



Central News

June 2016 – News of the Ohio School Boards Association Central Region

SCHOOLS OF PROMISE ANNOUNCED

Ohio recognized 29 schools this month for maintaining high academic achievement among their students, including many from economically disadvantaged circumstances that can make learning difficult.

Central Region Schools of Promise include Plymouth High School of Plymouth-Shiloh Local (Richland), Spanish Immersion School in Mansfield City and Westfall Local's (Pickaway) Westfall High School. Congratulations!

"Even as expectations rise, these communities continue to beat the odds," said Dr. Lonny J. Rivera, interim state superintendent of public instruction. "Students of every background and ability level deserve the opportunity to succeed, and I'm especially proud of the difference these schools are making in the lives of Ohio's students."

To qualify as a School of Promise, a school must meet these criteria:

- Serve at least 40% economically disadvantaged students.
- 80% or more of students in grades that took the 2014-2015 PARCC and Ohio Graduation Tests must have rated Proficient in reading and math for all subgroups of students, which includes economically disadvantaged, limited English proficient, students with disabilities and all racial/ethnic groups.
- Score an Ohio School Report Card grade of A or B on its Annual Measurable Objective, to narrow performance gaps between student groups.
- Receive an A or B on student learning progress through the school year and a grade of A or B on high school graduation rate, if it is a high school.

Source: Ohio Department of Education website:
<http://education.ohio.gov/Media/Media-Releases/Ohio-Department-of-Education-Recognizes-Schools-of-.VzR10WPw9E6>

FALL AWARDS – RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE!

Central Region award applications are due July 1. The Central Region executive committee has been intentional about who and how it chooses to honor excellence in the region. The Friend of Public Education award and the Exemplary Employee award epitomize what the region's board members believe to be the heart of effective districts. Please consider nominating an outstanding employee (non-teacher) for the Exemplary Employee Award or an invaluable community member for the Friend of Public Education Award. Each district may nominate one individual for each award. The award process is simple and it's an opportunity to bring positive press and communication about people who go the extra mile for your district. Nominees are recognized at the Central Region Fall Conference.



SPRING CONFERENCE 2016

Region President Kevin Crosthwaite, North Union Local (Union) presided over the 2016 Central Region Spring Conference on March 9, 2016. More than 260 people registered for the event with 38 of the region's districts being represented. North Union High School's NU Age a cappella provided an excellent dinner performance.

We were pleased to welcome newly elected board members to their first OSBA Central Region Conference. Stacy Parker, Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield); Matthew J. Congleton and Ed Maynor both from London City; Mindy Patrick, Olentangy Local (Delaware); Deborah Marie Dunlap, Reynoldsburg City; and Gerrie Cotter, Westerville City, were recognized as the region's newest board members.

Attendees heard association and legislative updates from OSBA Executive Director Richard Lewis, OSBA President Eric K. Germann, Lincolnview Local (VanWert) and Vantage Career Center, and Lobbyist Jennifer Hogue. A panel from Hamilton Local Schools (Franklin) – presented an informative and insightful address on its district's journey to an academic, financial and cultural turnaround. The presentation was outstanding.

The following school districts were recognized for their outstanding programs as exhibited at the 2015 Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair: Big Walnut Local (Delaware), Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield), Columbus City, Dublin City, Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools, Elgin Local (Marion), Granville EV, Marion City, Miami Trace Local (Fayette), Mount Vernon City, Newark City, Reynoldsburg City, and Westfall Local (Pickaway).

The region's only 2015 Blue Ribbon School recipient was honored. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program is a national recognition program, honoring elementary and secondary schools in the United States that make significant progress in closing achievement gaps or whose students achieve at the highest levels in their state. We were pleased to award the outstanding school blue ribbon award to the board, administration and staff of Hamilton Local's Hamilton Township High School.



North Union High School's NU Age a cappella



Spring Conference Social Hour



Dublin City School District – Outstanding Programs



Sue Devine, Marysville EV and Mindy Meyer, Big Walnut Local (Delaware) catching up at Board Leadership Institute

BOARD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Twenty-six Central Region board members attended the 2016 Board Leadership Institute (BLI). BLI was held April 29-30 at the Polaris Hilton in Columbus.

BLI is an annual professional development event designed by board members for board members. It provides new and veteran board members across Ohio information to help them guide their districts forward. The two-day institute is the only leadership development event in the state designed exclusively for school board members. Attendees earned 20 points toward their Award of Achievement status and received up-to-date information on topics such as student achievement, finance, school law, legislative issues, curriculum and board development.

Central Region board member Sue Devine, Marysville EV, said, "I've always enjoyed BLI because there's a lot of useful information packed into a day and a half. The location and venue are great, the keynote speakers are people with so much experience in education and/or boardmanship that their messages are always motivating and full of great ideas and just like all OSBA events - it's a great opportunity to network and catch up with board members from other districts." If you have never attended a Board Leadership Institute, put it on your OSBA "bucket list" for April 21-22, 2017.

MILESTONE SERVICE RECOGNITION

Board members received well-deserved recognition for their years of service at Spring Conference. Ten year awardees included: Michelle Bowdle, Ross-Pike ESC; W. Shawna Gibbs, Columbus City; David Miller, Miami Trace Local (Fayette); Jeff Wilhite; Crestline EV; and Charlie Wilson, Worthington City.

Fifteen-year recognition awardees included: Kathy Belcher, Highland Local (Morrow); Jennifer Best, Worthington City; Tom Clutter, Crestline EV and Pioneer Career & Technology Center; Timothy Cooper, Lucas Local (Richland); Hershel Detty, Zane Trace Local (Ross); Jeff Heck; Lexington Local (Richland); Cathy Johnson, South-Western City; Kevin K. Kemmerer, Fairfield Union Local (Fairfield); Jaynie Lambert, Fairbanks Local (Union) and Tolles Career & Technical Center; James E. Lowe, Adena Local (Ross); Don Swonger, Tolles Career & Technical Center; Randy Terman, Shelby City; and Laura Uhrig, Union-Scioto Local (Ross).

Laurie Montgomery from the Licking County ESC achieved twenty years of service.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FAIR

The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and innovative programs from school districts across the state. Generally, 20 instructional programs from each region are selected to showcase their programs. The fair will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016, during OSBA Capital Conference.

One performing group per region is selected to perform at the Student Achievement Fair. If you believe you have an exceptional choir, band, orchestra, percussion ensemble, cheerleaders or an acting group, nominate them for the region's Capital Conference performing group. Performing at Capital Conference is an outstanding learning opportunity for students and it is repeatedly evaluated as a top conference event by our attendees.

Nomination deadline is June 26.

Nominate a student-performing group or district program today! For more information visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/2016/saf-nominations>



Richard Lewis, OSBA Executive Director; Kevin Crosthwaite, Central Region Executive Committee President; Ronald Rae Fowler, Master Board Member recipient; Eric Germann, OSBA President

AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT and MASTER BOARD MEMBER RECIPIENTS

Five Central Region board members who participated in extensive professional development and showed leadership at both the local and state level, earned the OSBA Award of Achievement.

The following board members received this distinct honor: Dr. Marguerite Bennett, Mount Vernon City Schools and Knox County Career Center; Larry Carfrey, Westfall Local Schools (Pickaway); Ronald Rae Fowler, Bloom-Carroll Local Schools (Fairfield); Sean Ruth, formerly of Westfall Local; and Cathy Johnson, South-Western City.

The distinction of OSBA Master Board Member was conferred to Ronald Rae Fowler and Sean Ruth. The Master Board Member Award, a lifetime distinction, is given to those leaders who earn 300 Award of Achievement credits over a four-year period.

CENTRAL REGION TREASURERS' CLINIC

Where: OSBA, Columbus
When: Thursday, Sep. 8, 2016
8:25 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Cost: \$160.00

The OSBA office is located at 8050 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43235.



CENTRAL REGION LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST – UPCOMING EVENT

Meet the candidates! Learn first-hand about candidate opinions and goals that may shape the landscape of public education for the next few years.

The breakfast is on Sept. 13 from 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. in the OSBA Board Room. There will be a \$10 charge at the door to cover the cost of the breakfast. House candidates from District's 17,18,21,23,24,25,26 and 68 have been invited. Senate candidates from District 16 have been invited. Each candidate will be given a few minutes to speak, leaving time at the end for questions.

If you wish to attend please RSVP to Marcella Gonzalez at (614) 540-4000 or at mgonzalez@ohioschoolboards.org to plan food accordingly.

IN MEMORIAM

We extend condolences to the Berne Union Local Board of Education on the passing of former board member Scott Zody, April 27, 2016. He resigned from the board in November 2015 to become chief of staff/chief deputy auditor for Fairfield County Auditor Jon Slater.

Zody, a former chief of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife, has been remembered as a dedicated public servant.

Zody was remembered as a lifelong conservationist, dedicated public servant and loyal family man. Scott served on the OSBA Small School District Advisory Network and as a legislative liaison from 2010-2015. We are indebted to Mr. Zody for his dedication to public education.

*Congratulations to Central Region
Leo Lucas Scholarship Winners – from Columbus City
Abebbba Araya and Brionna Cunningham*

NEEDED: REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board members from around the state serve on state and regional committees. These members give their time and talents to strengthen the association. Their efforts shape the Capital Conference, nominate members to elected OSBA positions and assist and plan regional events.

All members are encouraged to seek a nomination. By serving as an elected official or on a committee, you will have an opportunity to interact with board members from other districts, represent your district at state and regional events, and help strengthen OSBA. Download the "Call for Region Offices and Committees" at <http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/sites/default/files/2016CallNominations.pdf>

This publication outlines the procedure for nominating an individual and includes an official nomination form. A school board or board member must nominate individuals. **The forms must be returned to Kim Miller-Smith by June 30.**



Jane McGinty of Madison Local (Richland) presents Crestline board members Tom Clutter and Jeff Wilhite their OSBA Milestone Service Certificates.

CENTRAL REGION BOARD VISITS

As an outreach to our region's school districts, Regional Manager Kim Miller-Smith, and Central Region Executive Committee members continue to visit school boards in their local districts. The visits provide an opportunity to present awards to board members who were unable to attend regional conference, allow school board members an opportunity to connect names and faces with their Central Region representatives and gives OSBA an opportunity to personally thank our school boards for their association membership and participation in the governance of public schools. If you are interested in a visit from your region manager, email kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org.

OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBER

Five Ohio school board members, one from each region, will take center stage on Nov. 16 to receive the Ohio School Boards Association's most prestigious honor, the All-Ohio School Board Award.

Central Region is calling on all of our school districts to consider nominating your outstanding board member. The deadline is June 30. **All board members who are nominated will be recognized as outstanding board members at the Central Region Fall Conference on Sept. 28.**

One outstanding board member will be selected by the region's award committee as the All-Ohio recipient.

This nomination requires board action so ACT NOW! We have many deserving candidates in our region – let's recognize them for their dedication to our schools and the communities they serve. A link to the brochure follows: <http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/sites/default/files/16AllOhioNominationPacket.pdf>

FALL CONFERENCE

Mark Sept. 28 on your calendar today! You will not want to miss the Central Region Fall Conference. Friends of Public Education, Exemplary School Employees, Outstanding Teachers, board members with more than 30 years of service and the All-Ohio School Board nominees will be honored.

Additionally, our association president and executive director will provide OSBA news and important legislative updates will be shared. A keynote speaker will be announced in the near future.

Once again, the event will be held at Villa Milano and the social hour will begin at 5 p.m.

Reservations will be taken until Sept. 18.

Individual reservations are \$40 and tables of eight can be reserved for \$320.

Registration will open in August – look for more information in the Central Region Summer Newsletter and upcoming editions of the *Briefcase*.



Damon Asbury, OSBA Director of Legislative Services and
Jennifer Hogue, OSBA Lobbyist

ESSA INFORMATION

On Dec. 10, 2015, President Barack Obama signed the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). According to the U.S. Department of Education, "The reauthorized law sets high standards and contains policies that will help prepare all students for success in college and future careers." For more detail on the transition from the No Child Left Behind to ESSA implementation, see the OSBA website and go to the "issues and advocacy" tab. You will find ESSA information under "legislative issues." The link below will take you directly to the information.

<https://osba.adobeconnect.com/a827007977/p3zlu dokwfw/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal>

LEGISLATIVE OPEN HOUSE

Plan to join us on Aug. 23 for our region's first open house. The topic of this event will be "a school leader's legislative update." Pioneer Career and Technology Center will host the open house. The Center is located at 27 Ryan Road, Shelby, 44875. This is a free event, which will begin with social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. We will end by 8 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to hear the latest important legislative news as we start into the 2016-2017 school year. We hope to see you there.

CENTRAL REGION WEB PAGE

Did you know the Central Region has a web page posted on the Ohio School Boards Association website? The Central Region page can be accessed through the OSBA website at www.ohioschoolboards.org. Using the navigation bar at the top of the page, click the "Member Resources" tab. Under "Member Resources", OSBA Regions are listed. Select Central Region. The direct link to the Central Region web page is <http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/cr-region>

The web page contains current and past editions of the *Central Region News*, current and past photos from Spring and Fall Conference and downloadable nomination and award forms. Check it out!

ALL A AWARD

The All A Award is presented by the State Board of Education and recognizes schools that earned straight A's on all of their applicable report card measures.

46 **schools** in Ohio received this prestigious honor. Central Region congratulates Bexley High School, Bexley City; Granville High School, Granville EV; Lexington High School, Lexington Local (Richland); New Albany High School and K-1 Elementary School, New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin); and Olentangy High School, Olentangy Liberty High School and Orange High School, Olentangy Local (Delaware).



Groveport Madison Local school board members, Libby Gray and Chris Snyder talking with Kim Miller-Smith at Board Leadership Institute

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to be a part of planning regional conferences and working Central Region event registration? We can use your help! Complete a nomination application for the Hospitality Committee. It is an excellent way to get familiar with all the great folks who make up the Central Region and the time commitment is approximately one hour on the day of Fall or Spring Conference.

A second volunteer opportunity that takes just one hour occurs during the OSBA Capital Conference. We need individuals to staff the Central Region booth. One-hour shifts are available on Monday, Nov. 14 and Tuesday, Nov.15. Requirements include greeting other Central Region board members and distributing materials provided. That's it! If you have an hour to spare during the Capital Conference or regional conference, please contact Kim Miller-Smith at kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org or 614-635-1926. Thank you in advance.

THE CENTRAL REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SERVES YOU

Kevin Crosthwaite
North Union Local (Union)
President

Lee Schreiner
South-Western City
President-Elect

Past President
Dr. Marguerite Bennett
Mount Vernon City and Knox County Career Center

Kevin Archer, Teays Valley Local (Pickaway)

Walter S. Armes, Whitehall City

Ed Bischoff, ESC of Central Ohio and
Delaware Area Career Center

Renda M. Cline, Mansfield City

Amy Eyman, Lancaster City

W. Shawna Gibbs, Columbus City

Stu Harris, Dublin City and Tolles Career &
Technical Center

Paul Johnson, Bucyrus City

Brian Luke, Marysville EV

Jennifer Lynch, Washington Court House City

Jane McGinty, Madison Local (Richland)

Richard McLarnan, Knox County ESC and Knox
County Career Center

Kevin O'Brien, Olentangy Local (Delaware)

Randy Reisling, South-Western City

Ray Storts, Union Scioto Local (Ross)

Judy White, Lakewood Local (Licking)

Charlie Wilson, Worthington City

Kim Miller-Smith, Region Manager