



Central News

August 2021 – News of the Ohio School Boards Association Central Region

DR. KATHY McFARLAND, FALL CONFERENCE SPEAKER – SEPT. 22

Dr. Kathy McFarland, OSBA deputy chief executive, will be the keynote speaker for the Central Region Fall Conference. With more than 20 years in public education as an administrator and teacher, McFarland has extensive experience in many areas, including continuous improvement planning, setting and monitoring



institutional and individual goals, research, instruction, public speaking and organizational management. Just as important, McFarland has the enthusiasm and passion for her work that makes her work meaningful and her presentations engaging.

A graduate of **Worthington City Schools**, McFarland earned her bachelor's in communications from North Carolina State University, where she swam

competitively. McFarland continued her education at the University of Dayton, where she completed her master's in educational leadership. She earned a doctorate in educational leadership at Ohio University.

McFarland will share her recent work speaking with students about their struggles and what they want leaders to know. The presentation, addressing the question, "Does our work matter to the students we lead," is entitled, *In Their Voices*.

Join us on Sept. 22 to hear students use their own voices to describe how we can support them in the areas of mental health and social-emotional learning.

REGISTER FOR THE CENTRAL REGION FALL CONFERENCE

Reserve your seat today for the OSBA Central Region Fall Conference on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The registration link is <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/crfall2021>. Online reservations allow districts to pay with a credit card, check or be invoiced after the conference if a purchase order number is provided. The cost to attend is \$40. The reservation deadline is Monday, Sept. 13.

The Region will recognize 2021 Outstanding Teachers of the Central Region, Friends of Public Education, Exemplary School Employees, Champion of Public Education, board members celebrating service milestones of 30 years or more, STAR Award winners and Ohio Boards of Distinction.

This conference entitles board members to five STAR Awards Training credits.

IN MEMORIAM



Whitehall City Superintendent Brian D. Hamler died June 29 from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

Born and raised in Whitehall, Hamler graduated from Whitehall-Yearling High School in 1977.

He received his bachelor's degree in health and physical education in 1981 from Capital University and earned a master's degree in educational policy and leadership in 1998 from Ohio State University.

Under Hamler's leadership, the district opened the Kae Avenue Early Literacy Campus, passed a bond and permanent improvement levy in 2018 and created a school-based health center with Heart of Ohio Family Health.

His teaching and administrative career also included **Gahanna-Jefferson City Schools**, **Westerville City Schools** and **South-Western City Schools**.



CENTRAL REGION LEGISLATIVE OPEN HOUSE

Plan to join us on Aug. 25 for the region's fifth summer legislative open house. The topic of the evening will be "A legislative update for school leaders." The presentation will be delivered by **Will Schwartz**, deputy director of legislative services.

Topics include upcoming legislative business as lawmakers return from summer recess, prohibitions on mask mandates, Critical Race Theory, and financial literacy education. Time will be set aside for questions and answers.

Career and Technology Education Centers (C-TEC) of Licking County will host the event in its Library Media Center, located at 150 Price Road, Newark, Ohio 43055.

This **free event**, begins with social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. To register, please visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/12296/>

The open house is a great kickoff for the 2021-22 school year and an opportunity to hear the latest important legislative news while networking with fellow board members. We hope to see you there.



MILESTONE SERVICE RECOGNITION

Each year, OSBA and the Central Region recognize the milestone service of members reaching 10, 15, and 20 years of service at the spring conference. Members with 25, 30, 35 and more years of service (recognized in increments of five years) are recognized at the Central Region Fall Conference.

The following board members reached 10 years of board service in 2021: **Matt Krueger**, Canal Winchester Local (Franklin); **Tony Reeser**, Circleville City and Pickaway Ross CTC; **Lisa M. Adkins**, Fairbanks Local (Union); **Gary Bartlett**, Fairfield County ESC; **Charlotte J. Owens**, Fairfield County ESC; **Todd E. Hoffman**, Fairfield Union Local (Fairfield); **Thomas Miller**, Granville EV; **Walley Obert**, Hamilton Local (Franklin); **Paul Wayne Hinkle**, Highland Local (Morrow); **Mark Hopkins**, Huntington Local (Ross); **Vicki Bechtel**, Knox County ESC and Knox County Career Center; **A. Lise Ricketts**, Lancaster City; **Joseph Robert Shannon**, Licking County ESC; **Brian Bagley**, Licking Heights Local (Licking); **Kimberly Lynn Christian**, Licking Valley Local (Licking); **Lucinda J. Wills**, Licking Valley Local; **Jonathan Stahl**, London City; **Renda M. Cline**, Mansfield City; **Sue Devine**, Marysville EV; **Amy Powers**, Marysville EV; **Charlie Andrews**, Miami Trace Local (Fayette); **Timothy Carr**, Newark City and C-TEC of Licking County; **Douglas Hart**, Northridge Local (Licking); **Cathy Olshefski**, Pickerington Local (Fairfield); **Debra Moore**, Southwest Licking Local (Licking); **Karen Karshner**, Teays Valley Local (Pickaway); **Nancy Drees**, Upper Arlington City; **Jennifer Lynch**, Washington Court House City; **Judith Cook**, Westfall Local (Pickaway); **Mike Adkins**, Whitehall City; and **Cathy Chester**, Zane Trace Local (Ross).

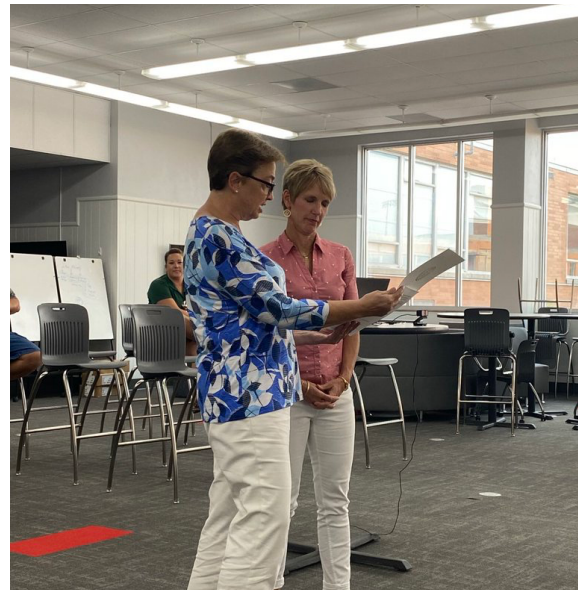
The following board members were recognized for 15 years of board service: **Greg Deal**, Huntington Local; **David Miller**, Miami Trace Local and **Charlie Wilson**, Worthington City.

Finally, the following board members were recognized for their 20 years of board service: **Eric S. Brown**, Columbus City/Mayfield Heights City; **Kevin K. Kemmerer**, Fairfield Union Local; **Kathy Belcher**, Highland Local; **Ken Boeshart**, Knox County ESC; **Timothy Cooper**, Lucas Local (Richland); **Cathy Johnson**, South-Western City; **Laura Uhrig**, Union Scioto Local (Ross); and **Jennifer Best**, Worthington City.

Congratulations and thank you to these board members for their service to the region's districts and communities.



Kenneth Upthegrove, Washington Court House City receiving his 25-year milestone award



Lisa M. Adkins, Fairbanks Local (Union)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FAIR

The Student Achievement Fair is one of the most rewarding exhibitions at the Capital Conference. The event showcases many innovative programs districts have created to boost student achievement and engage youngsters in learning. It offers excellent opportunities to learn about new programs, share ideas and celebrate what public education in Ohio is all about — helping students achieve.

One of the most important aspects of the show is that students explain their work and skills learned to OSBA participants as they visit each booth. Often, a healthy conversation occurs as programs are highlighted.

We are still in search of more district innovative programs and digital art. For the first time, we will showcase a “Digital View of Student Art,” a virtual screening of submitted works from districts across the state. We urge you nominate an innovative program from your district. For more on the student achievement fair, please visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/student-achievement-fair>



Art by Aubrey Meeker, “Flaming Mantis”
Colored Pencil – Mount Vernon City

OHIO BOARDS OF DISTINCTION AWARD

The Ohio Boards of Distinction Award honors school boards that have engaged in activities and modeled behaviors that lead to excellence in local school district governance in support of quality education. The qualifications include requirements for each member of the board to participate in training or service as well as a commitment by the full board to engage in activities such as strategic planning and board self-assessment to help guide the direction of the district.

TIMELINE

The cycle for the Ohio Boards of Distinction Award begins every two years in January immediately following board of education elections as school boards form new leadership teams. The current cycle began January 2020 and culminates at the 2021 OSBA Capital Conference. The award will be presented at the end of the cycle and districts may receive the award only once during the period.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The board must complete the Ohio Boards of Distinction Application Form and return it to OSBA by Oct. 10, 2021 to be reviewed for acknowledgment at the 2021 OSBA Capital Conference. The completed form can be emailed to **Gwen Samet** at gsamet@ohioschoolboards.org or mailed to the Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus, OH 43235.

To view specific requirements, please visit the following webpage:

www.ohioschoolboards.org/ohio-board-distinction

SUCCESS SHORTS

As part of a student success promotion effort created by the Student Achievement Leadership Team, we are asking board members to supply us with articles or headlines featuring student, teacher or program success. We are naming this promotion "**Success Shorts**," and it will begin in September. We need you to send to OSBA success stories from your districts so we can spread the good news of public education throughout the school year. The article link you forward does not need to be from your district.

For the months of September and October, we are asking Central Region board members to provide the news. We would appreciate your cooperation in following the guidelines listed below:

- 1) Share what is being posted by your school district and/or the local media, so you are sure of honoring students' protection as filed with the district.
- 2) Ask permission first of the district to share their posts to Success Shorts.
- 3) If it is not first shared by the district, contact the superintendent to ask for approval to share with Success Shorts.
- 4) Send a descriptive paragraph with the photo or video attachment if it is not complete from the posting or publish.
- 5) Acknowledge the source with a credit or byline.
- 6) Be fair to all ages, geographic parts of your district and building populations within your district by sending a variety of news.
- 7) Send as soon as possible after publication so we keep our Success Shorts fresh and timely.
- 8) Inform your board and administrators that you are participating in this endeavor and ask for their assistance and ideas.
- 9) Email the news and attachments to: success_shorts@ohioschoolboards.org

COSI and OSBA PARTNER to DISTRIBUTE LEARNING LUNCH BOXES



OSBA President, **Robert M. Heard, Sr.**, Cleveland Municipal, OSBA Chief Executive Officer Rick Lewis; Scott Gerfen OSBA communication manager; and Kim Miller-Smith, OSBA Central Region Manager and OSBA student achievement consultant helped to ready, 1400 free Learning Lunchbox Kits from COSI, Columbus' dynamic hands-on science center. Pictured left to right, Miller-Smith and Heard stuffing information bags; Lewis, Heard and first lady Francis DeWine; Miller-Smith and Heard working with volunteers preparing materials.

CENTRAL REGION STARS

OSBA STAR Award Winners

Each year the Ohio School Boards Association presents awards to board members across the state who demonstrate dedication to self-improvement, service to their association and work on behalf of their own board. 2021 marked the first year that OSBA recognized board members who earned points towards service and training in our new STAR Awards Program—**Service, Training, Aptitude and Recognition.**



The OSBA Service Award was presented to a very select group. Of the more than 3,400 board members in Ohio, only 12 received the honor in 2021 and four of those recipients were from the Central Region. The following members received their Service Award: **Lee Schreiner**, South-Western City; **Renda M. Cline**, Mansfield City; Dr. **Marguerite Bennett**, Mount Vernon City and Knox County Career Center and **Dick Smith**, Marysville EV.

Only 14 members in the state received the STAR training award in 2021 and 3 of these members hail from the Central Region: **Lee Schreiner**, South-Western City; **David T. Donofrio**, South-Western City; and **Dick Smith**, Marysville EV.

STAR AWARDS PROGRAM

To recognize school board members for the time they spend improving their boardmanship and leadership skills, the STAR recognition program was developed.

Four awards comprise the program: service, training, aptitude and recognition. Previously, points for activities related to service and training were used for the Award of Achievement and Master Board Member honors. Now, the Service and Training awards have been separated based on the type of activity.

Service: Points for the Service Award accrue from local school board, district, region and state leadership, including service on OSBA committees and local board offices and committees. The Service Award requires 150 points to be earned within a three-year period. This award does not require an application; the board member will be notified when he or she has earned the requisite points.

Training: Points for the Training Award are earned from professional development events and activities delivered by OSBA or the National School Boards Association (NSBA). The Training Award requires 200 points earned over a three-year period. This award does not require an application; the board member will be notified when he or she has earned the requisite points.

Aptitude: A new category, the Aptitude Award, requires a board member to demonstrate an understanding and comprehension of a variety of board governance skills based on six leadership areas: vision, accountability, policy, community engagement, relationships and advocacy. To receive this award, board members must receive an 80% passing score on an online assessment. The assessment will be offered in June and July and may be taken multiple times by a board member who does not receive an 80% score and wants to try again during the annual assessment period.

Recognition: A board member may be nominated for the Recognition Award by his or her own school board by a majority vote of the board. This award replaces the previous Outstanding Board Member Award and honors board members most dedicated to the craft of being a model board member.

THE CENTRAL REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lee Schreiner

South-Western City, OSBA immediate past president

Kevin Archer

Teays Valley Local (Pickaway), president

Leslie Schneider

Marion City, president-elect

Renda M. Cline

Mansfield City, immediate past president

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

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

Kevin W. Butler, Canal Winchester Local (Franklin)

Amy Eyman, Lancaster City

Dr. Robert Haas, Tri-Rivers Career Center

David Harper, Jefferson Local (Madison) and Tolles CTC

Stu Harris, Dublin City

Paul Wayne Hinkle, Highland Local (Morrow)

Dennis E. Long, Galion City and Pioneer CTC

Brian Luke, Marysville EV

Jane McGinty, Madison Local (Richland)

Ted M. McKinniss, Marion City and
Tri-Rivers Career Center

Richard McLarnan, Knox County ESC and
Knox County Career Center

Dr. Tina D. Pierce, Columbus City

Robert Ragland, South-Western City

Ray Storts, Union Scioto Local (Ross)

Charlie Wilson, Worthington City

Roger Zeune, Southwest Licking Local (Licking)

Kim Miller-Smith, regional manager

ALL-OHIO SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER NEW PROCEDURE

Each November five Ohio school board members, one from each region, takes center stage at the OSBA Capital Conference to receive the Ohio School Boards Association's most prestigious honor, the All-Ohio School Board Award.

To be considered for the award, a board member must have obtained Master Board Member status. Board members who have earned Master Board Member status under the previous rules (300 Award of Achievement credits earned over a four- year period) or via the new STAR Award program are eligible for the All-Ohio School Board. There is no longer an application process.

Each region will appoint a review committee of school board members responsible for selecting its All-Ohio winner from the pool of Master Board Members. The panel will look for board members who are concerned for the education and welfare of children, make the necessary time commitments to board work, invest in their own ongoing professional development, practice good decision-making, work with their fellow board members as a team and follow OSBA's code of ethics.



Ohio School Boards Association
8050 N. High Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235-6481

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS, OH
PERMIT NO. 8139

CENTRAL REGION BOARD CANDIDATE WORKSHOP

Running for a school board may sound easy. But understanding the board's role, as well as the legal and ethical frameworks for running a campaign and managing the work once elected, often is misunderstood. This workshop will help guide you through the process answer questions you might have. Register at

<https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events/view/ce-board-candidate-workshop-3>

Date: Sat., Sept. 18
Time: 9 a.m. to noon
Location: OSBA Office – 8050 N. High St.
Columbus, OH 43235

#ZoomFor2

What can you say in 2 minutes?

Every Tuesday, OSBA's Dr. **Kathy McFarland** and **Mark E. Bobo** team up with an industry expert to share pertinent information in two minutes or less.

The social media cast has tackled a wide spectrum of educational issues such as mental health, self-assessment, public discourse, internet access, relief and recovery after the pandemic, educational equity, bus transportation, the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show, STEM, Ruling Our Experience (ROX) and many others.

View the weekly series on all OSBA social media platforms - @OHSchoolboards and [facebook.com/OHSchoolBoards](https://www.facebook.com/OHSchoolBoards)