

# BRIEF CASE

## THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



### Delisle wins confirmation for key federal education post

The U.S. Senate last month confirmed former Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction **Deborah S. Delisle** as the nation's new assistant secretary of education for elementary and secondary education. President **Barack Obama** nominated Delisle for the post in January. She will serve as the principal adviser to Secretary of Education **Arne Duncan** on elementary and secondary education issues. Delisle was state superintendent from 2008 to 2011, and worked closely with OSBA to promote Ohio public schools during that time. She previously served as **Cleveland Heights-University Heights City** superintendent.

### Officials remind districts to update building safety plans

The Ohio Department of Education and Attorney General **Mike DeWine** are urging school officials to make sure all of their schools' building floor plans and safety plans are up-to-date and on file with the state. The information in these plans is required by law and can save lives and time in an emergency. The plans are required to be updated every three years, or sooner if there are changes. They are filed in a state law enforcement database, making them quickly accessible to any police officer. Plans can be sent to [SchoolPlans@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](mailto:SchoolPlans@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov) or School Digitization Project, Ohio Attorney General's Office, 150 E. Gay St., 18th floor, Columbus, OH 43215.

### Two Ohio schools earn national 'green ribbons'

Loveland City's Loveland High School and Adams County/Ohio Valley Local's (Adams) North Adams Elementary School are among 78 schools nationwide to be named U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. The new program honors schools that create "green" environments by reducing environmental impact, promoting health, teaching sustainability concepts and ensuring a high-quality environmental and outdoor education. For more information on the program, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/66074>.

### Deadline drawing near for Student Achievement Fair nominations

The deadline to nominate innovative student programs and talented student performing groups for the OSBA Student Achievement Fair is May 25. Don't miss this opportunity to highlight your students during the Capital Conference. Nomination forms are in the *Briefcase* and posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/83521>.

### OSBA attorneys unveil renovated legal blog site

OSBA's Division of Legal Services recently revived its legal blog, The Legal Ledger. Authored by the association's attorneys, the blog features weekly updates on the

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#### Contents

More news.....	2
<i>SE Region seeking recognition program nominations; This month in OSBA history; OSBA online</i>	
Bulletin Board.....	3
News .....	5
OSBA Leadership ..	7
Legislative Report .....	10
Funding Opportunities .....	14
Information .....	14
Public Schools Work! .....	15

#### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Assistant treasurers
- ☐ Athletic directors
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

newest cases, hot topics and legal developments related to state and federal laws, statutes and regulations. Recent blog posts include updates about the retire-rehire process and information on the new state auditor fraud hotline. To subscribe, visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/wpmu](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/wpmu) and click on the "subscribe to posts" button. Blog subscribers will receive the latest updates as they are published.

### **SE Region seeking recognition program nominations**

Applications are being accepted for the 2012 Southeast Region Recognition Program. The program selects outstanding individuals and initiatives to be recognized at the region's fall conference. Districts are encouraged to submit nominations in these categories: student program, male student, female student, faculty member, classified

### **Saints' receiver visits Newark classroom, talks up education**

A Super Bowl-winning football player surprised a class of **Newark City** students with a visit in April.

**Lance Moore**, a receiver for the New Orleans Saints, and his brother **Nick Moore**, a receiver for the BC Lions in the Canadian Football League, visited their niece **Rikia Moore**'s fourth-grade classroom at John Clem Elementary School.

Lance Moore told the excited students how important education was growing up in his family. "There is no football without school," he said. "Homework came before anything else."

The Moores' father graduated from Newark in 1969. Lance and Nick played high school football for **Westerville City**'s South High School, and both went on to play for the University of Toledo.

Source: *The (Newark) Advocate*

staff member, treasurer, volunteer, administrator, and new program or innovation. Nomination forms have been sent to board presidents and are posted at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/se-region](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/se-region). For details, contact **Paul Mock**, region manager, at (740) 385-5240 or [pmock@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:pmock@ohioschoolboards.org). The

deadline is June 30.

### **This month in OSBA history**

The first Day at the Statehouse (now known as the State Legislative Conference) was held on May 10, 1983, in Columbus. Participants heard from state legislators and OSBA staff on current legislative issues during the morning and met individually with lawmakers in the afternoon. More than 200 school board members and administrators attended.

### **OSBA online**

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

The OSBA Internet Update offers Ohio's school district leaders a quick and easy way to get the latest education news from around the state and beyond. To watch the video update, visit OSBA's home page and click on "OSBA Internet Update" under the "What's New" heading. You'll also find a link to past Internet Update videos at that location.



## **Briefcase**

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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 and creative solutions.



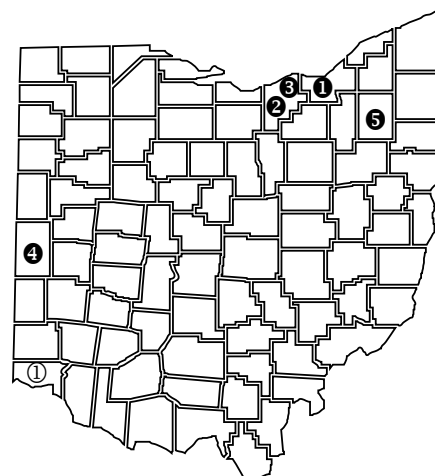
# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
① Richmond Heights Local (Cuyahoga)	May 25	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
② Lorain County JVSD	June 1	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
③ Lorain City	June 18	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
④ Greenville City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
⑤ Streetsboro City	TBD	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



### Treasurer

District	Deadline	Contact
① Deer Park Community City	May 14	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

① = Superintendent  
① = Treasurer

## Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Buckeye Local (Ashtabula)	May 16	Kathleen M. Ciminero, supervisor of personnel, Ashtabula County ESC, (440) 576-9023
Superintendent	West Geauga Local (Gauga)	May 17	Dr. William Beers, board president, West Geauga Local, william.beers@westg.org
Superintendent	Lakota Local (Sandusky)	May 21	Mandy Martin, personnel & teacher licensure, North Point ESC, (419) 625-6274
Superintendent	Benton-Carroll-Salem Local (Ottawa)	May 25	Mandy Martin, personnel & teacher licensure, North Point ESC, (419) 625-6274
Superintendent	South Central Local (Huron)	May 25	Mandy Martin, personnel & teacher licensure, North Point ESC, (419) 625-6274

### Editor's note

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

## Board changes

Carey EV Board of Education member **Brian Will** announced his resignation effective April 16. ●●● **Firelands Local (Lorain)** appointed **Ben Gibson** to the board effective April 9. He replaced **Courtney Ortner**, who resigned in March. ●●● **Painesville City Local (Lake)** appointed **Charles Tackett** to the board effective April 16. He replaced **Ross Grippi**, who resigned in March. ●●● **Trumbull County ESC** Board of Education member Dr. **James LaPolla Sr.** announced his resignation effective immediately due to moving out of the area. ●●● **Van Buren Local (Hancock)** appointed **Edd Van Horn** to the board effective April 19. He replaced **Jim Griffith**, who resigned in April. ●●● **Woodmore Local (Sandusky)** appointed **Grant Cummings** to the board effective April 11. He replaced **Chad Bringman**, who resigned in March.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

**Amanda-Clearcreek Local (Fairfield)** Superintendent **Michael B. Johnsen** announced his resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Avon Local (Lorain)** hired **Michael K. Laub** as superintendent effective Aug 1. He will replace **Jim Reitenbach**, who is retiring. ●●● **Benton-Carroll-Salem Local (Ottawa)** hired **Douglas Crooks** as interim superintendent effective April 24. He replaced **Diane S. Kershaw**, who resigned at the end of April. Crooks will continue as the regional director for **North Point ESC**. ●●● **Buckeye Local (Ashtabula)** Superintendent **Nancy L. Williams** announced her retirement effective Sept. 1. ●●● **Chagrin Falls EV** hired **Robert W. Hunt** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent Dr. **William G. Koons**. Hunt is currently superintendent at **Streetsboro City**. ●●● **East Palestine City** hired **George E. Fisk** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Thomas Inchak**, who will retire July 31. Fisk is currently a primary school principal at **Ontario Local (Richland)**. ●●● **Fairless Local (Stark)** Superintendent Dr. **Mona J. Fair** announced her retirement effective Sept. 30. ●●● **Greenville City** Superintendent **Susan E. Riegle** announced her retirement effective July 30. ●●● **Huber Heights City** Superintendent **William E. Kirby** announced his retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Little Miami Local (Warren)** hired Interim Superintendent **Greg Power** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Miamisburg City** hired **David Vail** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Gregory Whitehead**, who is retiring effective Aug. 1. Vail is currently superintendent at **Versailles EV**. ●●● **North Olmsted City** Superintendent Dr. **Cheryl Dubsky** announced her retirement effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Northwest Local (Stark)** hired Dr. **Michael R. Shreffler** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **William Stetler**, who is resigning in July. Shreffler is currently superintendent at **Southeast Local (Wayne)**. ●●● **Sebring Local (Mahoning)** hired **Christopher E. Lewis** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Howard T. Friend**, who is retiring at the end of the school year. ●●● **South Central Local (Huron)**

*Continued on page 9*

### **With OSBA search services, searching for the right superintendent, treasurer or building administrator has never been so easy!**

*The search was very professionally done. The consultant met with the board as requested and spent many hours with the community in focus groups. OSBA's search services met all of our expectations in a timely manner at a reasonable cost.*

— Mechanicsburg EV

For information on Ohio's best administrative search team, call OSBA's Kathy LaSota, Cheryl Ryan, Dick Caster or Kendall Lee at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.





## NEWS

by Angela Penquite, communication design manager

### MBR, accountability standards dominate legislative conference

The mid-biennium budget review, Cleveland Plan and new accountability standards dominated the discussion at the State Legislative Conference in March.

The annual conference, hosted by OSBA, the Ohio Association of School Business Officials and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, featured a new location and format this year. The event began at the Renaissance Hotel in Columbus with sessions with key legislators and a member of the governor's staff, followed by updates from association lobbyists. During the afternoon, attendees were encouraged to meet with their lawmakers before a legislative reception, which was held at the Capital Club.

"The new format provided an opportunity for participants to meet with their legislators in a more relaxed and informal setting that encouraged extended conversations and possible follow-up," said **Damon Asbury**, OSBA director of legislative services. "We received many positive comments from those attending."

The morning session kicked off with two panels. **Barbara Mattei-Smith**, the governor's special assistant on school finance policy, and Rep. **Ron Amstutz** (R-Wooster), chair of the House Finance and

Appropriations Committee, gave an overview of Senate Bill 316, the mid-biennial budget review (MBR). They also reviewed items that the House Finance and Appropriations Committee will be working on during the remainder of the year. Sen. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering), chair of the Senate Education Committee, and Rep. **Gerald Stebelton** (R-Lancaster), chair of the House Education Committee, provided updates on key education issues before the General Assembly, including the MBR, new accountability standards and Cleveland Plan.

"Some of you are concerned about the Cleveland Plan," Stebelton said. "We see this as a Cleveland-specific plan, to be specific for the **Cleveland Municipal** School District only, and not a model for a statewide program."

Both the House and Senate were reviewing the MBR, which the General Assembly had recently received, he said.

The MBR includes many policy changes, including the third-grade reading guarantee, teacher evaluations and the new A-to-F rating system that will be included on the state report cards.

"One of the things we need to focus on as we go through the MBR

is to look at this new evaluation system for our districts and make sure we get it right, make sure that the rating system ... when we go from 'excellent' to an 'A' is correct and has the right parameters and weights assigned to that ranking system," Stebelton said.

Lehner agreed, and said that legislators would be meeting with constituents before implementing portions of the MBR.

"As we look at some of these policies, it's my intention to make sure that we do this in a deliberative and inclusive way, and that we really hear from all of you in this room about these policies, and we have the courage to change them," she said. "I'm committing to you that this is going to be a careful process. As we look at things like the A-to-F rating and third-grade guarantee, we're going to be bringing in people who really understand these, who have been through it and have seen the failures, they've seen the successes. They can give us instruction on what we want to avoid and what we may need to add."

After the MBR, the next challenge is school funding in Ohio. Amstutz said the House has announced it intends to do its part to help establish a new school-

*Continued on page 6*

News, continued from page 5

funding method and would be holding committee meetings to explore school-funding issues.

"There will probably be eight members of the House working on this over a period of time with the goal of receiving a recommendation from the administration, and also having our own work incorporated and used in evaluating and going forward with that school-funding proposal," Amstutz said. "We need something that we can use in the next budget-making cycle."

Mattei-Smith reviewed many of the new education policies outlined in the MBR and stressed how online assessments can help evaluate students in a timely manner and determine how students are learning.

"The real value is the opportunity to do assessments at different times in the year," she said. "The idea is that there will be pre-assessments online, as well as the regular assessments, and that you will get feedback from those much faster. If you imagine it, you could do an online assessment that tells you immediately that 80% of the students in this classroom didn't understand that concept in division, how much quicker you could be at adjusting instruction to

fill those gaps."

Another advantage, she said, was the ability to see where gifted students "tap out," because the online tests can adjust the difficulty of the questions as students take the tests, providing a better measure of gifted students' value-added progress.

Throughout the morning, attendees shared with the panels their concerns about new testing requirements, vouchers and accountability for charter schools.

"We're looking at increased accountability for all schools," Lehner said. "We're looking at a lot of systems that are going to really start to put the hammer down on all schools that are failing across the board. Right now, voucher schools are not held accountable at all. ... I would propose that any school that receives a certain percent of vouchers be held to the accountability standards that we require of our public schools. If you're going to take public money to run your schools, it seems to me that you have to be accountable to the public."

The legislators reminded attendees that they need input from board members and district

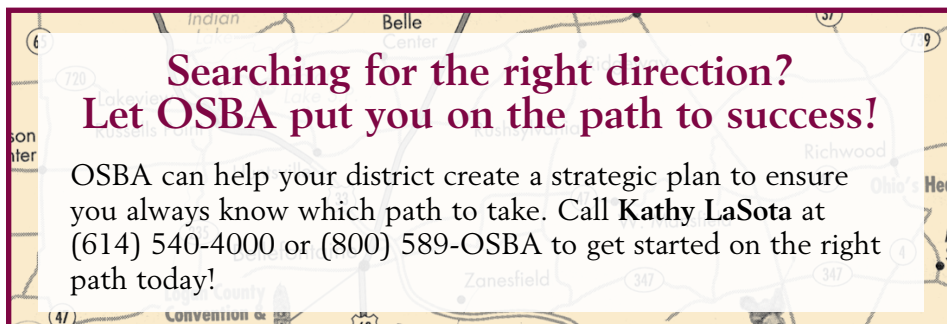
administrators as they move forward in reviewing the MBR and exploring school funding.

"Keep your cards and letters and information flowing," Lehner said. "You are the ones who know what you're talking about. We just take that information and try to put it together in sort of a useable format."

"I try to remind myself and others that I work with that we're on one team," Amstutz agreed. "The way Ohio does services is almost entirely at the community level. So when we talk about state government, our delivery systems are the local folks. So this team has to work together or it's not going to be effective. It's important to keep that in mind as we try to figure out how to go forward together."

During the second portion of the conference, association lobbyists discussed pending legislation that could impact school districts, offered tips for meeting with the legislators and encouraged attendees to continue their grassroots efforts.

"Have those conversations with your legislators, because they're starting to listen more and more," said **Michelle Francis**, OSBA deputy director of legislative services. "House Bill 136, the school voucher bill introduced last year, was a turning point. We've not had a single conversation with a legislator that 136 did not come up. That is because of your grassroots advocacy efforts. They need to hear from you."



**Searching for the right direction?  
Let OSBA put you on the path to success!**

OSBA can help your district create a strategic plan to ensure you always know which path to take. Call **Kathy LaSota** at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to get started on the right path today!





## OSBA LEADERSHIP

by Bryan Bullock, communication coordinator

### NSBA conference: Ohioans travel east to showcase the Midwest

Ohio public school leaders and OSBA staff traveled to Boston last month to participate in one of the nation's premier education summits: the National School Boards Association's 72nd Annual Conference.

More than 5,000 education professionals from across the country attended the event, held April 20-23. The conference gave attendees the chance to learn about education issues from a national perspective, gain insights into how federal legislation and court decisions will affect public schools and bring home strategies to raise student achievement and save money. It also was an opportunity for members from the Ohio delegation to learn from their peers, as well as share their experience and expertise with others.

The conference featured a wealth of workshops and world-class speakers, including general session presentations by: **Geoffrey Canada**, a nationally recognized advocate for education reform and president/chief executive officer of the Harlem Children's Zone; **Salman Khan**, founder of Khan Academy, a popular, free online education platform and nonprofit organization; and **Soledad O'Brien**, a CNN news anchor and

award-winning journalist.

Ohio school board members, administrators and other attendees returned from the conference energized and eager to share new ideas and information with their students, schools and communities.

"OSBA and Ohio schools were strongly represented at the conference and I am proud of the dedication our state showcased to public education," said OSBA Executive Director **Richard Lewis**. "The conference also served as a valuable professional development opportunity for all of us to examine local education issues from a regional and national perspective."

#### NSBA news

NSBA Executive Director **Anne L. Bryant**, who is retiring later this year, kicked off the first general session of the conference with a warm welcome.

Bryant cited some of NSBA's accomplishments over the past year, including working to prevent more than \$1 billion in cuts to Title I and special education funds; championing funding for education jobs and school construction; and advocating for local control and the needs of school boards in an ever more partisan environment in

Washington, D.C. She also said NSBA has increased its ability to drive change on Capitol Hill thanks to a newly formed 501(c)(4) organization, the National School Boards Action Center.

"We will be even more proactive so that Congress and the public understand the importance of supporting our public schools," Bryant said.

But, she said, building that understanding and value for public education also starts with local board members and states.

"You are the best messengers," Bryant said. "There is nothing as powerful as your voice, your data, your story of students achieving. Now it's your turn to engage your communities and show what is working."

**C. Ed Massey** of Kentucky's Boone County Schools took office as the new NSBA president; **David Pickler** of Tennessee is the new president-elect; and **Anne Byrne** of New York is the new secretary-treasurer.

"I'm honored and humbled to serve as the president of NSBA and I look forward to serving as a national voice to promote public education through local school board leadership," Massey said. "My goal as president is to find

*Continued on page 8*

*OSBA Leadership, continued from page 7*

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new ways to serve our state associations, which will enhance their work with our local boards in promoting student achievement."

### **Ohio's contributions**

The NSBA Delegate Assembly convened on April 20 and approved five policies, 20 resolutions and one amendment to the NSBA Constitution. OSBA President **Sharon E. Manson**, **Waverly City** and **Pike County Career Technology Center**; President-elect **Charlie Wilson**, **Worthington City**; Immediate Past President **Cathy Johnson**, **South-Western City**; **Susie Lawson**, **Tri-County ESC** and **Wayne County Schools Career Center**; and **Warren Stevens**, **Urbana City** and **Ohio Hi-Point Career Center**, represented OSBA at the meeting. OSBA Executive Director Lewis had the privilege of serving on a panel that discussed state efforts on blended learning at the session.

Executive directors from across the federation met to discuss state-level reform agendas and provide input to "The New NSBA" Task Force. This task force continues to re-examine NSBA's core services and financial models to ensure sustainable and prioritized programs in the future.

Several Ohio school districts made presentations during the conference, including:

- A **Port Clinton City** team of Superintendent **Patrick Adkins**, board President **David Belden** and Fanning/Howey Associates Inc. Project Manager **Rodney Wilford**

presented "Against All Odds: The Port Clinton Story."

- **Dublin City** shared "Linking Teacher Evaluation to Professional Learning and Student Growth Measures: One District's Race to the Top Journey." Presenters included Superintendent Dr.

**David Axner**, Data and Assessment Director **Jamie Meade** and board President **Lynn B. May**.

- **Middletown City** led the seminar "Creating an Alternative School Providing Academic Challenge in a Supportive, Fun, and Flexible Environment Positively Influencing the Graduation Rate." Speakers included teachers **Michael Burdine** and **Anna Bowman**; Middletown High School Principal **Carmela Cotter**; and Middletown High School Success Academy Counselor **Juli Foley**.

- **Upper Arlington City** board President Dr. **Bob Arkin** and Associate Superintendent Dr. **Debora Binkley** spoke on "Strategically Planning for Success!"

OSBA staff also shared presentations at the conference, including:

- Deputy Director of School Board Services **Cheryl W. Ryan** led the seminar "Trouble in Paradise: When Board Work Doesn't Feel Anything Like a Vacation."

- Director of School Board Services **Kathy LaSota** served on a panel that presented "Successful Superintendent Searches: It's About the Fit."

- Deputy Executive Director **Rob**

**Delane** spoke on "United We Stand, Divided We Fall."

- Deputy Director of Legal Services **Sara C. Clark** shared "Big Brother is Watching: Surveillance Cameras in School Settings."

### **Ohio reception**

A highlight for many attendees was the annual Ohio Reception. Nearly 300 people attended this year's event. Ohioans welcomed colleagues from around the nation to an evening of networking and hospitality.

The reception gave Ohio members a chance to discuss current issues in an informal atmosphere and share thoughts and perspectives with peers from throughout the United States.

OSBA would like to publicly thank each of the sponsors that made the reception and the OSBA President's Dinner possible: CompManagement Inc., CompManagement Health Systems Inc., Fanning/Howey Associates Inc. and the OSBA Insurance Trust in partnership with Assurant Employee Benefits.

Former Gov. **Ted Strickland** and his wife **Frances** surprised their fellow Ohioans by joining them at the OSBA President's Dinner.

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# 2012 Student Achievement Fair

## OSBA Capital Conference

### Nov. 13, 2012

#### OSBA invites your school district to:

- *Showcase an outstanding performing group!*
- *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.

Performing groups also will be selected to entertain attendees during the Student Achievement Fair. To be considered, submit an audio or video recording of the performing group.

#### Student Achievement Fair application

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2012 ● 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

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a title and description of the **performing group** that we would like to showcase at the Student Achievement Fair. (**Include a DVD video recording of the performing group or email a video or MP3 of a performance.**)

Title of program or performing group: \_\_\_\_\_

Description (please limit description to 25 words): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Daytime phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org), or mail **student achievement program** applications to **Debby Hoopes**, administrative associate of search services, OSBA, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235. Mail your completed **performing group** application, with recording, to **Cheryl W. Ryan**, deputy director of school board services, at the above address. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)/SAF for specific details regarding the Student Achievement Fair. **Application deadline is Friday, May 25, 2012.**

# OSBA webinars

## *Learning delivered to your computer*



Learn about issues relevant to public education through OSBA's webinars. These sessions offer an informal, convenient way to learn in your office or home. All you need is a telephone and computer to participate.

To register for these webinars, contact Laurie Miller, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). You also can register by visiting [www.ohioschoolboards.org/event\\_listing](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing).

### **The best plans never survive first contact**

Thursday, May 17, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ● Free webinar

Used by the military, the phrase "best plans never survive first contact" also has meaning for those involved in school governance. A great idea is developed, then you move into implementation only to find resistance and obstacles. OSBA Senior School Board Services Consultant Dr. **Richard Caster** will explore four errors in implementation strategy, including:

- when the board of education *thinks* it knows what stakeholders want,
- when the primary stakeholders aren't defined,
- why describing stakeholders as "everybody" is flawed,
- when the plan becomes the problem.

**NEW**

### **Harnessing the power of social media in your district**

Thursday, May 24, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ● Cost is \$35

Social media offers school districts a powerful tool to share news and information with students, parents and community members. It's a tool, however, that is often unused or underutilized by schools. This webinar is designed to help school administrators, staff and board members understand the value of social media, how it can be effectively leveraged and how some districts are already doing it. Whether they're new to social media or well versed, OSBA Communication Coordinator **Bryan Bullock** will help participants:

- get an overview of Facebook and Twitter and how to use them,
- learn the potential benefits of social media for your district,
- examine how other districts are effectively using social media,
- learn how to develop a plan to adopt or expand social media efforts in your district.

**NEW**

### **Annual in-service requirements**

Monday, July 23, 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. ● Cost is \$35

Get the information you need on in-service requirements all in one place. The OSBA legal services staff will walk you through it and offer helpful handouts.

## **Administrative salary analysis**

Need help determining how to compensate your administrators? It's more complicated than most people think, and OSBA has considerable experience in this area. We are able to assist school districts with a variety of important initiatives, including:

- compensation/classification system design
- job description creation/modification
- performance evaluation system design

For more information, contact Van D. Keating, director of management services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA, ext. 241; or [vkeating@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:vkeating@ohioschoolboards.org).

## Management Development Series #2:

# The bullying bill: Is your district prepared?

**Wednesday, May 16**  
**OSBA office, Columbus**

**10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**Cost is \$85**



Bullying is an important issue in schools. Now, more than ever, with the passage of the Jessica Logan Act (the bullying bill), districts need to be aware of legal and policy issues relating to bullying, as well as ways to combat bullying in schools.

To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA 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**

**10:10 a.m. Legal considerations**

Hear about the legal considerations surrounding bullying and what your district needs to know to stay compliant in this ever-changing environment.  
*Sara C. Clark*, deputy director legal services, OSBA

**11 a.m. Break**

**11:10 a.m. Policy considerations**

Districts are required to update board policy on bullying by November 2012 as a result of the recently passed Jessica Logan Act. Does your district know what language is required

in board policy? Learn about board policy requirements associated with the bullying bill and other related considerations.

*Megan Greulich, Esq.*, policy consultant, OSBA  
**Lunch (provided)**

**Noon 12:45 p.m. District experience**

Students and staff from Amherst EV Schools will discuss a recent project in the district geared toward raising awareness about bullying. Hear about programs that have been implemented in the district in an effort to combat bullying and increase awareness among the staff, students and community.

Students and staff, Amherst EV  
**2 p.m. Closing thoughts and adjourn**

## Transportation Roundtable

### *You decide the topic*

**Date and location:**

Wednesday, May 23  
OSBA office, Columbus

**Cost:**

\$40, includes lunch

**Time:**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In this roundtable discussion, any attendee can offer a question or issue to be discussed by the entire group for whatever length of time is needed.

This is an opportunity for transportation supervisors and other school administrators to sit down and openly discuss various issues, as well as interact with individuals from other school districts to solve similar problems. **Pete Japikse**, associate director of the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Pupil Transportation, will be on hand to answer questions.

To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



# *Become a PR Rock Star for Your District*

**Tuesday, May 22, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus

(614) 540-4000

Cost is \$85

Don't miss your chance to practice handling tough media interviews on videotape while being coached by a 12-year TV news veteran! OSBA's Deputy Director of Communication Services **Crystal Davis Hutchins** is a former news reporter who will teach you what reporters are looking for so that you can control your next media interview. You'll learn how to twist negative interview questions into positive news about your district, as well as some techniques to convince the media to cover positive news about your district more often.

The cost is \$85, which includes registration, materials, lunch and light refreshments.

To register, contact Laurie Miller, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



## **Agenda**

**9:30 a.m. Registration opens**

**10 a.m. School of rock — Learn to rock before you talk**

The skills required to artfully craft and deliver a story to the media filled with positive key messages are similar to those used by legendary rock stars and songwriters. Learn how to control and totally rock out your next media interview by delivering powerful, concise and credible statements to the press.

**10:30 a.m. Opening act — Turning sour notes into sweet songs**

Hear ways to change the tone of negative, tough media interviews (and questions from community members) to positive news about your district.

**11 a.m.**

**Main act — Tough media interview on tape role-playing activity**

It's time to rock! Your group will be given a scenario and then we'll push the video record button, ask tough questions and analyze your responses. This will be an excellent opportunity to hone your spokesperson skills, receive expert feedback and gain the confidence needed to wow the masses.

**1:30 p.m.**

**Encore — Invite the media to play in your PR band**

Knowing key news personnel and the best way to contact them can help you generate positive press encores. Learn about newsroom operations, local news VIPs you should get to know and how to partner with them to rise to the top.

**2 p.m.**

**Adjourn**



THE 35TH ANNUAL OHIO COUNCIL OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS

# SPRING SEMINAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

EMBASSY SUITES, COLUMBUS

TUITION IS \$180

**8:15 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**

**8:45 a.m. Welcome and overview**

**9 a.m. Unilateral implementations and teacher evaluations**

This session will explore two hurdles districts might face in 2012 and provide practical suggestions for negotiating these issues with unions.

*John E. Britton, Esq., Britton, Smith, Peters & Kalail Co. LPA, Cleveland; and Renee L. Fambro, deputy director of labor relations, OSBA*

**9:45 a.m. Ask the arbitrator**

Back by popular demand, attendees can hear from an experienced panel of arbitrators as they provide suggestions on how to effectively present a case to a labor arbitrator and offer other do's and don'ts for managing a successful arbitration.

*Mitchell Goldberg, Esq.; David W. Stanton, Esq.; and Robert Stein, Esq.*

**10:45 a.m. Break**

**11 a.m. Technology trends and troubles**

The use of technology can create some unique and challenging issues for school districts. This session will provide practical guidance for handling some of the newest technological trends, including searching student and employee technology devices, using surveillance cameras and storing documents and student records electronically.

*Jeremy J. Neff, Esq., Ennis, Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati*

**Noon Lunch (provided) and OCSBA Annual Meeting**

**1 p.m. School safety and security**

This knowledgeable panel will provide a comprehensive overview of the law that affects issues such as criminal and bullying behavior in the school setting, threat response, safety preparedness and youth interviewing techniques.

*Mary A. Lentz, Esq., Mary A. Lentz Co. LPA, Chagrin Falls; Dr. Richard Caster, senior school board services consultant, OSBA; and Chandra Bowling, Esq., U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights*

**2 p.m. Break**

**2:15 p.m. Substance abuse in the education profession**

Hear an overview of the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Office of Professional Conduct; common substance abuse issues in the teaching profession; and the statutes, rules and policies that address substance abuse issues involving educators.

*Lori Kelly, director, Office of Professional Conduct, ODE*

**3 p.m. Ethics and the code of professional responsibility**

This session will provide an overview of the characteristics of ethics and the Ohio Code of Professional Responsibility, with a focus on those that have the greatest influence on school law practitioners.

*Alvin E. Mathews Jr., Esq., James E. Arnold & Associates LPA, Columbus*

**4 p.m. Adjourn**

This course has been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 5.50 total CLE hour(s), with 1.00 of ethics and .75 of substance abuse instruction.

The workshop will be held at the Embassy Suites, 2700 Corporate Exchange Drive, Columbus, OH 43231. The phone number is (614) 890-8600. To register, contact Laurie Miller, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000 or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



# Sports Law Workshop

Friday, June 22  
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Columbus Airport Marriott  
Cost is \$145



## AGENDA

**8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast (provided)**

**9 a.m. OHSAA legal update**  
The workshop kicks off with a discussion with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) about new initiatives, including the classification of event workers, OHSAA tournament events and more.  
*Daniel B. Ross*, commissioner, and *Jeffrey M. Jordan*, chief financial officer; OHSAA

**10 a.m. Break**

**10:15 a.m. Protecting your blind side: navigating liability issues in athletics**  
Learn what districts need to know about navigating liability issues in athletics, transporting athletes, sports injuries and the effectiveness of waivers.  
*Nicholas E. Subashi*, Esq., Subashi & Wildermuth LPA, Dayton

**11 a.m. Camera-ready: media relations tips**  
Get some coaching on handling the media, answering the tough questions and gaining positive publicity for the district's athletic program from a former TV news reporter.  
*Crystal Davis Hutchins*, deputy director of communication services, OSBA

**11:30 a.m. Lunch (provided)**

The workshop will be held at the Columbus Airport Marriott, 1375 N. Cassady Ave., Columbus, OH 43219. The phone number is (614) 475-7551. To register, contact Laurie Miller, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

**12:30 p.m. Facebook and the athletic code of conduct**

Sharing passwords? Friending students? We will discuss inappropriate or offensive behavior or pictures posted by student athletes, the code of conduct, best practices and more.  
*C. Bronston McCord*, Esq., Ennis, Roberts Fischer Co. LPA, Cincinnati

**1:30 p.m. Break**

**1:45 p.m. Sports case law update**  
Learn the latest developments in sports law litigation, covering liability, transportation, employment, discipline and everything in between.  
*Candice L. Christon*, staff attorney, OSBA; and *Edmund F. Brown*, Esq., Ulmer & Berne LLP, Columbus

**2:30 p.m. Hazing: when rites become wrongs**  
This session will examine the steps that districts should take to prevent and stop hazing or bullying in athletics, and provide practical suggestions for investigating rumors and reports of hazing or bullying.  
*Kevin J. Locke*, Esq., Pepple & Waggoner Ltd., Cleveland

**3:15 p.m. Adjourn**

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





# *Save the date*

## Mark your calendar for these important workshops.

**May 16**

*Management Development Series  
#2*

OSBA office, Columbus  
\$85, half day

**May 17**

*The best plans never survive first  
contact webinar*  
free webinar

**May 22**

*Become a PR Rock Star for Your  
District*

OSBA office, Columbus  
\$85, half day

**May 23**

*Transportation Roundtable*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$40, half day

**May 24**

*How to use social media*  
\$35, webinar

**June 15**

*OCSBA Spring Seminar*  
Embassy Suites, Columbus  
\$180, full day

**June 22**

*Sports Law Workshop*  
Columbus Airport Marriott,  
Columbus  
\$145, full day

**July 21**

*New Board Member Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$155 includes books, full day

**July 23**

*Annual in-service requirements*  
\$35, webinar

**August 3**

*Attendance, Tuition and Custody  
Law Workshop*  
Location TBD  
\$145, full day

**September 5**

*Treasurers' Clinic*  
Ohio University Inn, Athens  
\$145, full day

**September 7**

*Treasurers' Clinic*  
Northeast Ohio Medical  
University, Rootstown  
\$145, full day

**September 19**

*Treasurers' Clinic*  
Savannah Center, West Chester  
\$145, full day

**September 20**

*Treasurers' Clinic*  
Doubletree Columbus/  
Worthington Hotel, Columbus  
\$145, full day

**September 27**

*Treasurers' Clinic*  
Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg  
\$145, full day

**October 10**

*Working Well with your Board  
of Education: A Workshop for  
Administrative Professionals*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$85, half day

**October 19**

*School Law for Treasurers*  
Embassy Suites, Columbus  
\$145, full day

**October 24**

*Intensive Legal Workshop*  
OSBA office, Columbus  
\$145, full day



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

**MDS #2: The bullying bill**

☐ May 16, Columbus, \$85

**The best plans never survive first contact webinar**

☐ May 17, free

**Become a PR Rock Star for Your District**

☐ May 22, Columbus, \$85

**Transportation Roundtable**

☐ May 23, Columbus, \$40

**Harnessing the power of social media in your district webinar**

☐ May 24, \$35

**OCSBA Spring Seminar**

☐ June 15, Columbus, \$180

**Sports Law Workshop**

☐ June 22, Columbus, \$145

**Annual in-service requirements webinar**

☐ July 23, \$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 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.



**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.

You may register on our Web page at [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org). Events are listed at the bottom of the page. You will need a username and password.

**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*

Superintendent **Ben Chaffee** announced his resignation effective immediately. He has taken the director of adult education position at **EHOVE Career Center**. ●●● **South Euclid-Lyndhurst City** hired **Linda N. Reid** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Interim Superintendent **James Costanza**. Reid is currently superintendent at **Garfield Heights City**. ●●● **St. Marys City** hired **Shawn Brown** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Gerry Skiver**. Brown is currently the high school principal at **Spencerville Local (Allen)**. ●●● **Valley Local (Scioto)** hired **Carl McCrory** as superintendent effective June 18. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Patricia Ciraso**. McCrory is currently the superintendent at Community Christian Schools in Willmar, Minn. ●●● **West Geauga Local (Gauga)** Superintendent Dr. **Thomas P. Diring** announced his resignation effective Aug. 1. ●●● **Solon City** Assistant Superintendent **Thomas W. Stupica** announced his retirement effective July 31.

### Treasurers

**Crestwood Local (Portage)** hired **Jill A. Rowe** as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Carol F. Corbett**, who is retiring. Rowe is currently treasurer at **Salem City**. ●●● **Northeastern Local (Clark)** hired Assistant Treasurer **Denise Robinson** as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Denise D. Schneider**, who is retiring effective July 31.

### Sympathies

Former **Berne Union Local (Fairfield)** Board of Education member **Millard R. Scott** died April 14. He was 89. ●●● **Harold C. Altstaetter**, a member of the former **Cairo** Board of Education in Allen County, died April 18. He was 97. ●●● **John L. Beck**, a former superintendent and assistant superintendent **Carrollton EV**, died April 20. He was 89. ●●● Former **Cleveland Municipal** Board of Education member **Michael DeBose** died April 23. He was 58. ●●● **Conotton Valley Union Local (Harrison)** Board of Education President **Rick A. West** died April 24. He was 56. ●●● Former **East Liverpool City** Board of Education member **Gyla Nicely** died April 18. She was 101. ●●● Former **Miller City-New Cleveland Local (Putnam)** Board of Education member **James N. "Jim" Kleman** died April 18. He was 59. ●●● Former **Minford Local (Scioto)** Board of Education member **Edgar O. Gibbins** died April 10. He was 90. ●●● Former **New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin)** Superintendent **Maurice A. Bittner** died April 21. He was 83. ●●● **Theodore R. Keys**, a member of the former **Portage Township** Board of Education in Wood County, died April 21. He was 93. ●●● Former **Stow-Munroe Falls City** Board of Education member **Bill Monbeck** died April 22. He was 65. ●●● Former **Warren City** Superintendent **Betty English** died April 25. She was 70. ●●● Former **Warren City** Board of Education member **Raymond J. Tesner** died April 12. He was 85. ●●● Former **Washington Court House City** Board of Education member **Mark J. Schaeper** died April 23. He was 87. ●●● Former **Wellsville Local (Columbiana)** Board of Education member **Janet Floreine Broderick** died April 9. She was 94.

## Need help reaching a peaceful agreement?

OSBA's bargaining consultation services offer your district comprehensive representation services during negotiations, and/or traditional and alternative bargaining styles.



### Bargaining consultation clients receive:

- low-cost service fees;
- flexible rates;
- experienced negotiators;
- statewide experience.

For more information on how bargaining consultation can work for your district, contact OSBA's management services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, deputy director of legislative services

### Statehouse activity intensifies ahead of summer recess

The General Assembly is extremely busy trying to complete work on numerous pieces of legislation prior to the summer recess. Lawmakers are hoping to head home around the end of May. Below is an update on some of the primary pieces of legislation impacting education.

#### Mid-biennium review

Gov. **John Kasich**'s mid-biennium review (MBR) legislation is making its way through the legislative process. As anticipated, the Ohio House split the original bill, House Bill (HB) 487, into 10 separate pieces of legislation. While many of the original provisions are still contained in HB 487, some tax and local government provisions were broken out into separate legislation: HB 508 includes tax law changes and HB 509 addresses local government issues. Below are summaries and updates on these three MBR bills.

#### HB 487 — general MBR

##### *Government efficiency*

- Abolishes eTech Ohio and transfers all remaining eTech duties to the Ohio Board of Regents and Ohio Department of Education (ODE).
- Requires regional councils of

government (COGs) to inform the auditor of state (AOS) of their existence. Within one year of the bill's effective date, the AOS must report to the governor and General Assembly the number of COGs and whether they are serving their original purpose and are an efficient and effective way for local governments to share services or participate in cooperative arrangements.

- Directs the AOS to develop and maintain an online clearinghouse of information about streamlining government operations, shared services and collaboration. The AOS could use an existing website, as long as it complies with the provisions in the bill. It is likely the website [skinnyohio.org](http://skinnyohio.org) would be used to fulfill this requirement.
- Directs the AOS to create an online clearinghouse to identify available joint purchasing opportunities for government entities. Programs sponsored by state associations may be included.

##### *Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC)*

- Merges OSFC with the State Architect's Office to create the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. OSFC would still operate independently, but share expertise and experience and, at

some point in the future, other savings coming from shared staff and other collaborations.

- Allows the 0.5-mill maintenance requirement to be prorated in a segmented project to reflect the percentage that the segmented project is of the total cost of the district's facilities plan.

##### *Education provisions*

- Sunsets the Digital Learning Task Force on June 30, 2012.
- Requires early childhood education programs that receive state funding to participate in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services "Step Up to Quality" program. It also requires school districts and ESCs serving preschool children with disabilities to participate in the program.
- Eliminates the match required of families with higher incomes to participate in the Cleveland Scholarship (voucher) Program.
- Creates an option for school districts and universities to provide 403(b) plans.
- Amends a provision from HB 66 of the 126th General Assembly regarding the exemption of public auction requirements of the sale of school district property to allow the land to be used for residential, as well as commercial

*Continued on page 11*

*Legislative Report, continued from page 10*

development.

- Permits a school district to offer real property to a state university first before having to offer the property to community schools. Some refer to this as the Akron amendment.

#### *Other provisions*

- Includes “placeholder” language that requires General Assembly approval for the transfer of any state revenue surplus to the rainy day fund.

HB 487 was passed by the full House on April 25 and is currently pending in the Senate Finance Committee. The Ohio School Boards Association, Buckeye Association of School Administrators and Ohio Association of School Business Officials recently presented interested-party testimony to the committee and focused on the 403(b) provisions, OSFC provisions, shared services and a list of various policy issues that had been submitted to the administration for inclusion in the MBR, but were not included in the introduced version of the bill. A copy of the testimony, the list of items submitted to the Office of Budget and Management and talking points to use with legislators can be found on the OSBA BillTracker page at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/129th-general-assembly](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/129th-general-assembly).

#### **HB 508 — tax MBR**

*Provisions affecting schools*

- Authorizes the state tax

commissioner to extend county appraisal cycles by one year.

- Clarifies language on public utility tangible personal property tax and tangible personal property tax (TPP) reimbursements. These changes are technical in nature, but one such change will allow replacement payments to a few districts whose payments were previously inadvertently prohibited.

- Changes the date of TPP reimbursement payments for non-school taxing units from Nov. 20 to Nov. 30.

#### *OSFC-related provisions*

- Revises the calculation of “average taxable value,” for purposes of wealth rankings, for school districts whose TPP valuation (not including public utility personal property) made up 18% or more of its total taxable value for tax year 2005.

- Specifies a new procedure for calculating the local share when a school district participating in the Expedited Local Partnership Program becomes eligible for a district-wide project under the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program, if the district’s TPP valuation (not including public utility personal property) made up 18% or more of its total taxable value for tax year 2005.

HB 508 was passed by the full House on April 25 and is currently pending in the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

*Continued on page 12*

# Win a nook



During May, OSBA is holding a contest for anyone donating to Kids PAC. Each individual who donates \$25 or more during the month automatically will be entered into a drawing to win a Nook Simple Touch reader. All you have to do is donate!

Kids PAC allows you to support legislators who are supportive of OSBA's issues. The PAC gives you another opportunity to convey your message and support those who support and make decisions that impact public education.

For more information, contact Marcella Gonzalez, senior administrative assistant of legislative services, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 230; (800) 589-OSBA, ext. 230; or [mgonzalez@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:mgonzalez@ohioschoolboards.org).



Legislative Report, continued from page 11

## HB 509 — local government MBR

*Provision affecting schools*

● Requires political subdivisions in fiscal watch or fiscal emergency to identify in their financial plan actions to be taken to evaluate the feasibility of entering into shared services agreements with other political subdivisions.

HB 509 was passed by the full House on April 25 and is currently pending in the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

The OSBA legislative team will continue to monitor all of the MBR bills impacting education. Please watch for calls to action and electronic legislative updates in *Facts in a Flash*.

## The Cleveland Plan

The General Assembly recently introduced newer versions of the

Cleveland Plan following negotiations with the Cleveland Teachers Union (CTU). Those bills are HB 525, cosponsored by Rep. **Ron Amstutz** (R-Wooster) and Rep. **Sandra Williams** (D-Cleveland); and Senate Bill (SB) 335, cosponsored by Sen. **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering) and Sen. **Nina Turner** (D-Cleveland). The new bills primarily reflect changes related to labor provisions agreed to by Cleveland Mayor **Frank G. Jackson** and CTU.

Both bills recently received sponsor testimony in the House and Senate Education Committees, with special testimony given by Jackson; **Cleveland Municipal Schools** Chief Executive Officer **Eric Gordon**; and CTU President **David Quolke**.

It is important to note that the Cleveland Plan was developed in Cleveland, by people in Cleveland, for the schools in the city of Cleveland. As such, the plan should not be regarded as a blueprint for public education in other communities, each with their own unique set of circumstances.

Also, Cleveland is

the only school district in Ohio that is not served by a publicly elected board of education. Rather, it is a mayor-controlled school district, managed by an appointed board of education whose members serve at the pleasure of the mayor.

Even though the latest versions of the plan, HB 525 and SB 335, address some of the labor-related provisions of the bill, other controversial provisions related to the creation of a transformation alliance and sharing of local levy revenue remain part of the plan. Below is more information on the two provisions.

*Cleveland Transformation Alliance*

● Allows the mayor of the city containing the greatest portion of a municipal school district to initiate the establishment of a municipal school district transformation alliance as a nonprofit corporation under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1702.

● Allows the mayor to appoint the initial members of the alliance, including representatives from the municipal school district; partnering community (charter) schools; parents; educators; business leaders; and foundation leaders. The mayor will serve as an ex officio director and must serve as the chairperson of the board of directors.

● States that the establishment of new charter schools in the district, including conversion schools, is subject to approval of the alliance.

● Allows charter schools that do

*Continued on page 13*

### 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.

Please call Susan Czeh, OSBA secretary of legal services, at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA for information about your member status or to obtain an application if you have a pending matter that may meet the above description. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org) for more information.





not receive approval from the alliance to appeal to ODE.

- Requires the alliance to confirm and monitor a transformation alliance education plan prepared by the mayor. It will adopt a framework for assessment of district and charter schools in the district. The alliance will use this framework annually to assess the schools.
- Exempts the alliance and its directors, officers and employees, from the state Public Ethics Law, Open Meetings Act, Public Records Law, Civil Service Law, Public Employees Retirement System Law and Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law, but stipulates that board meetings must be open to the public, records must be maintained as though they were public records and the board must establish a conflict-of-interest policy.

#### *Sharing local tax levy revenue*

- Authorizes a municipal school district school board to propose a levy for current operating expenses, a portion of which would be allocated to “qualifying” charter schools and distributed among those schools on a per-pupil basis.
- Allows “qualifying” charter schools to receive a share of state property tax reimbursements for the homestead exemption and the 10% and 2.5% rollbacks.

OSBA will continue to monitor the Cleveland Plan legislation as it moves through the General Assembly.

### **School-funding hearings**

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee recently began hearings on school funding to educate members on Ohio’s school funding system. Committee Chair Amstutz has indicated these are preliminary steps of a larger process as the Kasich administration prepares to unveil its new funding formula in next year’s biennial budget.

The Finance and Appropriations Committee began with a series of three hearings with a six-part presentation from **Paolo DeMaria**, a consultant for Education First. DeMaria previously served as executive vice chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents under Gov. **Ted Strickland** and was the state budget director and associate superintendent for school finance at ODE under Gov. **Bob Taft**. According to Amstutz, “These presentations are designed to promote a shared understanding of the basics of school funding, where we’ve been as a state and the challenges we face as we move forward.”

The first hearings covered the following topics:

- Part 1 — Overview and statistics. Provides a brief overview of Ohio’s K-12 school-funding system using a variety of statistics. This section introduces the concepts of revenue sources, state share and a short history of K-12 education spending in Ohio.
- Part 2 — District expenditures. Discusses school district spending patterns, with a focus on personnel

costs, particularly salaries and fringe benefits.

- Part 3 — How school funding works. Illustrates how school funding in Ohio works. This section includes a discussion on foundation formula theory and methods for determining base cost.

● Part 4 — How did we get here? Takes a look back at the Ohio Supreme Court’s four *DeRolph* lawsuit decisions, legislative responses to the suit and recent Ohio funding models: foundation, building blocks, evidence based and the current bridge formula.

- Part 5 — Local revenues. Delves further into how local school district revenues are generated and the revenue “tools” available to local districts.

● Part 6 — Challenges and emerging issues. Seeks to focus attention on the topics and problems policymakers will confront as they review Ohio’s school-funding system and identify solutions for improving it.

The panel also plans to have its Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee take up additional hearings on the subject that would be held around the state. OSBA will provide school districts information as additional hearings and topics are scheduled for testimony.

For the latest legislative updates, please contact the OSBA legislative services division at (800) 589-6722.

*Editor’s note: All information in this article was current as of May 4.*



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

compiled by Angela Penquite, communication design manager

### Seeking breakthrough schools

The MetLife Foundation and the National Association of Secondary School Principals are seeking high-achieving middle and high schools whose best practices can help others with their school improvement efforts.

**Maximum awards:** \$5,000

**Eligibility:** must have 40% or more students eligible for free and reduced-price meals

**Deadline:** June 30

**Contact:** <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/56752>

### Recognizing information science teachers

The Thomson Reuters Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award recognizes the unique teaching contribution of information science teachers.

**Maximum awards:** \$1,000

**Eligibility:** must be directly engaged in teaching some aspect of information science on a continuing basis

**Deadline:** July 1

**Contact:** [www.asis.org/awards/outstandingteacher.html](http://www.asis.org/awards/outstandingteacher.html)

### Honoring young educators

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's Outstanding Young Educator Award recognizes a teacher under the age of 40 who demonstrates excellence in his or her profession, a positive impact on students and leadership in his or her school.

**Maximum awards:** \$10,000

**Eligibility:** full-time K-12 teachers under age 40

**Deadline:** August 1

**Contact:** <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/95928>



## INFORMATION

by Crystal Davis Hutchins, editor

### Hanging for the long haul with John Wilkes

When **John Wilkes** puts his mind to something, he really sticks with it — for decades!

He's been married to his wife Donna for 47 years, has lived in Pataskala for 55 years, was a master Volkswagen mechanic for 25 years and recently retired from OSBA after working in the mailroom for 22 years. Yet surprisingly, coworkers say the *quality* of Wilkes' work outshone his length of service to OSBA.

"John's work was superior,"

said Mailroom Operations Manager **Ann Herritt**. "He did an outstanding job of proofreading each printing job and I could always count on his work being done on time and correct. He was excellent at project management."

Wilkes' job as a printing and production assistant involved sorting and delivering mail, acting as a porter for OSBA and making lots and lots of copies. Since their installation in 2009, the three copiers he most recently used have

produced nearly 11 million impressions!

When Wilkes was hired in 1990, he initially worked as a part-time service assistant in the mailroom and part time as OSBA's custodian. He switched to the full-time services assistant position when OSBA opened its new office on North High Street in Columbus.

"OSBA is fortunate to have had such a dedicated employee for the past 22 years," said Executive

*Continued on page 15*



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Gary Motz, editorial manager

### Tutoring programs raise Springfield City OGT scores

Thanks to two intensive tutoring initiatives, Springfield High School students boosted their Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) scores last school year. Increases at the **Springfield City** school were seen in four of the test's five areas.

Campus Director **Chris Shaffer** credited the improvement to the Winter Institute and the OGT Bootcamp. He told a local newspaper that the number of students testing at advanced and accelerated levels increased by 9%,

while students testing at limited, basic and proficient levels decreased by 7.5%.

The Winter Institute is held after school for sophomores and is voluntary. Sophomores are tutored by teachers and juniors and seniors who have passed the test. The OGT Bootcamp is mandatory for juniors and seniors who did not pass the test on their first try, and is held during the school day.

Junior **Ashley Scrusse** found the Winter Institute so helpful that she

passed all five portions of the test on her first try. That inspired her to volunteer as a tutor this year.

"I wanted to give back," Scrusse told the newspaper. "I wanted to tell the students that the test isn't as hard as it seems. ... I liked the fact that everybody who was there was determined to pass all their tests and everyone was focused on the same thing, so we could help each other out and the teachers helped us."

Source: *Springfield News-Sun*

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*Information, continued from page 14*

Director **Richard Lewis**. "The association and staff truly appreciate his hard work. John will be missed."

"I'm sure I will miss OSBA more than I realize," Wilkes said. "It's been like a second home, like one big family, the people are so friendly here. They celebrate everyone's birthdays and always want to know how you're doing."

Now he plans to spend more time with the rest of his family — his wife and three children, two grandchildren, a great-grandchild and another great-grandchild on the way.

Before coming to OSBA, Wilkes was a master mechanic, certified by the National Institute for

Automotive Excellence. He also worked in a grocery store and on an air conditioning factory assembly line. And, here's a tidbit about the soft-spoken man that may surprise you — he used to play guitar and sing in front of church congregations. He says now that he's retired, he may take up the guitar again.

Regardless, it sounds like his golden years may still involve a whole lot of work.

"I've always been a handyman who keeps busy doing work at home," Wilkes said. "I have built three garages in my married life. I may build a small deck this summer and sit on that and enjoy it. My wife also keeps telling me that I can do

part of the cooking now."

Despite his "honey-do" list, the 66-year-old Wilkes insists he has plans to slow down and to travel.

"I am hoping to see Las Vegas this summer," he said. "I want to see the bright lights, the shows and see how it goes. But, I am not much of a gambler."

No matter where life takes him from here on out, it's the steady, hard-working and dependable Wilkes who has forever left a legacy at OSBA as the epitome of dedication.

"One woman, two main jobs for life and I've driven the same car here for 10 years," he said. "I am one that hangs in there for the long haul."

## May 2012

- 16 OSBA Management Development Series #2..... Columbus
- 17 The best plans never survive first contact webinar
- 18 OSBA Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 19 OSBA Board of Trustees Meeting ..... Columbus
- 22 Become a PR Rock Star for your District..... Columbus
- 23 OSBA Transportation Roundtable ..... Columbus
- 24 Harnessing the power of social media in your district webinar

## June 2012

- 10 OSBA Northwest Region Executive Committee Meeting .....Bowling Green
- 15 OCSBA Spring Seminar..... Columbus
- 22 OSBA Sports Law Workshop ..... Columbus
- 30 2011-2012 school year ends — RC 3313.62.

## July 2012

- 1 2012-2013 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).
- 9 Last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19 (30 days prior to the election).
- 10 Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of education — RC 3319.15.
- 11 OSBA Central Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1).
- 21 OSBA New Board Member Workshop ..... Columbus
- 23 Annual in-service requirements webinar
- 31 Semiannual campaign finance reports due (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures through June 30, 2012 — RC 3517.10(A)(4) (last business day of July).

## August 2012

- 3 OSBA Attendance, Custody and Tuition Law Workshop ..... Columbus
- 7 School safety and security assessment webinar
- 7 OSBA Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting and subcommittees ..... Piqua
- 12 OSBA Southeast Region Executive Committee Meeting ..... Logan

## September 2012

- 5 OSBA Treasurers' Clinic.....Athens
- 7 OSBA Treasurers' Clinic..... Rootstown
- 19 OSBA Treasurers' Clinic.... West Chester
- 19 Small School District Advisory Network Meeting ..... Columbus
- 20 OSBA Treasurers' Clinic..... Columbus
- 21 OSBA Executive Committee Meeting ..... Columbus
- 22 OSBA Board of Trustees Meeting ..... Columbus
- 26 OSBA Central Region Fall Conference..... Columbus
- 27 OSBA Treasurers' Clinic.....Perrysburg
- 27 OSBA Southeast Region Fall Conference..... Logan