

Advancing student achievement is the charge of every Ohio school board. Meeting this challenge involves collaborating with district administrators and the community to determine how best to realize the potential in all students.

Two decades of research has produced guidance around the role of the school board and how that role impacts student achievement. The findings identify what a good school board looks like and show how impressive the results are when a board of education makes student achievement the primary focus.

There are core skills that effective boards need to ensure that all students achieve at high levels. OSBA offers customized workshops that guide the school board and district administrators through the process of identifying areas of improvement to help all students succeed. All workshops can be tailored to fit district needs. Do you want to know about a topic and don't see it on this list? We will be happy to create a custom workshop for you.

For more information or to schedule a workshop, contact **Kim Miller-Smith**, OSBA senior student achievement consultant, at (614) 540-4000, (800) 589-OSBA or kmillersmith@ohioschoolboards.org.

Student achievement workshop topics

Aligning Resources for Student
Achievement: Putting your district's
money where its mouth is — Discover a
way of thinking about how school district
resources can be best used for increasing
student achievement.

The Basics of Personalized Learning

— Review the basic components of personalized learning, a belief that all children can learn, students should be challenged to take ownership of their learning as individuals and a focus on the academic knowledge and social-emotional skills needed for the future.

Understanding the Local Report Card

— Learn about the components that make up your district's Local Report Card, how grades are determined and how you might use your local report card to address student achievement issues in your district.

Using the Local Report Card for Community Conversations — Review the components of the Local Report Card and focus on each component as a conversation starter with the community, staff and others to explore ways to advance student achievement and student learning opportunities.

Community Engagement: Beyond Donuts for Dads and Muffins for Moms

— Understand the unique role board members play in authentic community engagement, why it's critical to the vision and essence of the district and how engagement advances student achievement. Detailed and practical recommendations for good community engagement practices will be provided.

The Board's Role in Student

Achievement — Learn the core skills identified by the National School Boards Association that effective boards need to ensure that all students achieve at high levels. Together these skills form a framework for effective school governance.

OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal — The OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal is a formal designation that students can earn on their high school diplomas and transcripts indicating they have the personal strengths, strong work ethic and professional skills that businesses are seeking. Learn how your students can get involved.

Helping Students who Live in Poverty: It's a Mindset — More than 50% of public students in the U.S. are eligible for the free and reduced-priced meals program. Learn about the social and educational reforms that make a difference in the lives of children and youth who live in poverty.

Engaging and Informing Parents and Families — The No Child Left Behind Act required that schools provide "strategies to increase parental involvement."
With the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, the emphasis shifted from "involvement" to "engagement," and that shift is substantial. Review the federal engagement requirements and tips on parental and family engagement.

Accountability and Student Achievement

— School board accountability is defined as board members taking their fair share of responsibility for student outcomes. Being accountable means answering not only for your actions but also for their results. Explore how effective school boards maintain public confidence through a shared understanding of expectations, roles and responsibilities, and desired results.

Visioning Student Success — Learn how your school board can develop and implement an effective vision that focuses on student achievement, positively guides district strategies and involves the community. Discover how to engage the community in developing a collective vision that articulates the community's aspirations for all students.

Unified Leadership and Student
Achievement — Effective school
boards lead as a united team with the
superintendent, each from their respective
roles, with strong collaboration and mutual
trust. Learn how the board-superintendent
leadership roles are interconnected as well
as the process for decision-making and
evaluation.

Dropout Prevention: A Systems
Approach — The National Dropout
Prevention Center has identified 15
effective strategies as having the most
positive impact on reducing school
dropouts. Review the strategies and how
they work together to successfully reduce
dropouts in rural, suburban and urban
settings.

Chronic Absenteeism — When developing policies and programs to address attendance concerns, it is important to understand that students often face non-academic challenges that keep them from being present and engaged in school every day. Learn about the four categories of student support — social-emotional and behavioral, physical health, safety and climate — and family and community engagement to tailor interventions to meet students' unique needs.

Cultural Competency Considerations: Helping Educators Close Achievement

Gaps — As classrooms become increasingly diverse, we are learning that educators with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to value diversity among students will best serve all students. Cultural competence is a key factor in enabling educators to be effective with students from different cultures. Learn what cultural competence is and some essential cultural competence considerations board members and district leadership should consider for your district.