **Paul E. Wagner** died Feb. 27. He was 85. ●●● Former **Lake Local (Stark)** Board of Education member **John Mason Bonar** died March 6. He was 88. ●●● Former **Lakewood Local (Licking)** Board of Education member **Janet Lou Shepard** died March 3. She was 79. ●●● Former **Painesville City Local (Lake)** Superintendent **Dr. Fritz M. Overs** died Feb. 27. He was 79. ●●● Former **Wayne Local (Warren)** Board of Education member **David D. Hartsock** died Feb. 13. He was 85.



## OSBA LEADERSHIP

by Gary Motz, senior editorial manager

### OSBA trustees discuss finance, legislative focus, strategic plan

The OSBA Board of Trustees welcomed new members, reviewed finances and heard updates on a number of key topics during its Feb. 22 meeting in Columbus. As OSBA's official governing body, the board meets three times a year.

OSBA President **Susie Lawson, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center**, led the meeting. The session began with the swearing-in of the 2014 Board of Trustees and an introduction of new members.

The new trustees are: **Thomas F. Brophey, Wellsville Local (Columbiana)**; **John W. Halkias, Plain Local (Stark)**; **Kevin Landin, Ottoville Local (Putnam)**; **Lawson; A. Chris Nelms, Cincinnati City**; 2014 President-elect **Ed Penrod, Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**; **Gail Requardt, East Muskingum Local (Muskingum)** and **Mid-East Career and Technology Centers**; **Lee Schreiner, South-Western**

**City; Veronica Sims, Akron City; Warren Stevens, Urbana City and Ohio Hi-Point Career Center**; and **Kevin E. Weaver, Crooksville EV and Mid-East Career and Technology Centers**.

A list of all trustees and the board's Executive Committee members is posted at [www.ohio.schoolboards.org/osba-officers](http://www.ohio.schoolboards.org/osba-officers).

Chief Financial Officer **Janice Smith** briefed trustees on the association's finances. She presented the 2013 financial report and the 2014 budget, which trustees approved.

Lobbyist **Jay Smith** presented an overview of OSBA's 2014 legislative focus. Priorities include promoting legislation that: preserves school boards' local control; protects, preserves and restores governance by elected board members; encourages adequate school district funding; seeks equitable distribution of state funding; prepares students for

college and career success; protects the local and state tax base; seeks a fair and appropriate share of oil and gas severance tax revenues for public schools; maintains special election opportunities; and requires greater accountability for community schools.

Deputy Executive Director **Rob Delane** updated trustees on OSBA's strategic plan: Visionary Initiatives for Strategic Action (VISA). The association is in the second five-year phase of the plan, which was launched in 2008. Delane said OSBA staff is ambitiously incorporating the VISA plan into every facet of association activities.

Penrod discussed the recent work of OSBA's Federal Relations Network in Washington, D.C., during the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Advocacy Institute.

In other business trustees:  
● heard a report from Executive

*Continued on page 6*

OSBA Leadership, continued from page 5

Director **Richard Lewis** on NSBA's new campaign in support of public education, Stand Up 4 Public Schools, in which OSBA is playing an integral part;

● adopted resolutions honoring 2013 OSBA President **Charlie Wilson, Worthington City**; the late **Don E. Carpenter, Barnesville EV**

and **Belmont-Harrison Career Center**, who died in January; **Jo Ann W. Feltner**, a former OSBA president-elect, OSBA trustee and **Franklin City** board member; and the 60th anniversary of the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing racial

segregation in public schools; ● heard **Wilson**, who serves on NSBA's National School Board Action Center Board of Directors, report on the center's activities, which focus on strengthening school board advocacy efforts.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for July 26.



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, lobbyist

### Mid-biennium review filled with education, tax proposals

In his State of the State address, Gov. **John Kasich** laid out some mid-biennium review (MBR) proposals. They include more tax cuts; strategies to reduce school dropout rates; encouraging student mentoring; expanding career-tech education; and improving college credit opportunities.

On March 11, Rep. **Jeff McClain**

(R-Upper Sandusky) introduced House Bill (HB) 472, the MBR bill, in the House. The 1,620-page bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, which McClain chairs. MBR is starting in that committee this year because it includes a significant tax overhaul that would fund tax cuts.

With its many policy issues, HB

472 likely will be split into several pieces of legislation and go before multiple committees. For example, the House Education Committee will hear the education provisions while the tax provisions will go before the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill could be heard by up to 11 committees.

Following are some of the major provisions in the MBR bill.

### OSBA Central Region manager position available

The Ohio School Boards Association is looking for a part-time regional manager for OSBA's Central Region. Working from his or her home or office, this person will plan and coordinate meetings, facilitate the activities of regional committees and keep the executive director informed about regional issues. Knowledge about OSBA, school boards and public education is essential. The position requires the ability to work independently, as well as excellent computer, proofreading, record keeping and organizational skills. For more information or an application, contact OSBA Executive Director **Richard Lewis** at (614) 540-4000. Send résumés to Central Region Manager Search, OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Application deadline is April 11. Electronic applications will not be accepted. EOE

#### Tax reform proposals

- new tax cuts for all Ohio taxpayers that will lower state income taxes 8.5% over the next three years across all income levels;
- expanding the state's earned income tax credit from 5% to 15% of the federal credit;
- raising the personal income tax exemption for low and middle income Ohioans;
- increasing cigarette taxes from

*Continued on page 7*



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

### Ohio students among nation's top youth volunteers

Nine Ohio public school students have been named to a group of the nation's top youth volunteers and honored by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

The Ohioans were among thousands of students competing in the nationwide program that honors young people for outstanding volunteer efforts.

**Sydney Copeland, Beavercreek City**, and **John Lund, Mason City**, were selected as Ohio's top two student volunteers of 2014.

Copeland was recognized for efforts to help young hospital patients and Lund was honored for raising research funding for Prader-Willi syndrome, a rare genetic disorder. As state honorees, each will receive \$1,000, a silver medallion and a trip to Washington, D.C., to meet with other state honorees. From among that group, 10 will be named America's top youth volunteers.

These Ohio students were named distinguished finalists:

**Catherine Bruno, Nardon Hills City**; **Ama Koranteng, New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin)**; **Monica Nemeth, Shaker Heights City**; **Kristin Osborne, Copley-Fairlawn City**; **Morlan Osgood, Loveland City**; **Rachel Prior, Tallmadge City**; and **Julia Shin, Dublin City**.

The awards program is hosted by Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Source: Prudential Financial

*Legislative Report, continued from page 6*

\$1.25 to \$1.85 a pack;

- setting a severance tax rate for oil and gas drilling of 2.75%;
- raising the commercial activities tax rate from 0.26% to 0.30%.

#### K-12 education

- identifying early those students at risk of dropping out of school and devising alternative strategies to better engage them, including tailored career counseling and alternative paths to diplomas;
- allowing approved community colleges and career centers to create new initiatives to help adults without a high school diploma earn credits toward a diploma while pursuing job training coupled with credential efforts;

- using \$10 million from casino license fees to provide local grants to develop mentoring programs;
- making Ohio's technical and vocational education available to students beginning in grade seven.

#### New CC+ system

Based on recommendations from a report by the Ohio Board of Regents chancellor, the new College Credit Plus (CC+) program would:

- replace all current postsecondary option programs;
- require all districts and public institutions of higher education (IHEs) to participate in CC+;
- provide that funding "transfers out" for CC+ students would retain 17% of the per-pupil amount

for the resident school district;

- prorate CC+ funding based on credits earned;
- prohibit charging any amount of tuition to public school students attending public colleges;
- permit local agreements with IHEs (between per-credit ceiling and floor funding parameters of \$4,814 for 30 credit hours, a \$160 ceiling or the maximum that can be charged per credit, and 25% of \$160, a \$40 floor or the minimum that can be charged per credit).

Lawmakers will focus on MBR over the next month. Watch for OSBA alerts and publications with updated MBR information.

*Editor's note:* Information in this article was current as of March 14.

### March 2014

- 28 Cyberlaw Workshop.....Columbus
- 31 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop ..... Columbus

### April 2014

- 1 Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....TBD
- 2 OSBA Book Club *How Children Succeed* webinar #3
- 5-7 NSBA Annual Conference.....New Orleans
- 7 *Last day for voter registration for May election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).*
- 9 Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #4.....Columbus
- 15 What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio.....Wilmington
- 15 *Last day for certain board members and administrators to file financial disclosure forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02.*
- 17 What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio.....Nelsonville
- 22 What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio.....Ravenna

- 24 Management Development Series #2 Workshop ..... Columbus
- 24 What board members need to know about value-added information in practice in Ohio.....Bowling Green
- 27 Southeast Region Executive Committee meeting.....Zanesville
- 28 *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).*
- 30 *Last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to re-employ nonteaching employees. Note: This requirement does not apply to municipal school district employees as defined in RC 3311.71 — RC 4141.29(I)(1)(e).*

### May 2014

- 2 *Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor for August election — RC 5705.194, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the election).*
- 2-3 Board Leadership Institute ....Columbus
- 6 *Special Election Day; Primary Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).*
- 7 Pupil Transportation Administrator Training Program #5.....Columbus

- 7 Northeast Region Executive Committee meeting.....TBD
- 7 *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 August election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for August election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for August election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy for August election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C); last day to submit emergency levy for August election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for August election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A) (90 days prior to the election).*
- 18 Northwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....Bowling Green
- 27 BoardDocs library, packet and goal-tracking webinar