

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



U.S. high school graduation rate sets record for second consecutive year

American students are graduating from high school at a higher rate than ever, according to new data from the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. The nation's high school graduation rate hit 81% in school year 2012-13, up 1% from the previous year, and the highest level since states adopted a new uniform way of calculating rates in 2010. Ohio did the nation one better, with an 82% rate. To view the data, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/94777>.

OSBA announces speakers for State Legislative Conference

Key legislative leaders will address the State Legislative Conference on March 25 in Columbus. They are: Senate President Sen. **Keith Faber** (R-Celina); House Education Committee Chair Rep. **Bill Hayes** (R-Granville); House Finance and Appropriations Committee Chair Rep. **Ryan Smith** (R-Bidwell); and House Minority Leader Rep. **Fred Strahorn** (D-Dayton). The event, which includes a luncheon, provides school district leaders the opportunity to hear the latest legislative updates and meet personally with their legislators. The conference is hosted by OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. For details and to register, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/55876>.

State reminds districts new rules for school safety plans are in effect

New rules governing the creation and submission of school safety plans went into effect Jan. 5. Each school district in Ohio is required to submit a safety plan and district administrators should review their plans to verify that they comply with the new regulations. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has created a Web page with resources to help districts comply with the new law. It is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/75786>.

Education department details consequences of opting out of state tests

In many Ohio school districts, families are attempting to opt out of mandated state tests, particularly those aligned to the Common Core. ODE has issued a guidance document outlining possible consequences for students, teachers, schools and districts that may occur when the tests are not taken. The education department recommends schools share those consequences in writing with parents who withdraw their children from testing. The guidance is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/84157>.

ODE issues memo on test accommodations for students with disabilities

A clarification recently released by ODE outlines accessibility and accommodations considerations for students with disabilities taking the new state tests. The

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Route workshop information to:

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

clarification is available at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/70026>.

OSBA Business Honor Roll deadline fast approaching

If your district has not yet submitted its selections for the 2015 OSBA Business Honor Roll, you had better act fast; the deadline is March 17. The program gives districts a way to thank businesses in their communities that support their schools. For more information and to submit selections, go to <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/91753>.

Study seeks input on schools' blended learning practices

The Ohio Blended Learning Network is partnering with two other groups on a study of blended learning in the state. All Ohio schools and districts are urged to participate; emails with a link to the survey have been sent to superintendents and school

Ohio teacher surprised with elaborate wedding proposal

A **Genoa Area Local (Ottawa)** teacher recently received the surprise of a lifetime at school: an elaborate wedding proposal from a boyfriend disguised as the school mascot.

Geneva Middle School teacher **Diana Osborne** was given a Valentine's Day-themed teacher appreciation award on stage in front of students. Following the award, curtains were pulled behind Osborne to reveal a sign reading, "Diana ... Will you marry me?" Her boyfriend, **John Mitchell Jr.**, appeared unmasked as the school mascot and proposed. Osborne said "yes."

"I had no clues — nothing," Osborne told a local newspaper. "I was nervous enough just to get the award and have to talk in front of my kids on the spot."

Source: *Star Beacon*

leaders. The study's results will be shared with education stakeholders and others to inform discussions about the direction of blended learning in Ohio. To download a PDF of the survey, visit <http://bit.ly/blendedohio>. The online survey is posted at <http://blendedsurvey.net>. Districts

without blended learning programs only need to answer the survey's first eight questions. The deadline is March 20.

Capital Conference workshop moderators needed

OSBA is seeking learning session moderators for the Capital Conference, Nov. 8-11, in Columbus. Board members serving as moderators introduce workshop presenters, act as liaisons between the audience and speakers, and earn five Award of Achievement credits. Contact **Judy Morgan** at (614) 540-4000 or jmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org for details.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA's social media "family" continues to grow. The association added 2,617 followers on Twitter in 2014, an increase of 46% from 2013. It also added 218 new "likes" on Facebook last year, an increase of 31%.



Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association
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Columbus, OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 — (800) 589-OSBA
fax: (614) 540-4100 ● www.ohioschoolboards.org

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

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OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District

- ① Kings Local (Warren)
- ② Zanesville City
- ③ Madison Local (Lake)

Deadline

- March 23
- April 15
- April 17

Contact

- OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
- OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
- OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

Treasurer

District

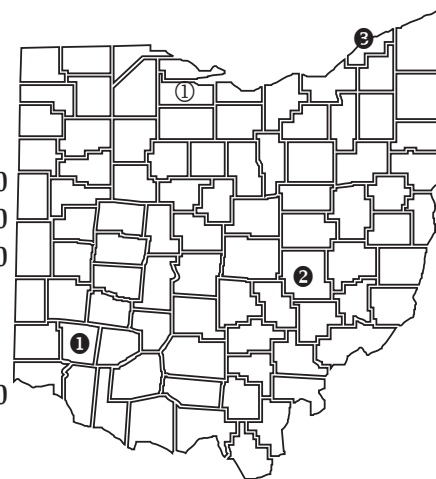
- ① Fremont City

Deadline

- March 18

Contact

- OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



Other searches

Position

Superintendent

District

West Branch Local (Mahoning)

Deadline

March 20

Contact

James J. Herrholtz, deputy superintendent, Mahoning County ESC, (330) 965-7828

Superintendent

Western Brown Local (Brown)

March 23

Jina Bohl, assistant superintendent, Western Brown Local, (937) 444-2044, ext. 25031

Director of special services

Athens City

March 13

Thomas Biggs, associate superintendent, Athens City (740) 797-4544, ext. 225

Intermediate/middle school principal

Grandview Heights City

March 12

Hayley Head, executive assistant to the superintendent, Grandview Heights City, (614) 485-4015

Board changes

Elyria City Board of Education member **Donald F. Boddy** announced his resignation effective Feb. 18. ●●● **Green Local (Wayne)** Board of Education member **Melissa Craemer Smith** announced her resignation effective Feb. 9. ●●● **Northeastern Local (Clark)** appointed **Kyle Powell** to the board effective immediately. He replaced **Brian Smith**, who resigned in January. ●●● **Perry Local (Stark)** appointed **Doug Brown** to the board effective Feb. 24. He replaced **Michael Brenner**, who resigned. ●●● **Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City** Board of Education member **Gloria Behrendt** announced her

Editor's note

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

resignation effective Feb. 9. ●●● **South Range Local (Mahoning)** Board of Education member **Bruce L. Zinz** announced his resignation effective Feb. 16. ●●● **Wellsville Local (Columbiana)** Board of Education member **Charles "Chris" Amato** announced his resignation effective Feb. 16. He resigned to serve as county municipal court judge.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Antwerp Local (Paulding) Superintendent **Patricia J. Ross** announced her resignation effective June 30. ●●● **Big Walnut Local (Delaware)** hired Assistant Superintendent **Angela Pollock** as superintendent effective May 31. She will replace **Steve Mazzi**, who is retiring. ●●● **Clark County ESC** hired **Daniel E. Bennett** as superintendent effective Feb. 10. He will continue to serve as superintendent at **Greenon Local (Clark)** until July 31. Bennett replaces Dr. **Stacia Smith**, who retired in December. ●●● **Elyria City** Superintendent **Paul M. Rigda** announced his retirement effective June 30. ●●● **Gahanna-Jefferson City** Superintendent **Francis R. Scruci** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Northmor Local (Morrow)** Superintendent Dr. **Brent Winand** announced his retirement effective March 31. The board appointed High School Principal **Chad Redmond** as superintendent effective immediately. ●●● **Olentangy Local (Delaware)** Superintendent Dr. **Wade E. Lucas** announced his retirement effective Aug. 31. ●●● **Revere Local (Summit)** hired **Matthew L. Montgomery** as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent Dr. **P. Joseph Madak**. Montgomery currently is superintendent at **Waterloo Local (Portage)**. ●●● **Steubenville City** hired Interim Superintendent **Melinda Young** as superintendent effective Feb. 19. ●●● **West Geauga Local (Gauga)** hired Dr. **Richard A. Markwardt** as superintendent effective June 15. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Mike Nutter**. Markwardt currently is the superintendent at **Beachwood City**. ●●● **Sylvania City** hired **Jane Spurgeon** as assistant superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Scott Nelson**, who was hired as the district's superintendent. Spurgeon currently is the district human resources director.

Treasurers

EHOVE Career Center hired **Tim Coffman** as treasurer effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Treasurer **Betty Schwiefert**. Coffman currently is the treasurer at **Benton-Carroll-Salem Local (Ottawa)**. ●●● **Sandusky City** hired **Gina Deppert** as treasurer effective May 1. She will replace Interim Treasurer **Keith Brown**, who will return to the district's assistant treasurer position. Deppert currently is the treasurer at **Ashland City**. ●●● **Vantage Career Center** hired **Laura Peters** as treasurer effective immediately. She replaced **Lori Davis**, who took the treasurer position at **Wayne Trace Local (Paulding)**. Peters previously was the assistant treasurer at **Delphos City**. ●●● **Walnut Township Local (Fairfield)**

Treasurer **Kirk Grandy** announced his resignation effective June 30.

OSBA webinars

Learning delivered to your computer

Register for these webinars by visiting www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops. You also can register by contacting **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

Student privacy in the digital age

Tuesday, April 21 • 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. • Paid webinar • \$35

Can districts release surveillance footage that depicts students? Are districts allowed to store student records in the cloud? May photos of students be posted on the district's Facebook page? OSBA explores the privacy protections afforded to students' digital records and districts' ability to release those records.



Sympathies

Former **Alliance City** Board of Education member **Robert E. Lee** died Feb. 8. He was 67. ●●● Former **Avon Local (Lorain)** Board of Education member **William C. "Bill" Furnas** died Feb. 16. He was 91. ●●● **L. Dow Ward Jr.**, a member of the former **Champaign County School Board** and former treasurer and board of education member at **Graham Local (Champaign)**, died Jan. 27. He was 92. ●●● Former **Findlay City** Assistant

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Bulletin Board, continued from page 4

Superintendent **Robert W. Constien** died Feb. 2. He was 89. ●●● Former **James A. Garfield Local (Portage)** Board of Education member **Henry Hecky Jr.** died Feb. 14. He was 88. ●●● Former **Hubbard EV** Superintendent **Eddie L. Jackson Sr.** died Feb. 15. He was 68. ●●● Former **Hudson City** Board of Education member **Ada Cooper Miller** died Feb. 16. She was 111. ●●● Former **Indian Hill EV** Treasurer **Richard J. Schramm** died Feb. 12. He was 82. ●●● **Howard L. Strode**, a member of the former **Morgan County** School Board, died Feb. 18. He was 90. ●●● Former **Morgan Local (Morgan)** Treasurer **Frank M. Dugan** died Feb. 10. He was 98. ●●● Former **New Bremen Local (Auglaize)** Board of Education member **Dona Mae Kuenning** died Feb. 16. She was 85. ●●● Former **Newton Local (Miami)** Board of Education member **Warren H. Jackson** died Feb. 9. He was 94. ●●● Former **North Canton City** Board of Education member **Donald Lewis Ramsey** died Feb. 13. He was 82. ●●● **Willard Copley**, a superintendent at the former **North Gallia** School District in Gallia County, died Feb. 9. He was 83. ●●● Former **Orrville City** Board of Education member **Virginia F. Anderson** died Feb. 9. She was 94. ●●● Former **Wellington EV** Treasurer **Raymond Gillette Cassell** died Feb. 5. He was 94.



NEWS

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

OSBA takes Ohio public education concerns to Capitol Hill

OSBA's Federal Relations Network (FRN) recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to take part in the National School Boards Association's (NSBA) Advocacy Institute. The institute ran Feb. 1-3.

FRN is composed of local school board members appointed by OSBA to lobby their members of Congress on federal education issues. The focus of the Advocacy Institute and Ohio's FRN centers on building year-round advocacy for public education and local board of education governance in the public, legal and legislative arenas.

This year, 27 Ohio FRN members and several OSBA staff members joined more than 700 other school board members from across the country to participate in the Advocacy Institute. On the last

day of the conference, local school board members led a national grassroots legislative effort on Capitol Hill to urge members of Congress to make public education a top priority.

Institute attendees heard from a variety of speakers, including NSBA legislative experts, political strategists and key members of Congress. The speakers reviewed critical legislative issues, discussed the current political atmosphere and shared the most effective ways to advocate on behalf of America's schoolchildren.

This year, school board members urged Congress to ensure adequate funding for education programs, including full funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Title I grants for disadvantaged students.

During their Capitol Hill meetings, FRN members asked Congress to accelerate investments in public education that support local efforts to raise student achievement and appropriate full funding for federal mandates. Currently, the federal share of funding for services provided to approximately 6.5 million students through IDEA is roughly 16%. When IDEA was first enacted almost 40 years ago, Congress promised to pay 40% of the costs for special education. The shortfall in federal funding for this priority continues to strain local school districts' budgets.

FRN members also urged Congress to eliminate federal overreach by the U.S. Department of Education and help restore

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flexibility and governance to local school boards. With the possibility of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)/No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) being reauthorized this year, members urged Congress to address many of public education's concerns in the final legislation.

Following are some of the provisions FRN members are calling for in the ESEA/NCLB reauthorization:

- Specific language similar to Section 5531 of House Resolution 5, the Student Success Act, which was the House-passed ESEA/NCLB reauthorization in 2013. This language affirms the authority and flexibility that states and local school districts need to facilitate local innovation and student achievement without placing undue burdens on districts that would adversely impact effective governance.

- A modernized version of ESEA/NCLB that is fully supported by federal investments in Title I, the cornerstone of the legislation that has been woefully underfunded for decades.

- Fully support with federal investments Title V (Section 5146 of ESEA/NCLB) in order to advance local innovative programs that are effective in closing achievement gaps.

- Include key "maintenance of effort" requirements in ESEA/NCLB that will help school districts sustain and improve education services for millions of students.

- Eliminate sanctions that erode local mechanisms for student success and impose unintended consequences on schools that are trying to improve and advance reform.

- Stop siphoning off limited federal investments in public education by opposing vouchers,

school choice provisions and set-asides for supplemental services.

To restore local school board governance, provide sufficient federal funding and address the impact of current law on school district budgets and operations, FRN members also encouraged Congress to consider the following issues when reauthorizing the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act:

- indirect cost rules;
- frequency of compliance reviews;
- national standards for school meals;
- mandatory standards for competitive foods;
- paid meal-pricing regulation;
- national professional standards for all school food personnel;
- requirements for local school wellness plans, including marketing restrictions.

Throughout the year, FRN members will continue advocating

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Leo Lucas scholarship deadline March 16

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

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

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



Management Development Series #1:

Are you taking school safety for granted?

Friday, March 13
OSBA office, Columbus

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

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

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

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



OSBA MASTER OF TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (MTA) PROGRAM

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

These half-day workshops — each offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — will include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is scheduled twice; participants may sign up for either session. All workshops will be at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, 43235. Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs to read workshop descriptions and learn about the MTA certification program.

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



Routing and technology — April 1 or April 7

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

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

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



Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement

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

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

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

March 10 Wayne County Schools Career Center,
Smithville

March 18 Vantage Career Center, Van Wert

April 1 Great Oaks ITCD, Cincinnati

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

Questions about workers' comp rates?

Get answers at the 2015 Spring SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshops

Hear the latest on the SchoolComp program, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) changes and experience review. These sessions meet BWC's two-hour safety training requirement. The workshops will be held at sites around Ohio, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. While there is no fee, registration is requested to accommodate those attending.



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

Dates and locations:

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

Wednesday, March 11


Ohio University Inn and Conference Center, Athens

Thursday, March 26

Holiday Inn, Sharonville

Monday, March 30

OSBA office, Columbus



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

Special Education Law Workshop

8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

8:50 a.m. Welcome

9 a.m. ODE update: 2015 outlook

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

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

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

10:45 a.m. Break

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

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

Noon Lunch (provided)

1 p.m. Hot topics in special education

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

2 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. The discipline dirty dozen

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

3:15 p.m. Adjourn

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

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



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Statehouse Photo Archive

State Legislative Conference

Wednesday, March 25

Ohio Statehouse Atrium, Columbus

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

Cost is \$130

As we begin working with the new 131st General Assembly, what can we expect for schools? How will the biennial budget impact public education? School officials need to have their voices heard by attending the annual State Legislative Conference.

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda

8:45 a.m.

Registration

9:15 a.m.

Lobbyists' briefing on key issues

Damon Asbury, director of legislative services; Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services; and Jennifer Hogue, lobbyist, Ohio School Boards Association; Tom Ash, director of governmental relations, Buckeye Association of School Administrators; and Barbara Shaner, associate executive director, Ohio Association of School Business Officials

10:15 a.m.

Perspectives from the House

Rep. Ryan Smith, House Finance and Appropriations Committee chair; Rep. Bill Hayes, House Education Committee chair; and Rep. Fred Strahorn, House minority leader

11:15 a.m.

Perspectives from the Senate

Sen. Keith Faber, Senate president

11:45 a.m.

Lunch with your legislators

1 p.m.

Personal meetings with your legislators

Contact your legislators to schedule an appointment prior to the conference.

OSBA Cyberlaw 2015



Technology and the law seminar

Friday, March 27, 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

OSBA office, Columbus

Cost is \$150

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

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



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement

- ☐ March 10, Smithville, free
- ☐ March 18, Van Wert, free
- ☐ April 1, Cincinnati, free

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

- ☐ March 13, Columbus, \$90

Special Education Law Workshop

- ☐ March 20, Columbus, \$160

State Legislative Conference

- ☐ March 25, Columbus, \$130

OSBA Cyberlaw 2015: Technology and the law seminar

- ☐ March 27, Columbus, \$150

Student privacy in the digital age

- ☐ April 21, webinar, \$35

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. 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. 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. 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.

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for Ohio public education and working with their congressional representatives as part of that advocacy. The Federal Relations Network truly is your “voice in Washington.”

For more information on federal advocacy, contact OSBA’s Division of Legislative Services at (614) 540-4000. Division staff members are: **Damon Asbury**, director of legislative services;

(dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org); **Jay Smith**, deputy director of legislative services (jaysmith@ohioschoolboards.org); and **Jennifer Hogue**, lobbyist (jhogue@ohioschoolboards.org).



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

Taking a look at education, funding components of budget bill

OSBA continues to analyze the education and funding provisions in Ohio House Bill (HB) 64, the biennial budget legislation. The association will share its ongoing analysis throughout the budget process to help districts prepare for testimony before the House Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education.

While OSBA agrees with the governor’s stated goal of making sure the school-funding formula directs state funds based on the capacity of a local district to contribute its share, it appears the proposed changes to the current formula in HB 64 do not address capacity issues for all districts. The following list was created based on our analysis of the school-funding provisions contained in the executive budget proposal.

- The stated intent of the administration’s proposed changes to the current formula was to address a flawed income adjustment to the State Share

Index (SSI) calculation.

- The current income adjustment (enacted through HB 59) tends to favor districts with high property wealth rather than addressing the needs of districts with lower incomes, as expected.

- The proposed new income adjustment is meant to favorably target districts with relatively low income, with high-wealth districts receiving a reduction within the SSI calculation.

- The valuation-per-pupil measure within the current and proposed opportunity aid calculation tends to make low-density districts appear wealthier than what might otherwise be expected, even when residents’ income is relatively low.

- The proposed changes to the formula include the implementation of an income adjustment that is based on “quintiles” of wealth. However, because some districts in rural areas have experienced more growth in property values relative

to the statewide average, the opportunity aid calculation in the proposal tends to penalize those districts disproportionately, placing them in a relatively high quintile.

This increase in relative property wealth undermines the effectiveness of improving the income adjustment, resulting in lower levels of state aid than districts would otherwise receive. In cases where the increase in rural district property values is due to current agricultural use value (CAUV) increases and districts not being at the 20-mill floor, these districts will not enjoy local revenue growth commensurate with their increase in property valuation.

In addition, the proposed formula skips ahead one year in the three-year averaging of property values. In the past, property values from tax years (TY) 2012, 2013 and 2014 would be

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used to compute the three-year average property value to be used in the fiscal year (FY) 2016 funding formula.

However, the administration's formula uses a three-year average of TY 2013, 2014 and 2015 values in FY 2016. Not only does this approach rely on estimated values for TY 2015, it also, by moving forward one year, penalizes rural districts because an additional year of CAUV-driven property value growth is included in the basis for the state aid calculation.

The governor's proposal reduces the transitional aid guarantee by 1% of a district's total available resources. However, OSBA believes, as a result of flaws in the current and the proposed formula, a reduction in the transitional aid

guarantee is ill-advised. In many cases, there is no logical reason for a district to be on the guarantee, so the formula itself appears to be the cause.

Additionally, the state's policy decisions about reducing state funds to districts should take into account the district's ability to offer programs for students. Many districts scheduled to lose guarantee funds under the proposal lack the resources for offering high-quality education opportunities to students. Many have actually reduced programs in recent years as a result of financial stress.

HB 64 also would reactivate a phaseout of the tangible personal property (TPP) and public utility tangible personal property tax

(PUTPP) replacement payments to school districts. High-wealth districts would lose up to 2% of total available resources from their replacement payments and lower-wealth districts would lose up to 1% of total resources, prorated by quintile.

- Many of the districts still receiving these replacement funds would have extreme difficulty in raising the lost revenue locally.

- TPP and PUTPP tax replacement funds were originally intended to phase out over time as the state school-funding formula accounted for the loss (increased formula aid to replace the TPP loss). Because of changes in the formula over the years, that has not happened.

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Leadership for Learning

Learning session nominations due **March 16**.

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

Registration opens **July 13**.

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



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

Save the dates



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

Ohio students named among nation's top youth volunteers

Eight Ohio public school students have been named among 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.

Morlan Osgood, Loveland City, and **Rachel Prior, Tallmadge City,** were selected as Ohio's top two student volunteers of 2015.

Osgood was selected for co-founding an educational program that helped more than 11,000 students in grades two-12 and Prior was picked for raising money and awareness for United Cerebral Palsy, including creating her own footrace. 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: **Justin Bachman, Solon City;** **Kylynn Buchanan, Fort Frye Local (Washington);** **Emma Moore, Tipp City EV;** **Christian Musarra, Nordonia Hills City;** **Mariah Reynolds, Cincinnati City;** and **Abigail Walouke, Mason City.**

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

Source: Prudential Financial

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● OSBA's understanding of the original intent of the commercial activity tax (CAT) was to have the majority of the revenue go to schools. The reduction in replacement payments, as proposed, does not honor this intent.

● If there are to be reductions in TPP and PUTPP tax revenues, replacement payments should be offset with increases in state aid through an improved school-funding formula.

It also should be noted that the administration has publically indicated that school district carryover balances projected in their five-year forecasts currently are sufficient to withstand

reductions in TPP and PUTPP tax replacement payments and the transitional aid guarantee. However, OSBA's position is that there are reasons for districts' carryover balances, including cash-flow protection for future expenditures, levy management and concerns about future reductions in revenue. Districts should be prepared to discuss their carryover policies with legislators and other policymakers.

Public testimony opportunities

OSBA highly recommends that school leaders come to the Statehouse and testify before the House Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education.

Opportunities for public testimony are currently scheduled for the following dates and times. All sessions are at the Statehouse in Room 116.

- Wednesday, March 18, 4 p.m.–8 p.m.
- Thursday, March 19, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
- Friday, March 20 (if needed), 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 25, (if needed), 4 p.m.–8 p.m.

If you plan on testifying, please contact OSBA's Division of Legislative Services at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of Feb. 27.

March 2015

- 10 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Smithville
- 10 Southwest Region Spring Conference..... Clayton
- 11 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop Athens
- 11 Central Region Spring Conference..... Columbus
- 12 Northwest Region Spring Conference..... Sandusky
- 13 Management Development Series #1: Are you taking school safety for granted? Columbus
- 17 Southeast Region Spring Conference..... Piketon
- 18 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Van Wert
- 19 Southeast Region Spring Conference..... Zanesville
- 20 Special Education Law Workshop Columbus
- 24 OSBA Book Club webinar #3
- 25 State Legislative Conference.. Columbus
- 26 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop Sharonville
- 27 Cyberlaw Seminar Columbus
- 30 SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Workshop Columbus

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

April 2015

- 1 OSBA MTA Program: Routing and technology Columbus
- 1 Empowering school governance teams to improve student achievement..... Cincinnati
- 6 Last day for voter registration for May election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).
- 7 OSBA MTA Program: Routing and technology Columbus
- 7 Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting..... Piqua
- 15 Last day for certain board members and administrators to file financial disclosure forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission — RC 102.02.
- 16 New JVSD Board Member Workshop Columbus
- 21 Student privacy in a digital age webinar
- 23 Management Development Series #2 Workshop Columbus
- 26 Southeast Region Executive Committee meeting..... Zanesville
- 27 Last day to submit certification for August income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).

May 2015

- 1 Last day to submit August emergency or current operating expenses levy to county auditor for August election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213 (95 days prior to the election).
- 1-2 Board Leadership Institute Columbus
- 5 Special Election Day; Primary Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).
- 6 OSBA MTA Program: Buy that bus and put the plan together Columbus
- 6 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.