

# BRIEF CASE

## THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



### Online charter school accused of padding attendance figures

An anonymous email sent to two state lawmakers alleging that the Ohio Virtual Academy has failed to dis-enroll hundreds of constantly truant students has been forwarded to the state auditor, according to multiple media reports. The email claimed that 402 students enrolled at the online charter school had been truant for months, and only 14 had been dis-enrolled. If true, that would mean the academy is receiving state funds for 388 students who aren't attending the school. Authorities are concerned because a school's enrollment figures determine its monthly payments from the state. The school serves about 13,000 students across Ohio.

### OSBA seeking nominations for 2015 All-Ohio School Board

The nomination process for the 2015 OSBA All-Ohio School Board — the association's most prestigious honor — is now open. The program recognizes board members who demonstrate outstanding boardmanship and service to public education. One exemplary board member from each of OSBA's five regions will be named to the All-Ohio School Board at the OSBA Capital Conference in November. For more information and a nomination form, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/31877>. The nomination deadline is June 30.

### Voters OK high percentage of local school tax issues on primary ballot

Ohio voters said "yes" to 85 of the 101 local school tax issues in the May 5 primary election. The 84% passage rate was the highest in more than a decade — however, most of the winning issues were renewal levies. Voters approved 63 of the 66 renewal issues on the ballot, a 95% passage rate. Twenty-two of the 35 new school tax issues were approved, a passage rate of 63%.

### Got a top-notch video team? Nominate it to film the Capital Conference

OSBA is seeking Ohio's best high school student video team to create a 10-minute documentary of the 2015 Capital Conference in Columbus in November. The team will attend the conference to produce the video, which will be streamed on OSBA's website, shared with other state school boards associations and used to promote the conference, which draws nearly 10,000 people each year. A nomination form is posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/91421>. For more information, contact OSBA's Drew Clark at (800) 589-OSBA or [dclark@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:dclark@ohioschoolboards.org).

### State providing online tools to help enhance school emergency plans

With the enactment of new school emergency management plan legislation, Ohio Homeland Security (OHS), along with the Ohio Department of Education, has created

**May 25, 2015**

Volume 46 Issue 10

#### Contents

More news.....	2
<i>New OSBA Pocket Calendars heading to district treasurers; Health department, EPA offer environmental health tips; OSBA online</i>	
Bulletin Board.....	3
Legislative Report .....	4
Funding Opportunities .....	6
Public Schools Work! .....	7

#### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Newly appointed board members

a secure web portal — the Communication Information Management System (CIMS) — for school administrators. OHS' Infrastructure Protection Unit uses the portal to evaluate emergency plans. CIMS is an information-sharing tool requiring an active account to access. Administrators can obtain an account via an electronic application at <https://ext.dps.state.oh.us/CIMS>. The system offers analytical products and bulletins, as well as a section for frequently asked questions. The status of school plans and results of an emergency management plan evaluation, which includes recommendations from security specialists conducting the evaluation, will be available on CIMS in the near future.

### **New OSBA Pocket Calendars heading to district treasurers**

The 2015-2016 OSBA Pocket Calendar is being mailed to school

### **Washington-Nile student off to join the circus**

Talk about a unique summer camp.

While she's not exactly running away from home to join the circus, a **Washington-Nile Local (Scioto)** student has been accepted into the prestigious École Nationale de Cirque in Montreal. **Sami Matthews**, a Portsmouth West High School senior, will spend part of July at the school learning advanced skills in circus arts.

Matthews has been either studying or teaching circus arts for nine years at Cirque d'Art Theatre in Portsmouth. Theater founder **Pegi Wilkes** encouraged her to apply for the summer camp.

Wilkes, who used to perform circus arts herself, told a local newspaper she wasn't "the least bit surprised" Matthews got into the school, even though the selection process is extremely intensive.

Source: *Portsmouth Daily Times*

district treasurers. School board members who don't receive their calendars soon should contact their treasurers.

### **Health department, EPA offer environmental health tips**

The Ohio Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency have compiled guidelines to help Ohio public schools evaluate, improve and maintain the environmental health of their facilities. Improvements in school environmental health enhance the educational climate, decrease absenteeism, strengthen academic performance and provide an increased financial return on investments. To learn more, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/51447>.

### **OSBA online**

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

Photos from the 2015 Board Leadership Institute are now posted on OSBA's Flickr page. You can view and download the pictures at [www.flickr.com/photos/ohschoolboards](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohschoolboards). While you're there, check out the photo albums from the spring region conferences, State Legislative Conference, OSBA President **Ed Penrod's** installation ceremony and much more.



## **Briefcase**

Ohio School Boards Association  
8050 North High Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43235-6481  
(614) 540-4000 — (800) 589-OSBA  
fax: (614) 540-4100 ● [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

OSBA President: **Ed Penrod**, **Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**

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

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

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

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

*A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$130 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email or by fax. For more information, contact Ann Herritt at the address or fax number above or email [aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:aherritt@ohioschoolboards.org). Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association. Postage paid at Westerville, Ohio. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Briefcase, Attn.: Mailroom, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481*

© 2015, Ohio School Boards Association; all rights reserved

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



# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

## OSBA executive searches

### Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
① Olentangy Local (Delaware)	May 27	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



## Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Dalton Local (Wayne)	June 5	James J. Ritchie, superintendent, Tri-County ESC, (330) 345-6771, ext. 233

## Board changes

Elyria City Board of Education member **Evelyn C. France** announced her resignation effective May 1. ●●● **Woodmore Local (Sandusky)** Board of Education member **Grant Cummings** announced his resignation effective May 6.

## Administrative changes

### Superintendents

**Benjamin Logan Local (Logan)** hired **David L. Harmon** as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace **Lori Lytle**, who is retiring effective June 30. Harmon currently is the director of curriculum and instruction at **North Union Local (Union)**. ●●● **Brooklyn City** hired **Mark G. Gleichauf** as superintendent effective June 30. He will replace **Cynthia J. Walker**, who is retiring. Gleichauf currently is the deputy superintendent at **Cuyahoga Falls City**. ●●● **Canton Local (Stark)** hired **Stephen Milano** as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace **Kim Redmond**, who is retiring. Milano currently is the superintendent at **Louisville City**. ●●● **Dover City** hired Assistant Superintendent **Carla Birney** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Bob Hamm**, who is retiring. ●●● **Forest Hills Local (Hamilton)** Superintendent Dr. **Dallas R. Jackson** announced his resignation effective immediately. ●●● **Greenon Local (Clark)** hired **Bradley K. Silvus** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Daniel E. Bennett**, who has taken the superintendent position at **Clark County ESC**. Silvus currently is the director of curriculum and instruction at **Fairborn City**. ●●● **Mid-East Career and Technology Centers** hired **Richard A. Hall** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Thomas Perkins**,

### Editor's note

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

who took the superintendent position at **Northern Local (Perry)**. Hall currently is the superintendent at **East Guernsey Local (Guernsey)**. ●●● **Niles City** hired **Ann Marie Thigpen** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Frank W. Danso**, who is retiring. Thigpen currently is the administrator for curriculum and instruction at **Howland Local (Trumbull)**. ●●● **Tipp City** EV hired Assistant Superintendent Dr. **Gretta Kumpf** as superintendent effective July 1. She will replace Dr. **John P. Kronour**, who is retiring. ●●● **Vanlue Local (Hancock)** hired **Traci Conley** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Rodney D. Russell**, who is retiring. Conley currently is the district's high school principal. ●●● **West Branch Local (Mahoning)** hired **Douglas Phillips** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. **Scott Weingart**, who is retiring. Phillips currently is the principal at Dickson County High School in Tennessee. ●●● **Youngstown City** hired Deputy Superintendent for Academic Affairs **Douglas T. Hiscox** as superintendent pro tempore effective May 28. He will replace Dr. **Connie Hathorn**, who resigned to take a superintendent position in Pine Bluff, Ark.

### Sympathies

Former **Cincinnati City** Board of Education member **Howard H. Bond** died April 28. He was 76. ●●● Former **Eastern Local (Meigs)** Board of Education member **James "Jim" Robert Smith Sr.** died April 28. He was 72. ●●● Former **Clyde-Green Springs** EV Board of Education member **Donald G. Sours** died May 6. He was 84. ●●● Former **Hillsdale Local (Ashland)** and **Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center** board of education member **Dorothy M. Chambers Bienz** died May 5. She was 86. ●●● Former **Liberty Local (Trumbull)** Treasurer **Shirley M. Baker** died April 26. She was 82. ●●● Former **Valley Local (Scioto)** Board of Education member **W. Dale Wortman** died April 26. He was 72.



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Jay Smith, deputy director of legislative services

### HB 74 passes House; Senate issues testing recommendations

The Ohio House of Representatives recently took action on a piece of legislation aimed at making changes to academic content standards, assessments and state report cards. House Bill (HB) 74, sponsored by Rep. **Andrew Brenner** (R-Powell), passed out of the House on May 13 by a nearly unanimous vote of 92-1 and is now under consideration by the Senate.

Following are some of the major provisions contained in the bill as passed by the House:

- Requires the State Board of Education to allow for public input on academic content standards

and to use these comments, along with recommendations from academic standards review committees, to adopt revised academic content standards for grades K-12 in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

- Prohibits certain multistate consortia, such as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the American Institute for Research (AIR), from being eligible to submit a proposal to provide the elementary assessments and end-of-course examinations.

- Limits the duration of each elementary state assessment and each high school end-of-course examination to three hours. These time limits do not apply to assessments for students with disabilities; nationally standardized tests such as SAT or ACT; the third-grade English language arts assessment, including diagnostic assessments for students who do not pass; and substitute examinations in science, American history or American government.

- Eliminates the English language arts II and geometry end-of-course

*Continued on page 5*



THE 38TH ANNUAL OHIO COUNCIL OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS

# SPRING SEMINAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

TUITION IS \$200

NATIONWIDE HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER, LEWIS CENTER

(FORMERLY NORTHPOINTE HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER)

## Agenda

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**
- 8:50 a.m. OSBA welcome and overview**
- 9 a.m. What to do when the police come knockin'**  
Have you ever received a call that the police were on school property to conduct an investigation? Experts share their perspectives on best practices when dealing with criminal investigations involving students and employees, in loco parentis and much more.  
*Jeff Furbee, Esq., police legal adviser, Columbus City attorney's office; Wanda T. Lillis, Esq., associate legal counsel, Columbus City Schools; Officer Ron Burkitt, Hilliard Division of Police and Hilliard Bradley High School resource officer*
- 10 a.m. Gender identity in schools: legal and practical issues related to transgender students**  
Join a candid and practical discussion of the legal rights of transgender students, including school district obligations and practical tips for working with students, parents and communities.  
*Sara C. Clark, director of legal services, OSBA; and Joan M. Burda, Esq., attorney at law, Lakewood*
- 11 a.m. Break**
- 11:15 a.m. Legislative and case law update: what's happening in 2015**  
Learn about the latest case law and legislative developments — and how they will impact your clients.  
*Edmund F. Brown, Esq., FisherBroyles LLP, Columbus*
- Noon Lunch (provided) and OCSBA Annual Business Meeting**
- 1 p.m. The year in special education**  
Hear the latest updates and hot topics in the area of special education law. Find out what's trending and what you need to know now.  
*Susan C. Hastings, Esq., Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, Cleveland*
- 1:45 p.m. Break**
- 2 p.m. The do's and don'ts of arbitration from an arbitrator's perspective**  
Two arbitrators share effective and ineffective practices in school district arbitration. Bring your questions and learn strategies on what you should and shouldn't do during arbitration.  
*Daniel G. Zeiser, Esq., Cleveland; and William C. Heekin, Esq., Cincinnati*
- 3 p.m. Professional conduct: mental health issues in the legal profession**  
Join us as we review mental health cases, rules governing mental illness and actions taken when attorneys are the subject of grievances because of mental health issues.  
*D. Allan Asbury, Esq., senior counsel, Supreme Court of Ohio Board of Professional Conduct*
- 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 hours of professional conduct.

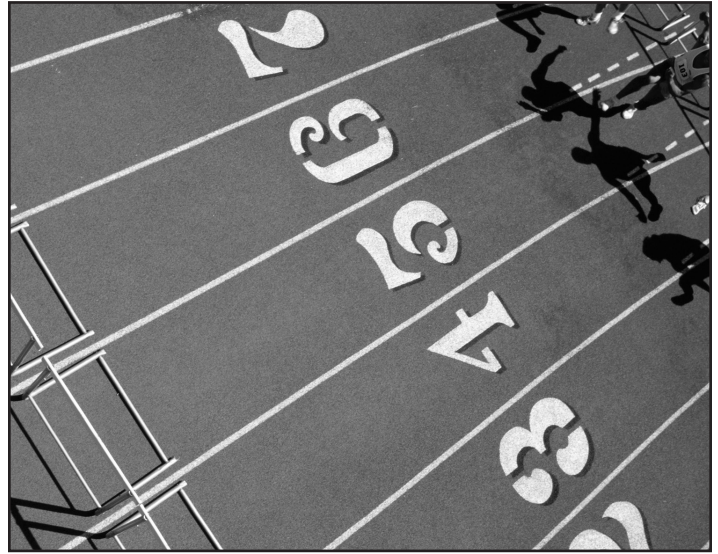
The workshop will be held at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center, 100 Green Meadows Drive South, Lewis Center, OH 43035. The phone number is (614) 880-4300. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



# Sports Law Workshop

Friday, June 19  
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Embassy Suites Columbus  
Cost is \$160



## AGENDA

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

**8:50 a.m. Welcome**

**9 a.m. Sportsnation 2.0: dealing with coaching issues**

Coaches are an integral part of your sports team, but issues and conflicts — such as students not getting enough playing time or contract disputes — may arise among parents or administrators and the coach. Learn how to make these relationships work to create a successful athletic program.

*Brian L. Wildermuth, Esq., Subashi & Wildermuth LPA, Dayton*

**10 a.m. Break**

**10:15 a.m. OHSA 2015 legal update: what your district needs to know now**

Learn the latest developments and initiatives of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSA), including policy and bylaw changes, outlook for 2015 and more.

*Dr. Daniel B. Ross, commissioner, OHSA*

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

**12:30 p.m. Friday night lights and student athletes**

Hear about common issues that keep student athletes from participating in athletic events, such as drug testing and violating the student code of conduct. Learn what your district can do to combat these issues.

*Sarah E. Kutscher, Esq., Smith Peters Kalail Co. LPA, Cleveland*

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

**1:45 p.m. Working with booster groups: what's your liability?**

Booster groups provide great support to athletic teams, but what happens if someone is injured at a fundraising event on district property? Learn what your district needs to know when it comes to liability issues that arise from booster groups.

*Sandra R. McIntosh, Esq., Freund, Freeze & Arnold LPA, Columbus*

**2:30 p.m. Keeping it equal**

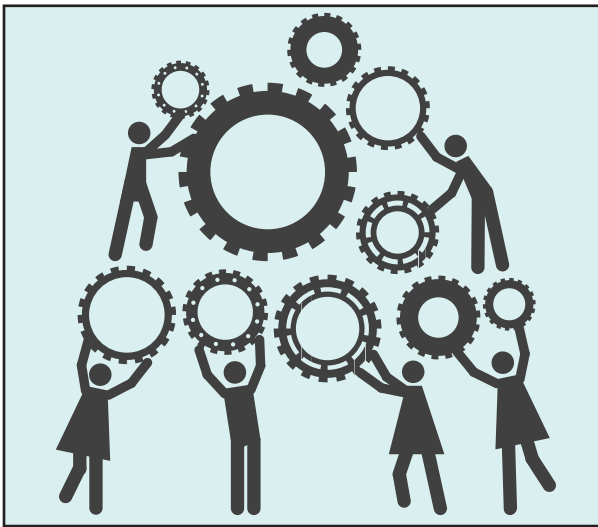
Equality among sports continues to be a hot topic. What does your district need to do to comply with Title IX? What happens when players of the opposite gender want to participate on an athletic team? Bring your questions and learn what your district needs to know.

*Melissa M. Carleton, Esq., Bricker & Eckler LLP, Columbus*

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

The workshop will be held at the Embassy Suites Columbus, 2700 Corporate Exchange Drive, Columbus, OH 43231. The phone number is (614) 890-8600. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).

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



# Beyond Surveys and Focus Groups: Engagement as a Partnership

*Lessons from three years of intensive community engagement*

Friday, July 31  
OSBA office, Columbus

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Cost is \$150

Dive deep into lessons learned from a large suburban district's community engagement initiative, then apply these lessons to your schools. Both large and small school districts can use these strategies to build small pockets of intimacy with community members to work together toward a shared purpose. Along the way, transform engagement from lip service to an essential part of whole-system change that challenges parents, staff and community members to be interdependent and collectively responsible for the future of their children's public education. This highly interactive session will include a workbook and small group dialogue so participants can learn from each other and track their own engagement experiments.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Register online at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops) or contact Laurie Miller, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org).



## Celebrate the stars in your district at the OSBA Student Achievement Fair

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 • 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. • Greater Columbus Convention Center

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and fresh, innovative initiatives from school districts across the state. The fair will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015, during the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show.

### Student Achievement Fair performing groups

OSBA will choose one school district performing group from each of the association's five regions to perform during the Student Achievement Fair. Each group will perform for 20 minutes. To nominate a performing group, submit a nomination at <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/2015/saf-nominations> and email an electronic video audition or YouTube link to Cheryl W. Ryan, deputy director of school board services, at [cryan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:cryan@ohioschoolboards.org). Only electronic recordings will be accepted.



### Student Achievement Fair district programs

OSBA is accepting nominations for district programs that improve student achievement. For more ideas, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/60021> to view the list of 2014 Student Achievement Fair district programs.

One hundred programs highlighting student achievement will be selected. The online application is available at the link below.

The nomination deadline is Friday, June 26. Visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/2015/saf-nominations> to nominate a student performing group or district program today!



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## OCSBA Spring Seminar

☐ June 12, Lewis Center, \$200

## Sports Law Workshop

☐ June 19, Columbus, \$160

## OSBA Pre-Board Candidate Workshop

☐ July 25, Columbus, free

## Beyond Surveys and Focus Groups: Engagement as a Partnership

☐ July 31, Columbus, \$150

### OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name \_\_\_\_\_ Workshop date \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendee name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
District/firm \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or P.O.# \_\_\_\_\_ to cover \_\_\_\_\_ registration(s). Make checks payable to OSBA and mail to 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481, fax to (614) 540-4100 or email **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). Include a purchase order number with fax or email.



\_\_\_\_\_ *Please check here if you require special accommodations. Contact us or attach a written description of needs.*

**Please photocopy this form for each person**

## OSBA workshop registration procedures

OSBA sends email confirmation of registration if an email address is provided. Registration is open to all boards and staff of OSBA members. "Walk-in" registrations are welcome on a space-available basis only. Please call OSBA to check the status of registration before you arrive at the workshop. To register, you must have a purchase order number or a check payable to OSBA and a completed registration form. You may register with a purchase order number by phone, fax, email or Web page 24 hours a day.

### Award of Achievement/LPDC

Most workshops entitle members to Award of Achievement credits. Local Professional Development Committee certificates of attendance will be issued to all workshop attendees.

You may register on our website at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops). You will need a username and password.



Mail

OSBA  
8050 N. High St.,  
Suite 100, Columbus, OH  
43235-6481



Phone  
or fax

OSBA Registration Hotline,  
(614) 540-4000, ext. 300;  
toll free (800) 589-OSBA,  
ext. 300; or fax us at  
(614) 540-4100.



Email registrations can be sent to Laurie Miller at [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org). Please include a purchase order number.

### Cancellation and refund policy

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



*Legislative Report, continued from page 4*

examinations.

- Requires the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to develop a table of assessments that may be used for multiple purposes in order to reduce the total number of assessments administered by a school district.
- Allows school districts to use paper-and-pencil tests through the 2015-16 school year.
- Requires ODE to conduct a comprehensive survey of the capacity and readiness to conduct online state achievement assessments.

In addition to HB 74, the Ohio Senate Advisory Committee on Testing recently issued its first round of recommendations. At this point it is unclear whether these recommendations will ultimately become part of HB 74 as the Senate begins hearings on the bill, or if they will be amended into the budget legislation now under consideration by the Senate. Following are the Senate Advisory Committee on Testing recommendations:

- The new twice-a-year administration of tests that occurred this winter and spring should be scaled back to once a year and should be shortened. The testing window should be closer to the end of the school year to provide more time for classroom instruction and less disruption in learning.
- Accommodations for children with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) must be improved

and more clearly communicated to parents and schools. Training must be provided for intervention specialists and paraprofessionals who assist students with IEPs.

- Test results must be returned in a timely manner to benefit student instruction. However, the committee recognized that results from writing tests might not be able to be returned as quickly as the rest of the results.
- For purposes of transparency,

test questions and answers must be made available within a reasonable time frame after tests are administered to ensure they are aligned to Ohio's learning standards, and that questions are developmentally appropriate for the grade level.

- Online testing is necessary and schools must plan to move in that direction; however, local schools must continue to have the option to administer paper-and-pencil

*Continued on page 6*



## OSBA Pre-Board Candidate Workshop

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

This free workshop describes the roles and responsibilities of school board service and requirements for running for a seat on a local board of education. Set for Saturday, July 25, from 10 a.m. to noon at the OSBA office in Columbus, this workshop will be led by two veteran OSBA staff members and include time for questions.

This session is for people who are thinking about running for their school board and current board of education members appointed to office, who must now run for election.

Space is limited, so contact OSBA Senior Events Manager **Laurie Miller** at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or [Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org) to register.

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

Legislative Report, continued from page 5

tests for at least the next two school years. State funding for technology based on need should be considered.

- A single technology platform is preferable for next year's tests.

Improvements in technology are needed to ensure smooth administration of the tests.

- A "safe harbor" must be in place that allows results from this year's tests to be reported, but students,

teachers or schools should not be penalized for results this year due to the transition to a new test and the concern that results may not accurately reflect a student's achievement level.

- A comprehensive communications plan must be developed to provide parents, teachers, school leaders and the public with clearer information about the tests.

- If the current vendors for state tests — PARCC for the math and English language arts assessments and AIR for the science and social studies assessments — will not make changes to the test for next year to accommodate these issues, ODE must find a test vendor that will.

*Editor's note:* All information in this article was current as of May 14, 2015.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

compiled by Angela Penquite, assistant editor

### Environmental education grants available

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund supports projects

that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and provide the skills to make informed decisions and take

responsible actions. The projects must target three audiences: the regulated community, the general

*Continued on page 7*

## Learn how you can save time and money with BoardDocs



Did you know that switching to paperless board meetings could help your school district save time and money and become more effective for as little as \$2,700 per year? OSBA proudly endorses BoardDocs paperless governance solutions. As the pioneer of eGovernance, BoardDocs has helped more than 1,000 organizations worldwide improve board effectiveness, reduce the time required to create and manage board packets by up to 75% and dramatically reduce costs. In fact, by using BoardDocs, many school districts report savings in the thousands — even tens of thousands — per year. Currently, more than 70 Ohio districts are saving money with BoardDocs by going paperless.

Register for a free one-hour webinar on Tuesday, July 14, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. to learn more. Register at <https://www.boarddocs.com/event.nsf/ViewEvent/OSBA2015-02>. For questions about these webinars, contact **Laura Vautour**, BoardDocs e-governance specialist, at (800) 407-0141, ext. 3521, or [Lvautour@boarddocs.com](mailto:Lvautour@boarddocs.com).



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Gary Motz, editorial manager

## Two Ohio high school seniors named U.S. Presidential Scholars

Two Ohio public school students are among 141 high school seniors who have been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as 2015 U.S. Presidential Scholars for their accomplishments in academics or the arts. Honorees will be recognized at a June 21 ceremony in the nation's capital.

The 2015 program recognized one young man and one young woman from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, as well as students from U.S.

families living abroad, 15 chosen at-large and 20 U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

Ohio's honorees are **Linda Qin**, of **Dublin City's** Dublin Jerome High School, and **Jaydeep Singh**, a student at **Lancaster City's** Lancaster High School. As part of the program, students nominate their most influential high school teacher, who then is named a U.S. Presidential Scholar Distinguished Teacher. Qin selected biology teacher **Michael Castiglione**.

Singh's choice was chemistry teacher **Joe DiDomenico**.

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, appointed by President **Barack Obama**, selects honored scholars annually based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership and demonstrated commitment to high ideals.

Source: U.S. Department of Education

---

*Funding Opportunities, continued from page 6*

public and preschool through university students and teachers. Applicants must submit a letter of intent by July 8.

**Maximum awards:** \$50,000

**Eligibility:** public schools

**Deadline:** July 15

**Contact:** <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/77746>

### Grants for scientific education

The American Honda Foundation engages in grantmaking that reflects the basic tenets, beliefs and philosophies of Honda companies, which are characterized by the following qualities: imaginative, creative, youthful, forward-thinking, scientific, humanistic and innovative. It supports youth

education with a specific focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects in addition to the environment.

**Maximum award:** \$60,000

**Eligibility:** public schools with two years of audited financial statements examined by an independent CPA for the purpose of expressing an opinion

**Deadline:** Aug. 1

**Contact:** <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/50214>

### Grants for math and science

The Toshiba America Foundation makes grants for projects in math and science designed to improve student instruction.

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

**Eligibility:** teachers of grades six-12

**Deadline:** Aug. 1

**Contact:** <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

### 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:** Aug. 1

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

## June 2015

- 1 Last day to take action to nonrenew contracts of administrators other than superintendent and treasurer — RC 3319.02; last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to re-employ teachers — RC 3319.11(D); last day to take action on and give written notice of intent not to re-employ nonteaching employees (Note: this requirement does not apply to municipal school district employees as defined in RC 3311.71) — RC 4141.29(I)(1) (f).
- 7 Northwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....Bowling Green
- 12 OCSBA Spring Seminar.....Lewis Center
- 19 Sports Law Workshop.....Columbus
- 30 2014-2015 school year ends — RC 3313.62; end of third ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).

## July 2015

- 1 2015-2016 school year begins — RC 3313.62; last day for board to notify teaching and nonteaching employees of succeeding year salaries — RC 3319.12, 3319.082; board may begin to 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).

- 6 Last day for voter registration for August election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30 days prior to the election).
- 8 Central Region Executive Committee meeting.....Columbus
- 10 Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of education — RC 3319.15.
- 14 BoardDocs webinar
- 15 Last day to adopt school library district tax budget on behalf of a library district — RC 5705.28(B)(1).
- 21 Last day to submit certification for November conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days prior to election).
- 25 Pre-Board Candidate Workshop .....Columbus
- 27 Last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).
- 31 Beyond Surveys and Focus Groups: Engagement as a Partnership workshop.....Columbus
- 31 Semiannual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates, political action committees, caucus committees (legislative campaign funds) and political parties (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures through June 30, 2015 — RC

3517.10(A)(4); last day to submit November emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for November general election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219 (95 days prior to election).

## August 2015

- 1 Last day to submit to the Ohio Department of Education a plan to require students to access and complete online classroom lessons ("blizzard bags") in order to make up hours for which it was necessary to close schools — RC 3313.482; last day to file statistical report with Ohio Department of Education — RC 3319.33.
- 3 Southwest Region Executive Committee meeting.....TBD
- 4 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).
- 5 Northeast Region Executive Committee Meeting.....Wadsworth
- 5 Last day for school district to file resolution of necessity, resolution to proceed and auditor's certification for bond levy with board of elections for November election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for November election — RC 133.18(C).