

BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



OSBA initiates five-year review of strategic plan

In 2008, OSBA launched a new strategic plan — Visionary Initiatives for Strategic Action. Known as VISA, the plan is designed to guide OSBA now and into the future as it works to support Ohio school boards. One tenet of the plan is that it be updated every five years. That task is now under way, with a VISA Team of board members and OSBA staff members holding a series of meetings to review the current plan; assess OSBA’s current and future needs; evaluate stakeholder feedback; and examine the current educational and legislative environment. The team’s goal is to present the updated plan to the OSBA Board of Trustees in September for review and adoption.

Early Bird Workshop speaker confirmed for Capital Conference

The pieces are already coming together for OSBA’s 57th annual Capital Conference, Nov. 11-14 in Columbus. One of the first major presenters to be confirmed is **Katheryn Gemberling**, who will lead the Early Bird Workshop. Gemberling specializes in training school boards, administrators and other educators in using data-driven decision-making to improve student results. Districts are urged to bring curriculum directors and building principals to this informative session. For continuing Capital Conference updates, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/2012-capital-conference.

Study finds principals’ impact strongest in low-performing schools

A report from the National School Boards Association Center for Public Education finds that principals have an effect second only to teachers, with their biggest impact in high-poverty, high-minority schools. Unfortunately, the center notes, those schools are more likely to be led by less experienced and effective principals. “The Principal Perspective” looks at the impact a principal has on a school and the qualities an effective principal has. View the report at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/52789>.

Districts save on tutoring costs by recruiting college students

Springfield City is staffing after-school tutoring classes with volunteer or work-study students from local colleges and saving thousands of dollars in the process. Similar programs are in place under the “Every Student” program at the **Akron, Barberton, Lakewood** and **Wooster** city school districts. Every Student is an initiative led by Ohio education advocate **Harry Featherstone**. Its goal is to achieve a statewide graduation rate of 100% by using college students as tutors and mentors.

Small School District Advisory Network conducts first site visit

East Guernsey Local (Guernsey) hosted the OSBA Small School District Advisory Network’s (SSDAN) first site visit on May 2 at the district’s campus in Lore City.

May 28, 2012

Volume 43 Issue 10

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Route workshop information to:

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

SSDAN is one of several special statewide groups that enable similar districts to network to solve problems unique to their district type. The event provided East Guernsey with an opportunity to showcase its campus and gave network members a firsthand look at operations in another small district. Formed in 1971, SSDAN consists of up to 15 small districts that are representative of all small district interests. To learn more, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/SSDAN.

SW Region seeks outstanding student programs to honor

OSBA's Southwest Region seeks outstanding student programs to recognize at its fall conference on Oct. 11. Program categories are: multidistrict impact; ongoing; new; volunteer; and special recognition. Details and nomination forms are posted at www.ohioschoolboards.org/sw-region; the deadline is June

Waverly City student wins competition, dazzles lawmakers

Waverly High School Freshman **Holly Miller** can sing — and now even Ohio legislators know it.

The **Waverly City** student won her age group and the overall youth division of the competition "Gospel's Got Talent" in Ringgold, Ga., this year.

She was invited to the Ohio Statehouse earlier this month by Sen. **Bob Peterson** (R-Sabina) to be recognized for the accomplishment. Miller sang a short hymn on the Senate floor and received a standing ovation.

For winning the singing competition, Miller received a one-song radio release and a free slot in the CMA Music Festival Showcase in Nashville. She is considering a career in music, as well as medicine.

Source: *The Pike County News Watchman*

30. For questions, contact Southwest Regional Manager, **Ronald J. Diver** at (937) 746-7641 or rdiver@ohioschoolboards.org.

SE Region still accepting recognition nominations

The OSBA Southeast Region is reminding districts to nominate

outstanding individuals and initiatives to be recognized at the region's Sept. 27 fall conference. For program information and a nomination form, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/se-region. For details, contact **Paul D. Mock**, regional manager, at (740) 385-5240 or pmock@ohioschoolboards.org. The deadline is June 30.



Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 North High Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 — (800) 589-OSBA
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Assistant editor, layout and design: **Angela Penquite**, communication design manager

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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.

OSBA online

● www.ohioschoolboards.org

The OSBA legal division, along with other divisions, offers online fact sheets and brochures addressing frequently asked questions. The latest item added to the legal collection — "Competitive bidding fact sheet" — is designed to address the most frequently asked questions about Ohio's competitive bidding law. Download this new resource at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/36797>. For links to all of OSBA's fact sheets and brochures, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/70805>.



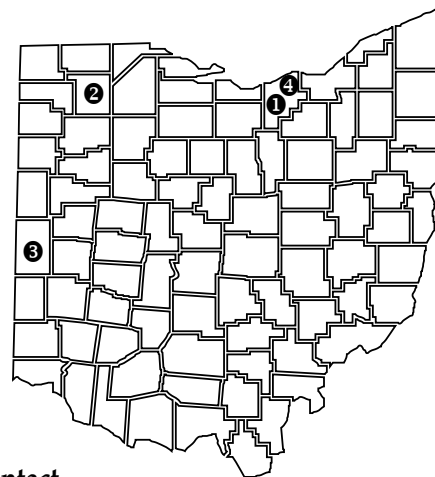
BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, administrative assistant of communication services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District	Deadline	Contact
❶ Lorain County JVSD	June 1	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❷ Liberty Center Local (Henry)	June 12	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❸ Greenville City	June 18	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
❹ Lorain City	June 18	OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



❶ = Superintendent

Other searches

Position	District	Deadline	Contact
Treasurer	Edison Local (Erie)	May 31	Molly Payne , administrative assistant, Edison Local, (419) 499-3000, ext. 1111
Treasurer	Newbury Local (Geauga)	May 31	Debbie Rutz , administrative assistant, Newbury Local, (440) 564-5501
EMIS coordinator	Newbury Local (Geauga)	May 31	Debbie Rutz, administrative assistant, Newbury Local, (440) 564-5501

Board changes

Chesapeake Union EV and Collins Career Center Board of Education member **Jerry Osborne** announced his resignation effective April 30 for health reasons. ●●● Plain Local (Stark) Board of Education member **Nick Campanelli** announced his resignation effective May 2. ●●● Richmond Heights Local (Cuyahoga) appointed **Tamitra Peeavy** to the board effective May 14. She replaces **Joshua A. Kaye**, who resigned effective April 9. ●●● Solon City Board of Education member **Dorothy Seibert** announced her resignation effective May 1. She is moving out of the district.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Amanda-Clearcreek Local (Fairfield) hired **David Gaul** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Michael B. Johnsen**, who is retiring effective July 31. Gaul is currently a middle school principal in Roane County, W.Va. ●●● Canfield Local (Mahoning) hired **Alex Geordan** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **Dante Zambrini**, who is retiring effective July 31. Geordan is currently the superintendent at Pymatuning Valley Local (Ashtabula).

Editor's note

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

●●● **Carrollton EV Superintendent Palmer Fogler** announced her retirement effective July 31. ●●● **Colonel Crawford Local (Crawford) Superintendent Ted Bruner** announced his retirement effective Aug. 1. **W. Todd Martin**, the district's high school principal, was hired as superintendent effective May 10. ●●● **Dublin City Superintendent Dr. David Axner** announced his resignation effective next year. He is taking the associate executive director position at the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators effective fall 2013. ●●● **Fort Frye Local (Washington)** hired **Thomas Gibbs** as superintendent effective May 14. He will replace Interim Superintendent **Dora Jean Bumgarner**. Gibbs also is the superintendent at **Warren Local (Washington)**, and will serve both districts. ●●● **Hopewell-Loudon Local (Seneca)** hired **Nichole Jiran** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace **Geoffrey G. Palmer**, who is resigning effective July 31. Jiran is an elementary principal at **Southwest Licking Local (Licking)**. ●●● **Marlington Local (Stark)** hired **Joseph Knoll** as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace **James Nicodemo**, who is retiring. Knoll is currently an assistant superintendent at **Mahoning County ESC**. ●●● **Mentor EV** hired **Matt Miller** as superintendent effective July 1. He will replace Dr. **Jacqueline A. Hoynes**, who is retiring effective Aug. 1. Miller is currently superintendent at **Celina City**. ●●● **Southeast Local (Wayne)** hired **James J. Ritchie** as interim superintendent effective June 15. He will replace Dr. **Michael R. Shreffler**, who took the superintendent position at **Northwest Local (Stark)**. Ritchie is also the superintendent at **Orrville City** and **Rittman EV**, and will serve all three districts. ●●● **Strongsville City Superintendent Jeffrey R. Lambert** announced his retirement effective Aug. 1.

Treasurers

Amanda-Clearcreek Local (Fairfield) hired **Jill Bradford** as treasurer effective Aug. 1. She will replace Interim Treasurer **Barbara Overholser**. Bradford currently works in the treasurer's office at **Berne Union Local (Fairfield)**. ●●● **Cuyahoga Falls City** hired **David M. Hoskin** as treasurer effective July 1. He will replace Interim Treasurer **Jerry Zelenka**. Hoskin is currently the treasurer at **Newbury Local (Geauga)**. ●●● **Edison Local (Erie)** Treasurer **Nicole L. Spriggs** announced her resignation effective July 8. ●●● **Galion City Treasurer Linda Kidwell** announced her resignation effective July 31. ●●● **Lisbon EV Assistant Treasurer Jennifer Stainaker** announced her resignation. She is moving to North Carolina.


Sympathies

Former **Bedford City Board of Education** member **Robert W. Strachan** died April 25. He was 90. ●●● Former **Belpre City Board of Education** member **Jack W. Jones** died April 27. He was 84. ●●● **Allan G. Chamberlin**, a member of the former **Columbiana County Board of Education**, died May 12. He was 92. ●●● Former **Edgewood City Board of Education**

member **Edith Ann Pate** died April 30. She was 83. ●●● **Daniel A. Thompson**, a member of the former **McClain Board of Education** in Highland County, died May 6. He was 86. ●●● **Fredic George Barba**, a former treasurer at **North Baltimore Local (Wood)**, **Perrysburg EV** and **Tiffin City**, died May 10. He was 72. ●●● Former **Orrville City Superintendent Howard S. Netzle** died May 4. He was 88. ●●● **Harry Donald Busch**, a member of the former **Reno Board of Education** in Washington County, died May 6. He was 90. ●●● **O. James Schwochow**, a member of the former **Townsend Board of Education** in Sandusky County, died May 4. He was 89.

Correction

An Administrative Changes item on page 4 of the May 14 *Briefcase* should have said that **Amanda-Clearcreek Local (Fairfield) Superintendent Michael B. Johnsen** announced his retirement effective July 31.



OSBA webinars

Learn about issues relevant to public education through OSBA's webinars. All you need is a telephone and computer to participate. To register for these webinars, contact **Laurie Miller** at (800) 589-OSBA, (614) 540-4000 or Lmiller@ohioschoolboards.org. You also can register by visiting www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.

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.



NEWS

by Bryan Bullock, communication coordinator

Board members learn from experts, each other at BLI 2012

Perhaps now, more than ever, Ohio public schools are being asked to do more with less. Schools are facing unprecedented funding challenges as they grapple with big changes, including new curriculum standards, mounting state mandates and advances in instructional technology.

More than 210 school board members received timely information to help guide their districts during OSBA's Board Leadership Institute (BLI) on April 13 and 14 at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris.

The annual institute provides board members a curriculum they want and need. Now in its 11th year, BLI is the only leadership development event designed by board members for board members. Each year, a BLI focus group meets during the OSBA Capital Conference in November to develop the programming for the following year's event.

"This institute offers the high-quality training we need to tackle the challenges facing us each and every day," OSBA President **Sharon E. Manson** said during her welcome to BLI attendees. Manson is a board member at **Waverly City** and **Pike County Career**

Technology Center.

"Governing a school district is challenging in the best of times, but the current climate of funding uncertainties, ever-changing mandates and a depressed economy make it even more difficult."

A variety of districts showed their commitment to professional development by sending more than half of their board members to BLI. All five members from the **Greenfield EV** and **Hicksville EV** boards attended. Six members were present from **Cincinnati City** and four members were in attendance from **Ashtabula Area City**, **ESC of Central Ohio**, **Hamilton County ESC** and **Mad River Local (Montgomery)**.

"The strong turnout at BLI this year demonstrates the commitment board members have to their schools and speaks to the in-depth curriculum that brings people back to the event year after year," said **Rob Delane**, OSBA deputy executive director and BLI coordinator.

"We work closely with our members to identify speakers and breakout session leaders who are experts in their fields. This is truly a one-of-a-kind professional development and networking opportunity."

The Friday-Saturday event featured two keynote speakers; 18 breakout sessions; and a networking reception. The breakout sessions were organized into six learning tracks: student achievement, finance, critical issues, board development, legal and legislative issues, and hot topics. CompManagement Inc. sponsored the networking reception, while the Closing Luncheon was sponsored by CompManagement Health Systems Inc.

The breakout sessions focused on topics such as adopting instructional technology; implementing performance-based employee compensation; choosing the tax levy that is right for your district; and understanding the board's role in preparing for Common Core standards and assessments.

"Nearly 2,000 board members have graduated from BLI since it was launched in 2002," said OSBA Executive Director **Richard Lewis**. "This year's successful event gave board members the chance to learn the latest news and information in public education, as well as meet with fellow board members and learn from their experiences."

Continued on page 6

News, continued from page 5

Opening General Session

Dr. Stephen Gavazzi

'The family's role in student success'

Dr. Stephen Gavazzi believes schools can improve educational outcomes and better serve students by engaging families. The problem, he says, is that educators don't always know how to effectively encourage family involvement in school.

Gavazzi is a professor of human development and family science at The Ohio State University and dean and director of the university's Mansfield campus. Over the past 25 years, he has established a research program that identifies the impact of family dynamics on child and adolescent development, educational outcomes, mental health issues and problem behaviors, such as juvenile delinquency.

A former clinical and family therapist, Gavazzi is the author of numerous articles and books, including *Strong Families, Successful Students: Helping teenagers reach their full academic potential*, which reminds parents that they are experts when it comes to raising their teenagers.

Gavazzi said research shows family, peers and mental health are the major influences on a child's behavior and academic potential. Family, Gavazzi said, is at the top of the list in most cases.

"We often don't do a very good job of creating connections between schools and families," he told the BLI crowd. "The dirty

little secret is colleges do not train our teachers to work with families."

Gavazzi has worked with schools in **Cleveland Municipal, Columbus City, Mansfield City** and **Zanesville City** to address barriers to learning, as well as community and family engagement in education.

"Board members play a central role in supporting teachers and getting teachers the professional development they need," he said.

Gavazzi said board members can ensure teachers receive professional development opportunities that: encourage general exposure to strength-based and family-focused approaches to working with students; increase knowledge about nonacademic barriers to learning; and heighten understanding of how strength-based and family-focused efforts can help increase academic potential for students.

Gavazzi said many parents want to get involved in their child's school and studies, but don't know how. He said teachers can engage parents by asking them to identify their child's strengths, and using that information as a launching point for future communication.

"We can get so locked into what is wrong with our kids, we forget to look at what is right," Gavazzi said. "The basis of doing any kind of work that will last is finding the strength and building on the strength."

Communication, he said, is critical between teachers and

parents. Emails and letters sent home with students don't always make it to parents. Gavazzi said teachers sometimes have to call or visit the homes of their students — especially when it comes to discussing difficult issues.

"We want to communicate a shared sense of responsibility for what it takes for students to do well in school," he said. "We have to address risks and assets in the lives of children and their families."

Closing Luncheon

Stan W. Heffner

'Ensuring student success'

by Angela Penquite

communication design manager

Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction **Stan W. Heffner** and board members share a common bond: They want all children to be successful.

To meet that goal, Heffner is leading the state in adopting new academic content standards and selecting a new graduation test that will determine college- and career-readiness. These changes will help prepare students for a future in which 43 of the top 50 jobs in Ohio will require postsecondary education and the other seven will require on-the-job training.

"A diploma is no longer the last stop for kids," the Closing Luncheon speaker said. "It has to be considered the next step."

A former superintendent, principal, teacher and deputy

Continued on page 7



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

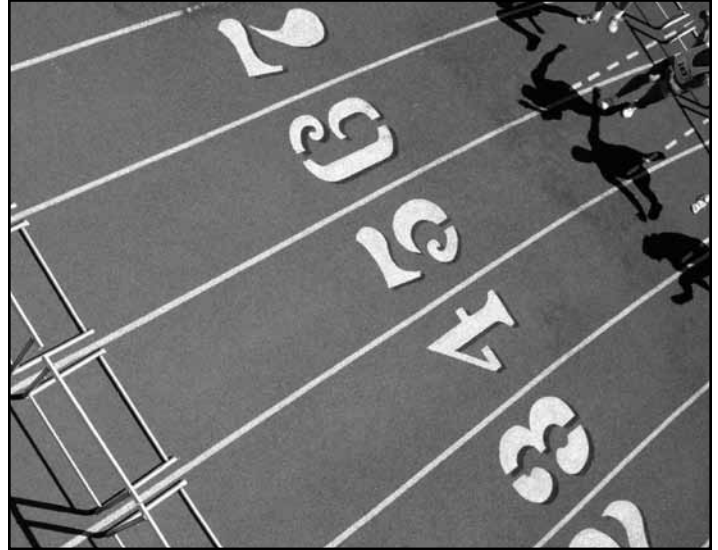
This course has been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 5.50 total CLE hour(s), with 1.00 of ethics and .75 of substance abuse instruction.

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.

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.

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.

New board members: Trying to maneuver the maze of boardmanship? Find your way at the New Board Member Workshop

- **Designed for new board members**
- **Intensive, one-day workshop**
- **Saturday, July 21**
- **OSBA office, Columbus**



School boardmanship is more complex and demanding than ever. To carry out their leadership duties effectively, new school board members must begin moving from the role of an involved citizen to that of a responsible elected or appointed official as soon as possible. High-quality board member education, designed specifically for new board members, can help you become a more effective educational leader in your community.

Cost for this workshop is \$155 per board member. Four books are included with workshop tuition: *Boardmanship*, *Board-Treasurer Partnership*, *Board-Superintendent Partnership* and *Board-Legislature Partnership*.

To register, call (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA. More information can be found at www.ohioschoolboards.org/event_listing.

Agenda

9 a.m.	Welcome	12:30 p.m.	Lunch
9:15 a.m.	Boardmanship <i>Cheryl W. Ryan</i> , deputy director of school board services	1:15 p.m.	Policy <i>Megan Greulich</i> , policy consultant
10:15 a.m.	Legislative and lobbying <i>Damon Asbury</i> , director of legislative services	2 p.m.	Labor relations <i>Van D. Keating</i> , director of management services
11:15 a.m.	Break	2:45 p.m.	Break
11:30 a.m.	School finance <i>Damon Asbury</i>	3 p.m.	Legal Issues <i>Hollie F. Reedy</i> , chief legal counsel
		4 p.m.	Closing remarks, questions and adjourn



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

OCSBA Spring Seminar

June 15, Columbus, \$180

Sports Law Workshop

June 22, Columbus, \$145

New Board Member Workshop

July 21, Columbus, \$155,
includes books

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. 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.
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 6

secretary of education and cultural affairs in South Dakota, Heffner was the Ohio Department of Education's associate superintendent for curriculum and assessment for seven years before being named state superintendent in 2011.

Under his leadership, Ohio adopted the Common Core academic standards, which will be implemented in the 2014-15 school year. These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have so they graduate from high school ready for entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and workforce training programs. Teachers will be asked to incorporate the new content standards into their teaching so that students can apply what they've learned to the real world.

"This change is necessary for our kids to have a fighting chance against others in the world," Heffner said.

In addition to adopting the Common Core standards, Heffner is working with Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor **Jim Petro** to ensure that students graduate from high school ready to take college courses. Currently 40% of Ohio graduates who go to Ohio public universities need remedial English and mathematics courses in their first year.

"We figure last year, Ohio kids going to college unprepared cost \$147 million, which came out of their financial aid," Heffner said. "We also know that the longer it takes a kid to earn the very first

credit in course work in college, the higher the likelihood that kid will not finish college."

Heffner and Petro have been charged with proposing rules for a new assessment system to replace the Ohio Graduation Test. This new test could be a college-readiness exam that could show what courses the student needs to take in high school to avoid taking remedial courses in college.

"I think there are two kinds of kids this would really favor," Heffner said. "One would be the kid who does have some struggles. If they want to go to college, then yes, they do have to take all of the math and the harder courses; they can't just be taking the fluff stuff. But there's another kid I'm very excited about and that's the kid who never thought he was college material. A kid who takes this test and realizes, 'I could do that. No one in our family has ever done this before, but they're telling me I could do this if I'm serious and apply myself.'

"If these kids think they've passed the high school test, then let's give them a high school test worth passing and give them the honest truth about their levels of readiness, because what I know about kids is that when you talk straight to them, they will rise to the occasion. ... Let's challenge our kids and give them the best opportunity possible."

Heffner suggested that board members consider a new mission statement for their districts: to make sure all students are

successful in their choice of college or careers by the time they finish going through their school system.

"What if our strategic plan was to say, 'Here is 2014-15 and here's today: how are we moving backward in our planning to set milestones about the steps we have to take ... between where we are and where we have to be by the time 2014-15 hits?'" he asked.

Heffner suggested school boards include an update at monthly board meetings to tell staff and the community where the district is in the process of reaching the 2014-15 goals.

"If we make this monthly report and we keep reminding our community month after month where we are on the road to 2014, we also focus our teachers' attention," he said. "We ask our administration, 'What are you doing to change the climate and culture in your building, to raise the levels of expectations, as we're planning ahead the steps we're going to take to get to 2014-15?'"

"And keep that the primary focus at the start of every school board meeting. ... This is the Ohio that we need to build together. We'll always be dealing with the basketball coach, the bus routes and some of the other stuff. But our primary mission really needs to be what gets us between where we are and where we want to be, because the kids are going to take that same journey, and the idea is that we're going to make sure when they get there, they arrived successfully."



INFORMATION

by Amanda Finney, senior marketing coordinator

New staff members join OSBA

OSBA recently welcomed two new professionals to the association's staff: **Candice L. Christon** and **Bryan Bullock**.

Christon joined OSBA in February as a staff attorney in the Division of Legal Services. Before coming to OSBA, she worked as an assistant city attorney in the Columbus Prosecutor Division. The 2007 Capital University Law School graduate earned her undergraduate degree at The Ohio State University.

Christon's duties include consulting with school board members and administrators on school law matters. She also works with the legal staff to present in-service programs, writes for

OSBA publications and develops special publications on legal topics.

A Dayton native, Christon graduated from Spring Valley High School in Columbia, S.C. She is a member of the Columbus Bar Association and the Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys.

She can be reached at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or cchriston@ohioschoolboards.org.

Bullock joined the association in March as a communication coordinator in the Division of Communication Services. He joins the association after working as a reporter at *The Delaware Gazette* and the *Mansfield News Journal*.

As communication coordinator,

he will write for OSBA publications, present at in-service programs, take photographs and assist with the association's overall communication efforts.

Bullock is a graduate of **Worthington City's** Worthington Kilbourne High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from The Ohio State University.

He is a member of the Council of School Boards Association Communicators, the National School Public Relations Association and the Ohio School Public Relations Association.

Bullock can be reached at (800) 589-OSBA; (614) 540-4000; or bbullock@ohioschoolboards.org.

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Michelle Francis, deputy director of legislative services

General Assembly puts MBR legislation on fast track

Following a very short timeframe for consideration, the legislature is expected to finish work on the following bills by the end of May: Senate Bill (SB) 316, the mid-biennial review (MBR) education bill; House Bill (HB) 487, the general MBR legislation; SB 315, the energy MBR; and HB 525 and SB 335, the Cleveland Plan legislation.

Substitute SB 316 (education MBR)

SB 316, the education MBR bill, was passed by the Senate on May 9 and moved quickly to the House Education Committee, where the chairman immediately accepted a substitute version of the legislation. The substitute version removed several provisions from the Senate version so certain issues could be dealt with separately. OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) testified recently on the House substitute bill. A copy of the testimony is available on the OSBA BillTracker page at www.ohio-schoolboards.org/129th-general-assembly by searching for "SB 316." In addition, the associations sent out a "Call to Action" to

members asking them to use the following talking points in their contacts with legislators.

School district report cards

The House removed provisions that would change the school district report card system. Separate legislation is expected to be introduced to deliberate the issue more thoroughly before it passes. Even though the Senate delayed implementing the report card changes for one year as we requested, we support the House in their intent to allow more time for consideration.

Third-grade reading guarantee

The current version of Substitute SB 316 would postpone the retention requirements for third-graders for one year. Our members were successful in their advocacy efforts to delay implementation. However, the House has removed the Senate's small appropriation — \$13 million — to cover the cost of the intervention requirements through grants. OSBA is advocating that the House provide funding at higher levels than the Senate, as well as direct funding rather than grants. We support the language delaying the retention provision by one year and are asking the

legislature to provide the necessary funds to carry out the intervention requirements for the third-grade reading guarantee.

School choice mandates

We are opposed to the following two school choice provisions in the current version of the bill:

- School districts are required to notify parents about the Autism and Special Needs Voucher when an individualized education program (IEP) is developed, reviewed or revised. The notice must include a statement that the child might be eligible for a scholarship to attend a special program operated by an alternative provider.

The Ohio Department of Education and private providers currently offer information to parents regarding the Autism and Special Needs Voucher programs. We believe it is unreasonable to require school districts to make this notification. If vouchers for private providers are expected to create a competitive environment, it is unfair to require districts to provide information on their competitors.

- Districts are required to verify charter school enrollment on a

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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.

Legislative Report, continued from page 9

monthly basis and charter schools are authorized to adopt a policy that prescribes the number of documents required to verify a student's residency. The charter school policy would supersede the school district policy in this instance.

We oppose this new mandate. School district administrative staff spend a great deal of time and effort verifying the enrollment of resident students in charter schools. Because there is often significant mobility with these students, the task is not an easy one. School districts should not be compelled to increase their administrative burden. Further, it is highly objectionable for charter schools to set the criteria that must be used by the school district for enrollment verification. This provision is unnecessary and inappropriate.

HB 487 (general MBR)

The general MBR appropriations bill, HB 487, was passed by the Senate on May 16. Before passing the legislation, the Senate removed the controversial 403(b) provisions from the bill. In addition, they removed placeholder language that would have required General Assembly approval for the transfer of any state revenue surplus to the rainy day fund.

Now that the bill has been passed by both the House and the Senate, it goes to Conference Committee, where the following individuals have been named as

conferees: Reps. **Ron Amstutz** (R-Wooster), **Jeff McClain** (R-Upper Sandusky) and **Vernon Sykes** (D-Akron) and Sens. **Chris Widener** (R-Springfield), **Shannon Jones** (R-Springboro) and **Tom Sawyer** (D-Akron).

OSBA, BASA and OASBO sent a letter to the Conference Committee urging them to *not* include the 403(b) provisions in the final bill. In addition, the organizations asked them to consider restoring funding to schools if there is any state revenue surplus at the end of the fiscal year. You can read a copy of the letter by searching for "HB 487" on the OSBA BillTracker Web page listed previously.

SB 315 (energy MBR)

SB 315, the energy MBR bill, was passed by the Senate on May 15 and is currently pending in the House Public Utilities Committee. It contains a provision that would grant a kilowatt-hour (KWH) tax credit for certain industrial electricity users if they engage in conservation education. Only the federal government is exempt from this tax that was established for the purpose of replacing the utility tangible personal property tax when deregulation was implemented. Industrial users already enjoy a discounted rate for the KWH tax.

OSBA, BASA and OASBO recently sent letters to the Ohio House and Senate expressing our opposition to the KWH tax credit

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Bryan Bullock, communication coordinator

Student research leads to honors for African-American soldiers

A group of **Washington Court House City** students set out to study history and ended up shaping it.

A Washington Court House High School history class spent an entire school year researching and, ultimately, working to get recognition for hundreds of Ohio African-American veterans of the Civil War.

The students visited the Ohio Statehouse in May and learned their research was used by

lawmakers to craft resolutions in both houses of the legislature honoring the soldiers.

The 18 students, all seniors, documented more than 500 black Ohioans who served in the 54th and 55th Massachusetts regiments in the Civil War.

The 54th gained fame from the 1989 movie "Glory," but it has not been well known that Ohio soldiers traveled south to join the unit.

The state resolutions honor the Ohio soldiers because they "have

not been recognized for their contributions to the Union cause."

Teacher **Paul LaRue** and his students testified briefly and answered questions before the Ohio House Veterans Affairs Committee. The students left feeling excited about their work.

Speaking about the soldiers newfound recognition, student **Kaleb Eckles** said: "It's cool, because they're finally getting what they deserved."

Source: *The Columbus Dispatch*

Legislative Report, continued from page 10

provision. We believe this proposal would undermine the KWH tax base and create a rush by other utility customers requesting the credit. You can read a copy of the letter by searching for "SB 315" on OSBA BillTracker Web page listed previously.

HB 525 and SB 335 — the Cleveland Plan

After negotiating an agreement between the Cleveland mayor and Cleveland teachers union on the employment issues contained in the Cleveland Plan, lawmakers are moving this legislation through at a rapid pace. Even though HB 525 is currently pending in the House Education Committee and SB 335

is currently pending in the Senate Education Committee, the proposal is expected to pass before the summer recess.

OSBA is not opposed to the plan as a whole, including the education goals that are the foundation of the proposal. However, we do not support the plan's measure that would allow local tax levies to be shared with charter schools. This sets a dangerous precedent for tax policy in Ohio.

We also are concerned about the Cleveland Transformation Alliance, another mayoral-appointed panel that would oversee portions of the plan. Care should be taken so that the duties

and responsibilities of the proposed Cleveland Transformation Alliance do not usurp those of the board of education.

OSBA, along with BASA and OASBO, recently sent letters to the House and Senate sharing our concerns. The letters are available on the OSBA BillTracker Web page listed previously, by searching "HB 525" and "SB 335."

For the latest on the General Assembly, please contact the OSBA legislative services division at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

Editor's note: All information in this article was current as of May 18.

June 2012

- 10 OSBA Northwest Region Executive Committee MeetingBowling 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

- 21 OSBA New Board Member Workshop Columbus
- 23 Annual in-service requirements webinar
- 24 Last day to submit certification for November conversion levy to tax commissioner — RC 5705.219(B) (105 days before election).
- 30 Last day to submit certification for November income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to the election).
- 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, 2012 — RC 3517.10.

August 2012

- 1 Last day to file statistical report with Ohio Department of Education — RC 3319.33.
- 3 OSBA Attendance, Custody and Tuition Law Workshop Columbus
- 3 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 before election).
- 7 School safety and security assessment webinar
- 7 OSBA Southwest Region Executive Committee Meeting and subcommittees Piqua
- 7 Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first Tuesday after the first Monday).
- 8 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 or conversion levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.195, 5705.219(G), 5748.02(C); last day to submit emergency levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.195; last day to submit phased-in levy or current operating expenses levy for November election to board of elections — RC 5705.251(A).