

BRIEFCASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



Charter school officials charged with stealing nearly \$2 million

Ten individuals and 13 companies associated with a Cleveland charter school have been indicted on 32 counts of corruption, conspiracy, theft and money laundering, according to the Cuyahoga County prosecutor. The prosecutor said the charges followed a state audit of the Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise (CASTLE) that issued 19 findings for recovery totaling \$1.8 million. The indictments allege that between 2004 and 2010, undocumented payments were made to 13 shell companies owned by or affiliated with five CASTLE board members or officials. For details, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/76296>.

Louisiana Supreme Court: school voucher law unconstitutional

The Louisiana Supreme Court has struck down the state's school voucher law, upholding a state district court ruling that using money earmarked for public schools to pay for private school tuition is unconstitutional. A proposal in Ohio's biennial budget calls for greatly expanding the school voucher program here. OSBA is urging school districts to oppose this proposal by contacting their legislators and adopting a resolution against any expansion of vouchers. To download a resolution your district can modify for adoption, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/95292> and click on "Sample Resolution for HB 59 School Choice" in the "Additional Documents" section.

OSBA launching school board candidate campaign

This is a school board election year and OSBA is urging qualified citizens to seek a seat on their local school board. OSBA has sent information to all county boards of elections and school district superintendents on board elections, board member roles and responsibilities, and candidate training and tool kits. For details, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/58225> or see the flier inside this issue of the *Briefcase*.

Association seeking candidates for regional, statewide offices

Want to be more involved with OSBA? Then check out the "Call for Nominations," which was recently mailed to all board members. It lists available positions on regional and statewide committees, outlines the nomination procedure and includes a nomination form. For more information, contact your regional manager or visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/73237>. Regional managers' contact information is posted at www.ohioschoolboards.org/region-managers. The deadline is June 30.

OSBA Black Caucus names scholarship winners

The OSBA Black Caucus has announced the 2013 Leo Lucas Stipend winners. The program provides African-Americans graduating from high school with funds to help

May 27, 2013

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Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrative assistants
- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Assistant treasurers
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ School board candidates

them attend college. The committee received more than 160 applications from around the state. The winners and their school districts are: **Iman Abdoukarim, Copley-Fairlawn City; Davon Bayless, Chillicothe City; Peyton Keltee, East Muskingum Local (Muskingum); Kayla Lowery, New Philadelphia City; Krystal Milam, Cleveland Municipal; and Shannon Reid, Northwest Local (Hamilton).** For more information on the OSBA Black Caucus, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/61867> or contact OSBA's **Kendall Lee**, caucus liaison, at (614) 540-4000 or kLee@ohioschoolboards.org.

OSBA SE Region seeking recognition nominations

Southeast Region districts are urged to submit nominations for the 2013 OSBA Southeast Region Recognition Program. The program, which was launched in

Perrysburg EV students host senior prom for senior citizens

Perrysburg EV recently hosted a prom for local residents who are young in heart, but old in age.

The Perrysburg High School senior class council invited older residents to attend the Senior Citizen Prom, a free, annual event held in the commons of the school.

Students raised \$1,000 to host the catered event and nearly 40 students served meals to the seniors. Students chatted with attendees and, in some cases, danced with them. The high school jazz band and singers performed, as well as the women's select choir and a cello group.

"It is a way to bring in a part of the community that does not get to the high school," teacher **Deb Drew** told a local newspaper.

Source: *The (Toledo) Blade*

1993, selects outstanding individuals and initiatives to be honored at the region's fall conference. Nomination categories are: student program, male student, female student, faculty member, classified staff member, treasurer, volunteer, administrator and new program or innovation.

Honorees will be recognized at the Southeast Region Fall Conference, Sept. 26 at the **Tri-County Career Center** in Nelsonville. Nomination forms have been sent to board presidents and are posted at www.ohioschoolboards.org/se-region. For details, contact **Paul Mock**, regional manager, at (740) 385-5240 or pmock@ohioschoolboards.org. The deadline is June 30.



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, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

Forget your password to the members-only section of the OSBA website? OSBA has added a new feature to allow members to reset forgotten passwords. Just click on the "Forgot Password?" link on the log-in page. Then, enter your email address and a link to reset your password will be emailed to you. If your email address is not found, contact OSBA and a staff member can provide you with the correct address.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

Administrator searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Middle school principal	Forest Hills Local (Hamilton)	May 28	www.foresthills.edu

Board changes

Jackson City appointed Terry E. Swackhammer to the board effective May 7. He replaced Ancil Cross, who resigned.

●●● Manchester Local (Summit) appointed Kelly Dolan to the board effective immediately. She replaced LeAnn Nichols, who resigned due to moving out of the district. ●●● Marion City Board of Education member Frank Volenik announced his resignation effective immediately. He is moving out of state.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Cedar Cliff Local (Greene) hired Chad D. Mason as superintendent effective July 8. He will replace Dr. David Baits, who is retiring. Mason is currently an elementary principal at Jefferson Local (Madison). ●●● Dawson-Bryant Local (Lawrence) hired George York as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Dennis DeCamp, who is retiring. York is currently an educational consultant for the Pike-Ross ESC. ●●● Eaton Community City hired Dr. Barbara Curry as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Bradley C. Neavin, who took the superintendent position at Vandalia-Butler City. Curry is currently the superintendent at New Lebanon Local (Montgomery). ●●● Fairfield Union Local (Fairfield) hired Interim Superintendent Jan Broughton as superintendent effective immediately. ●●● Hudson City hired Phillip Herman as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Steven L. Farnsworth, who is retiring. Herman is currently the district's assistant superintendent. ●●● Mount Vernon City hired William D. Seder Jr. as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Steve Short, who is retiring. Seder is currently superintendent at Crestview Local (Richland). ●●● Norwayne Local (Wayne) hired Karen O'Hare as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Larry Acker, who is retiring. O'Hare is currently the district's middle school principal. ●●● Orange City Superintendent Dr. Nancy Wingenbach announced her resignation effective July 31. ●●● Sandy Valley Local (Stark) hired David Fischer as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace David Janofa, who is resigning. Fischer is currently the superintendent at Chippewa Local (Wayne). ●●● Southeast Local (Portage) Superintendent Thomas F. Harrison announced his retirement effective July 31. ●●● Wadsworth City hired Dr. Andrew J. Hill as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. Dale Fortner, who is retiring. Hill is currently the superintendent at Waterloo Local (Portage). ●●● Waterloo Local (Portage) hired Matt Montgomery as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. Andrew J. Hill, who took the superintendent position at Wadsworth City. Montgomery is currently the district's middle/high school principal.

Editor's note

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

Treasurers

Washington Court House City hired **Becky Mullins** as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Ben Teeters**, who is retiring effective July 31. Mullins is currently employed with the Ohio Auditor of State's office. ●●● **Youngstown City** hired **James A. Reinhard** as part-time treasurer effective April 15.

Sympathies

Former **Bellaire Local (Belmont)** Board of Education member **Bernard Newell** died May 3. He was 69. ●●● Former **Brunswick City** Assistant Superintendent **Gene R. Sievert** died April 30. He was 88. ●●● Former **Forest Hills Local (Hamilton)**, **Hamilton County ESC** and **Hamilton County JVSD** board member **William Gayle McConnell** died May 2. He was 91. ●●● Former **Kent City** Board of Education member **R. Thomas Myers** died April 27. He was 92. ●●● **Paul John Smegal**, a member of the former **Pierpont** Board of Education in Ashtabula County, died May 4. He was 95. ●●● **Ronald L. "Johnnie" Long**, a member of the former **Prospect** Board of Education in Marion County, died May 1. He was 97. ●●● Former **Tri-Valley Local (Muskingum)** Board of Education member **Mary Moss** died May 7. She was 89. ●●● **Herbert Shields Burson**, an assistant county superintendent for the former **Vinton County** Board of Education, died April 25. He was 90. ●●● Former **Weathersfield Local (Trumbull)** Board of Education member **Frederick McCandless** died April 26. He was 78.



INFORMATION

by Cheryl W. Ryan, deputy director of school board services

OSBA offers summer special for facilitated workshops, retreats and new strategic planning projects

For most school administrators and board members, summer provides an opportunity to clean up current projects and settle details on the closing academic year. It also can provide a perfectly timed opportunity for leadership teams to come together on critical thinking, develop new initiatives leading to progress or find better ways of working together.

Community engagement, goal-setting, performance planning and evaluation are some of the things often on the summer priority list.

Summer board retreats and workshops provide the opportunity to discuss certain topics in greater depth, address

challenges, get to know administrative team members better, discuss new ideas or projects, or rework processes that need board review or feedback.

Launching a planned, formal and goal-oriented strategic planning process is another major initiative that can help districts gain clarity on how best to use current resources and build community investment.

To support your board development efforts, OSBA's school board services division is offering summer specials for retreats, workshops or strategic planning start-ups scheduled between June 1 and Sept. 2. The

prices reflect a 25% discount on normal rates:

- full-day (six hour) retreat facilitation: \$1,200;
- customized three-hour workshop: \$600;
- strategic planning: \$6,000.

Customized alternative packages are available upon request.

Should you wish to discuss or book your board's summer workshop, retreat or strategic planning process using OSBA's professional facilitators, call OSBA's school board services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA while openings are still available.



NEWS

by Angela Penquite, senior communication design manager

Board members show commitment to education at BLI

More than 220 board members gathered at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris on April 26-27 for the 12th annual OSBA Board Leadership Institute (BLI).

Attendees enjoyed two days of outstanding keynote speakers, first-rate learning and a wealth of sharing with colleagues from around the state. They headed home refreshed and motivated to put what they learned into practice in their own school districts.

"The high attendance speaks to the commitment of board members to seek high-quality professional development and improve their boardmanship skills," said **Rob Delane**, OSBA deputy executive director and BLI coordinator.

"Their dedication to improving their leadership skills and better serving their students and communities is to be commended.

"Many board members return to BLI each year due to the rich variety of in-depth curriculum. At BLI, board members can attend breakout sessions geared to meet their needs and network with colleagues to share solutions to common challenges."

Board members took advantage of this opportunity, with 224 attending the event. Several districts had two or three members participating in BLI. All five

members of the **North Baltimore Local (Wood)** board attended.

Districts from which four of the five members attended included **Ashtabula Area City, Greenfield EV, Hamilton County ESC, Mad River Local (Montgomery)** and **Northridge Local (Montgomery)**.

The Friday-Saturday event featured 16 breakout sessions in six learning tracks, covering student achievement, finance, legal and legislative issues, board development, critical issues and hot topics. Attendees networked with colleagues during two luncheons sponsored by CompManagment Inc., CompManagment Health Systems Inc. and PayForIt.net.

Between sessions, attendees browsed at an on-site branch of the OSBA Bookstore, learned about OSBA endorsed programs and met with regional managers to learn how they could become more involved in regional activities. They also received a CD containing handouts from the breakout sessions, which they can share with others in their districts who were unable to attend the institute.

Although much of the event focused on the challenges board members and school districts face, OSBA Executive Director **Richard Lewis** reminded board members

that their role also offers the chance for them to greatly impact the lives of their students.

"As school board members, you have a fantastic opportunity," Lewis said during the Saturday Closing Luncheon. "You have the opportunity to make a difference in many, many lives. You all understand that when schools are strong, students succeed and everyone benefits. These good schools don't happen accidentally. You know good schools exist because of the service of good school board members.

"I sincerely hope that every one of you becomes a dealer in hope. If your actions inspire others to dream more, do more, accomplish more, then you've been a successful school board member."

Opening General Session

Mike DeWine

'Protecting Ohio's students'

by Crystal Davis, editor

"I have a tough job, but you are dealing with the absolutely most important thing in people's lives — their children," said Ohio Attorney General **Mike DeWine**, BLI's opening General Session keynote speaker. "I thank you for what you do."

DeWine highlighted ways his

Continued on page 6

OSBA Transportation Workshop

Putting you in the driver's seat

Date and location: Thursday, May 30
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbus-Worthington,
Columbus

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$150, includes lunch



This seminar will focus on three specific aspects of Ohio school transportation — school bus purchase and leasing (installment purchase) options, computerized routing and on-board recording technology.

Transportation vendors will explain the options and technology in an interactive presentation and review the advantages for Ohio schools. They also will be available for one-on-one discussions about their specific products.

Join OSBA to learn how you can afford to buy a new bus (or buses), successfully implement a high-tech routing solution and place recording devices where they can see the occupants of your buses, as well as the motorists passing them. This workshop meets the administration training requirement in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-83-06.

Agenda:

8:30 a.m.	Registration	12:30 p.m.	Routing software and technology
9 a.m.	Bus leasing vs. purchase	1:30 p.m.	Networking break
10 a.m.	Networking break	1:45 p.m.	Lighting innovations
10:15 a.m.	On-board and out-board recording technology	2:30 p.m.	How do we know what we need, buy what we need and buy what is best?
11:15 a.m.	Networking break	3 p.m.	Table-top demonstrations and vendor meetings
11:30 a.m.	Buffet lunch		

This event will include displays by participating vendors and opportunities to meet with them and ask questions. Three buses will be on-site for attendees to walk through. Participating vendors include:

School bus manufacturers

Cardinal Bus Sales, Blue Bird School Buses
Rush Bus Centers, International School Buses
Edwin Davis and Son, Thomas Built School Buses
Myers Equipment, Thomas Built School Buses

On-board recording

Rosco
Angeltrax
REI

Routing

Edulog Logistics
Transfinder
Tyler Technologies/Versatrans

Event sponsors

Cardinal Bus Sales, Blue Bird School Buses
Rush Bus Centers, International School Buses
Edwin Davis and Son, Thomas Built School Buses
Myers Equipment, Thomas Built School Buses

Lighting

Weldon, a division of Akron Brass

To register for the workshop, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



THE 36TH ANNUAL OHIO COUNCIL OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS

SPRING SEMINAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

TUITION IS \$185

NORTHPOINTE HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER, LEWIS CENTER

Agenda

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast**
- 8:50 a.m. OSBA welcome and introductions**
- 9 a.m. OTES and collective bargaining — current issues**
We will start with specific examples of policy areas that impact collective bargaining related to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System, then focus on the unilateral implementation and effects bargaining issues of OTES.
- 10 a.m. If it don't make dollars, it don't make sense — when to file property valuation complaints and counter-complaints**
Explore current issues on this important topic, including case law and legislative developments that may adversely affect this area, and hear lessons learned from a practitioner in this field.
- 11 a.m. Break**
- 11:10 a.m. Case law update — reloaded**
In a new spin on the update, three attorneys practicing in specific areas will give you a concentrated synopsis of case law developments.
- 11:40 a.m. Lunch (provided) and OCSBA Annual Meeting and election of officers**
- 12:40 p.m. Guns in schools — legal issues**
Review the legal issues involved as clients request advice on guns in schools. Also get practical information on school safety plans, policy, training, insurance and implementation.
- 1:30 p.m. Break**
- 1:40 p.m. Forensic computer investigation and effective representation during misconduct and audit investigations**
Education Management Information System (EMIS) audits, investigations and misconduct present legal issues. Learn effective investigation strategies and computer forensics information that you can use.
- 2:40 p.m. Professionalism and your practice**
In an engaging format, review the requirements of the Code of Professional Responsibility as it relates to the practice of a school attorney.
- 3:40 p.m. Adjourn**

This course has been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 5.25 total CLE hour(s) instruction.

The workshop will be held at the NorthPointe Hotel and Conference Center, 100 Green Meadows Drive South, Lewis Center, OH 43035. The phone number is (614) 880-4300. To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, OSBA senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.



Improving your school safety plans at minimal costs

Choose from the following dates for this two-day workshop:

Tuesday, June 18 and Wednesday, June 19 or Tuesday, Aug. 6 and Wednesday, Aug. 7

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$195

OSBA office, Columbus

The Ohio School Boards Association will present two-day workshops on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Improve your required school emergency plans by assessing and taking steps to mitigate possible safety risks in and outside school facilities. Significant improvements to school facilities can be achieved at little or no financial cost if CPTED principles are applied properly.

Workshop participants will learn how to examine structural and environmental elements in and around school buildings, including windows, doors, parking areas, landscaping and lighting. A certified CPTED trainer will facilitate the seminar.

During the first day, attendees will learn and discuss the four key elements of CPTED. These elements are:

- Natural access control – using doors, fences and gates to control access to your business or property;
- Natural surveillance – arranging the property for maximum visibility;
- Territorial reinforcement – features that define property lines and distinguish private spaces from public spaces, including signs and fences;
- Maintenance – a well-maintained area sends the message that people notice and care about what happens.

During the second day, attendees will be “in the field,” conducting an actual team assessment. Following lunch, participants will reconvene and each group will present its findings and recommendations.

The workshop will be offered twice this summer at the OSBA office in Columbus. Workshop dates are June 18-19 and August 6-7. Participants completing the two-day seminar will receive a certificate of completion validating their abilities to apply CPTED principles in their own school districts.

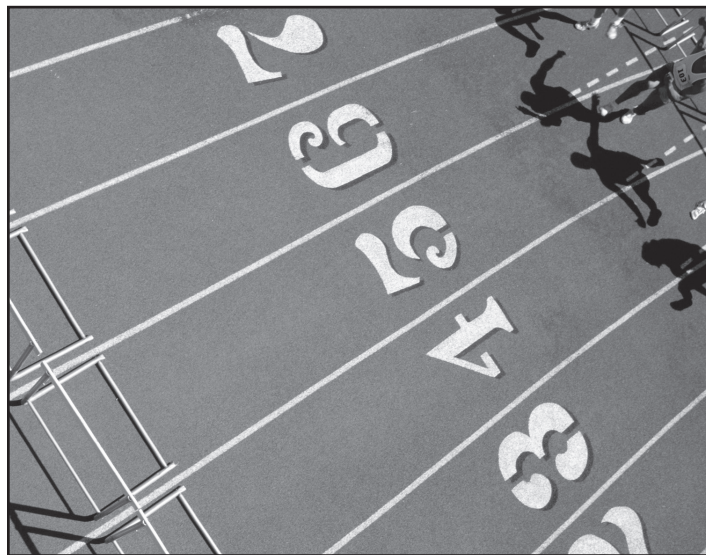
The fee for the two-day workshop is \$195, and will include training, materials, transportation to and from the field assessment, certificate of completion and breakfast, lunch and coffee breaks both days.

To register, contact **Laurie Miller**, senior events manager, at (614) 540-4000, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

Sports Law Workshop

Friday, June 21
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Columbus Airport Marriott
Cost is \$150



AGENDA

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

9 a.m. Concussions and head injuries: what you need to know now

Learn what districts need to know about handling concussions and head injuries that may occur during a practice or competition. Find out what your district must do to comply with the law.

Donna M. Andrew, Esq., Pepple & Waggoner Ltd., Cleveland; and Jeffrey Cassella, athletic director, Mentor EV

10 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. OHSA 2013 legal update

Hear the latest news and developments from the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSA), including policy and bylaw changes, out-of-season coaching, recruiting athletes and more.

Dr. Daniel B. Ross, commissioner, and Jeffrey M. Jordan, chief financial officer; OHSA

11:30 a.m. Lunch (provided)

12:30 p.m. Get with the program, kid! Athletes and discipline

Get answers about disciplining student athletes, learn practical suggestions for investigating alleged misconduct that occurs on and off campus and more.

Edmund F. Brown, Esq., Ulmer & Berne LLP, Columbus

1:30 p.m. Break

1:45 p.m. Boosters and your team: the do's and don'ts

A district treasurer and a seasoned school law attorney partner to examine the steps districts should take to manage and work effectively with booster groups that support the district.

Matthew L. Stout, Esq., Bricker & Eckler LLP, Columbus; and a district treasurer

2:30 p.m. Disabled athletes and sports

Learn more about disabled students' equal access to sports and hear about the latest legal developments and the new guidance from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Chandra S. Bowling, Esq., Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education

3:15 p.m. Adjourn

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, ext. 284; (800) 589-OSBA; or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.

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



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

OSBA Transportation Workshop

☐ May 30, Columbus, \$150

OCSBA Spring Seminar

☐ June 14, Lewis Center, \$185

Sports Law Workshop

☐ June 21, Columbus, \$150

Improving your school safety plans at minimal costs

☐ June 18 & 19, Columbus, \$195

☐ Aug. 6 & 7, Columbus, \$195

OSBA Workshop Registration Form

Workshop name _____ Workshop date _____

Attendee name _____ Title _____

Daytime phone _____ Email _____

District/firm _____ County _____

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



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

Please photocopy this form for each person

OSBA workshop registration procedures

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

Award of Achievement/LPDC

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



Mail



Phone
or fax



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

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

Email registrations can be
sent to Laurie Miller at Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org.
Please include a purchase
order number.

You may register on our website at
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.

News, continued from page 5

office is working with schools to protect Ohio's students, including arresting sexual predators and drug dealers; improving school safety plans; and active shooter training.

"I walked into **Chardon Local's (Geauga)** Chardon High School after the shootings and watched agents do their job where just a few hours before there was learning going on," DeWine said. "It was eerie; there was no one there but the agents. I will never forget it ... the truth is, the first responders are not police, they are teachers, custodians. I believe every school should hold active shooter training."

Soon after the Chardon tragedy, DeWine formed the Attorney General's School Safety Task Force, composed of OSBA and other school associations, educators, law enforcement officials and first responders. He also developed an active shooter training program for educators, in cooperation with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA), which has conducted similar training for police officers.

"Twenty-four districts completed active shooter trainings this year, with a total of 41 scheduled (before the end of the year)," DeWine said.

In addition to the active shooter training, the attorney general's office offers a free DVD of OPOTA's training on preparing for and responding to school shootings. You also can watch the course online at <http://ohioattorneygeneral.gov/eOPOTAcourses>.

Keeping his focus on safety,

DeWine reminded districts to file school safety plans with his office as soon as possible. Ohio law mandates each school board must examine every building in the district, determine potential safety hazards and propose changes to prevent dangerous problems. In developing a safety plan, the school board must involve community law enforcement, parents and staff. Plans must be updated every three years and whenever a major building modification occurs that may require changes to the procedures.

"When Chardon happened, there were 725 schools that had not complied with the requirement," he said. "Now, we've got it down to 231 schools that still have not updated their plans. That's too many! However, our calls also took us down from 1,000 buildings that were not in compliance with their plans because, for instance, structures changed. Of those, now just two buildings are not in compliance."

As an incentive, DeWine's office is creating a template to make it easier to file the plan and for first responders to quickly find the most important information contained within it. His office also is compiling a list of best practices for school safety plans, along with other resources that will be disseminated within the next few months.

The attorney general said he also is working to keep schoolchildren safe by aggressively pursuing those who sell or give drugs to kids.

"Four people a day die of drugs," he said. "Heroin is in your district, I guarantee it. Also, two-thirds of those who overdose die from taking a prescription drug that is not theirs."

"We have done raids on doctors who are nothing more than drug dealers — no nurse, no medical books, no receptionist, only a desk to write a prescription with. We busted one doctor who had seen 44 patients in one morning."

Continued on page 7

Looking ahead to BLI 2014

Planning has begun for the 13th annual Board Leadership Institute, scheduled for May 2-3, 2014, in Columbus.

If you're a BLI graduate, you already know the value of condensing multiple workshops into one convenient venue. If you've never attended the institute, make plans now to participate next year.

If you'd like to be involved in designing the curriculum for next year's BLI, be sure to attend the Board Leadership Institute Focus Group meeting in November during the OSBA Capital Conference. For more information, contact OSBA Deputy Executive Director and BLI coordinator **Rob Delane** at (614) 540-4000; (800) 589-OSBA; or rdelane@ohioschoolboards.org.

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In addition, DeWine said his office has been successful in targeting two specific types of sexual predators that prey on minors — those who share child pornography online and those who chat online with kids in an attempt to meet them for sex.

The attorney general said his office also works to protect all age groups by cracking down on consumer fraud.

"The average person in Ohio wire transfers \$6,000 when they fall for a scam," DeWine said. "We're especially proud to have stopped one major scam involving the U.S. Navy Veterans Association. It was set up several years ago to provide help to Navy veterans around the country by a man calling himself Bobby Thompson.

"It appears that little, if any, of the millions donated to the charity actually ended up in the hands of those it was supposed to support. We caught Thompson with a suitcase full of cash and 27 fake IDs."

Thompson's case is one of many stories DeWine shared as he talked about his "fascinating" job. He allowed plenty of time for board members to ask specific questions and, at one point, acknowledged the immense impact public education had in helping him land his job, as well as in his life.

"Six of my 19 grandchildren are in the **Worthington City Schools**, and my wife and I are both products of public schools," he said.

Closing Luncheon

Debe Terhar

'Ohio's education reform'

by Angela Penquite, senior communication design manager

Local boards of education are where the "the rubber meets the road," State Board of Education President **Debe Terhar** told attendees during the BLI Closing Luncheon.

"The State Board of Education may have oversight in state-level policies and the overall direction of education in our state, but our local boards of education really do set the tone and trajectory for student achievement at the local level," she said.

"No one knows the opportunities, challenges and resources of a local school district better than local citizens who have taken the time to learn about public education and have committed themselves to effective school board leadership."

Terhar was elected to the State Board from the Fourth District, representing Hamilton and Warren counties, and began her term on Jan. 1, 2011. She has been the State Board president since 2011, and acknowledged the incredible commitment required to serve on a local board of education.

"We know that you get calls at home. We know that there are late nights. We know that your neighbors over the fence think that you can fix everything and do it differently. It is a 24/7 job."

Although their roles may be different, the State Board and local

boards have the same goal: to provide the best education for Ohio's students.

"We know you want your children to be the best educated in the state, just as we on the State Board want Ohio's children to be the best educated in the nation," Terhar said. "We also fully understand that our work impacts yours; actually we see you as education partners.

"When we establish policy to make a decision that we know will bring change for local districts and schools, we trust you implicitly. We believe that you, too, are willing to work hard with less time and less money than you want so you can continue to set high expectations for your schools, teachers and students."

Helping students meet these new expectations means changing education in Ohio, Terhar said. New initiatives such as the A-F local report cards, third-grade reading guarantee and Ohio Teacher Evaluation System are geared to better preparing students for their future.

Terhar explained how the new A-F report cards would show nuances in performance better than the current cards. In one example, a district designated as excellent with distinction may have areas of weakness, such as a lower grade in meeting the needs of students with disabilities, or an individual school in the district may be performing below the district's ranking, requiring additional support to

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enable it to meet the same standards as the district.

"This is not a 'gotcha' for Ohio schools," she said. "This new local report card will paint a more complete picture of where we stand for Ohio's parents."

The third-grade reading guarantee also will provide opportunities to identify vulnerabilities and help students' academic achievement, she said.

"Today, we have about 27,000 third-graders who are not reading at a proficient level. Many of those struggling readers will be dropouts eight or nine years from now. Under the third-grade reading guarantee, our schools will identify children in kindergarten, first and second grade who are reading poorly. Consulting with parents, these schools will provide extra help to those struggling readers at every point to allow them to catch up."

She explained that the guarantee was focused on intervention, not retention. Teachers in kindergarten, first and second grade would identify poor readers in their classrooms and extra instructional support would be provided to those students.

"This aggressive intervention will take time and require adjustments on parts of your districts," Terhar said. "But ... the third-grade reading guarantee should dramatically improve our children's achievement in later grades."

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System will rate teachers in part on their students' academic growth.

Districts must adopt a teacher evaluation plan by July 1. A sample plan is available on the Ohio Department of Education website (<http://ode.state.oh.us>).

"Most Ohio teachers will, for the first time, be rated in part on the academic progress — on growth — that their students are making," Terhar said. "I know from conversations with district superintendents that they and their principals are concerned about the extra time principals will have to spend observing their teachers in the classroom."

"The job of the building principal is a big one and I know many responsibilities fall to them, such as building management and transportation oversight. But the whole idea of ensuring high-quality teaching should lead our minds to

the conclusion that instructional leadership should be the most important job of a principal."

Terhar encouraged board members to have discussions in their district to determine if some of the principals' responsibilities could be handled in other ways.

Although implementing these new initiatives will not be easy, Terhar stressed they are necessary to improve academic achievement.

"Our children deserve only the best," she said. "I know you feel that way for your own children, and you must feel that way for the children of your community."

"Thank you again for being here and for your dedication to public education. Your concern and commitment convince me that our children are indeed in very good hands."

Celebrate the stars in your district at the

OSBA Student Achievement Fair

Nov. 12, 2013 • Greater Columbus Convention Center

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding initiatives from school districts across the state. OSBA is seeking innovative programs or practices your district is willing to share with thousands of Ohio school district representatives. One hundred programs and practices will be selected based on creativity and impact on student achievement. The fair will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, during the OSBA Capital Conference.

Five performing groups from across Ohio will be selected to entertain attendees during the Student Achievement Fair. To be considered, you must submit an audio or video recording of the performing group. DVDs or CDs can be mailed to OSBA, or a video or MP3 can be submitted with the online application.

OSBA is now accepting nominations for district programs and performing groups. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions.

Nominate your district at www.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations. The nomination deadline is June 28.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, deputy director of legislative services

Biennial budget bill update

The Senate Education Finance Subcommittee recently completed hearings on Amended Substitute House Bill (HB) 59, the state biennial budget. The legislation now moves back to the full Senate Finance Committee for additional hearings. The Senate is expected to introduce its substitute version of the bill on May 28.

OSBA would like to thank the numerous school district leaders who have come to the Statehouse to testify before the committee and remind others that there are still opportunities to voice your concerns.

OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) sent a joint letter earlier this week to Senate Finance Committee Chair **Scott Oelslager** (R-North Canton) stressing the associations' top three

priorities for HB 59:

- retaining the school-funding formula framework as developed by the House for making improvements to the bill;
- eliminating the two voucher proposals contained in the bill — income-based and K-three literacy vouchers;
- restoring to current law the pupil transportation funding formula and other transportation provisions, including payment in lieu of transportation.

In addition, the OSBA, BASA and OASBO executive directors sent a joint letter to Senate President **Keith Faber** (R-Celina) opposing both the income-based and K-three literacy voucher proposals. More than 175 publicly elected boards of education have taken official action to oppose the voucher proposals and OSBA is receiving more resolutions from districts every day. There are a

number of education-related policy issues in the budget, but we believe the proposed expansion of school vouchers to be the most damaging to Ohio public education.

Copies of the letters to Oelslager and Faber are in the "Additional Documents" section of the "HB 59" page on the OSBA BillTracker Web page (www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker).

Third-grade reading guarantee changes

The Ohio House recently passed Senate Bill (SB) 21, sponsored by Senate Education Committee Chair **Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering). The legislation was introduced to fix several unintended consequences related to the third-grade reading guarantee that was passed during the last General Assembly session in SB 316. The House made several changes to the bill before passing its version. Some of the primary provisions include:

- specifies that retention under the third-grade reading guarantee is triggered only by failure to attain at least the "equivalent level of achievement" as determined by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) on the English language arts assessment;
- exempts students with

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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!



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, assistant editor

At-risk Newark City students get extra help to graduate

A **Newark City** class is helping close the achievement gap at the high school level.

Nearly 100 Newark High School students participated this school year in C-TAG class, an intervention program designed to assist students considered at risk of not graduating. Data show the percentage of C-TAG students earning passing grades in English, history, math and science increased this school year.

The high school recently

honored C-TAG students for their hard work by presenting them certificates and hosting a small party in their honor.

"We're going to recognize them and show them how much we appreciate them and their hard work throughout the school year," **Josh Devoll**, district linkage coordinator and supervisor of Newark's Closing the Achievement Gap efforts, told a local newspaper.

Prior to the ceremony, the district invited the students to a

daylong retreat at Camp Falling Rock. The event was intended to teach teamwork and introduce positive adult role models. Students participated in fishing and archery competitions. The theme for the retreat, "Staying the course," was printed on T-shirts for students.

"It was a good experience for the group," freshman **Ashley Richards** said about the retreat. "It brought us closer together."

Source: *The Newark Advocate*

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significant cognitive disabilities and other disabilities from the annual diagnostic assessment;

- exempts limited English proficient (LEP) students from the third-grade reading guarantee if they have been enrolled in U.S. schools fewer than three years and have had fewer than three years of instruction in an English-as-a-second-language program;
- replaces the requirement that reading teachers under the third-grade reading guarantee must have been actively engaged in the reading instruction of students for the previous three years, with a provision that requires reading teachers to have one year of teaching experience, with

exceptions;

- makes changes to the waiver from the third-grade reading guarantee teacher qualification criteria and now requires a staffing plan in certain cases;
- requires the State Board of Education to adopt reading competencies with which all reading educator licenses, alternative credentials and training, and reading endorsement programs eventually must be aligned;
- requires any district or school that fails to meet a specified level of achievement on reading measures, as reported on the past two consecutive report cards, to submit a reading achievement

improvement plan to ODE and continue to operate under the plan until achievement improves to a specified level.

SB 21 now goes back to the Senate for a concurrence vote on the changes. Because the bill includes an emergency clause, once the final version is approved by both chambers and signed by the governor, it will immediately become law without the traditional 90-day waiting period.

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

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of May 17.

May 2013

- 30 OSBA Transportation Workshop:
Putting You in the Driver's
Seat..... Columbus

June 2013

- 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).
9 Northwest Region Executive Committee
MeetingBowling Green
14 OSCBA Spring Seminar.....Lewis Center
18-19 Improving your school safety plans at
minimal costs Columbus
21 OSBA Sports Law
Workshop Columbus
30 2012-2013 school year ends — RC 3313.62.

July 2013

- 1 2013-2014 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).

- 8 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.
10 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).
20 Pre-Board Candidate
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.) (last business day of July) detailing
contributions and expenditures through
June 30, 2013 — RC 3517.10.

August 2013

- 1 Last day to file statistical report with Ohio
Department of Education — RC 3319.33.
2 Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law
Workshop Lewis Center

- 2 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).
6 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first
Tuesday after the first Monday).
6-7 Improving your school safety plans at
minimal costs Columbus
7 Northeast Region Executive Committee
Meeting Wadsworth
7 Last day for school district to file resolution
of necessity, resolution to proceed and
auditor's certification for bond levy with
board of elections for November election
— RC 133.18(D); last day for county
auditor to certify school district bond
levy terms for November election — RC
133.18(C); last day to submit continuing
replacement, permanent improvement or
operating levy for November election to
board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21,
5705.25; last day to certify resolution for
school district income tax levy, conversion
levy or renewal of conversion levy for
November election to board of elections
— RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219 (C) and
(G); last day to submit emergency
levy for November election to board of
elections — RC 5705.195.