



Serving the public school leadership team

Ohio educator Kurt Russell named national teacher of the year

Kurt Russell, a history teacher at **Oberlin City**'s Oberlin High School, has been named the 2022 National Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The program celebrates exceptional teachers and enables them to take part in policy discussions at the state and national levels. In a statement honoring Russell, CCSSO Chief Executive Officer **Carissa Moffat Miller** said, "Kurt's extensive career shows the power of educators to shape the lives of students from the classroom to extracurricular activities to the basketball court." A 25-year veteran of the classroom, Russell teaches multiple courses, serves as an adviser for the Black Student Union and is head coach for the school's varsity basketball team. Inspired to become a teacher when he encountered his first Black male teacher, Russell plans to advocate for classrooms to better reflect the students within them.

Governor names new members to State Board of Education

On April 6, Gov. **Mike DeWine** appointed **Melissa Hand Bedell** and **Sue E. Hackett** to fill two at-large vacancies on the State Board of Education. Bedell, a Columbus resident, previously practiced law for the Franklin County Public Defender's Office. Hackett, who resides in London, worked extensively in the health care field as a nurse and administrator before her retirement.

Board members: OSBA seeks nominations for regional committees

OSBA is accepting applications for 2023 regional seats. Volunteering for a committee provides an opportunity to enhance interaction with board members from other districts and represent your district at regional and state events. School board members interested in serving on the Arrangements and Hospitality Team, Credentials Committee, Legislative Platform Committee, Regional Executive Committees and Rules Committee are encouraged to apply. If you are currently serving on a committee and would like to continue serving in 2023, you must submit an application. For more information, visit http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/42939. That webpage also has information on available committee positions, descriptions of each committee's functions and the time commitment. The deadline to apply is June 30.

Ohio School Safety Summit set for early August

The Ohio School Safety Center will host the 2022 Ohio School Safety Summit Aug. 2-4 in Columbus. The free event will provide an opportunity for school safety, public safety and mental health professionals and others to share best practices, training and resources with schools and community leaders. For more information and to register, visit http://ohioschoolsafetycenter.ohio.gov.

May 9, 2022Volume 54 Issue 9

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Route workshop information to:

- Administrators
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Counselors
- ☐ Transportation supervisors
- ☐ Student services professionals

SE region seeks to honor individuals, district programs

The OSBA Southeast Region is accepting nominations for individuals and school programs to be recognized at the region's annual fall conference on Sept. 29. Honorees include students, a school volunteer, a community leader and district staff as well as school programs. Details and nomination forms are posted at www.ohioschoolboards.org/ **se-region**; the nomination deadline is June 30. For more information, contact Southeast Regional Manager Paul D. Mock at pmock@ohioschoolboards.org.

OSBA offering a reduced rate for your summer training

OSBA is offering its members discounts on facilitated training opportunities this summer. Retreats and customized workshops occurring between June 1 and Aug. 15 will be

Bellefontaine board honors Korean War veteran

When **Chester Clayton Phelps**' brother was drafted into World War II in 1945, Phelps had to leave school and help his father run the family farm.

The U.S. Army then drafted Phelps in 1952 to serve in Korea. Seventy-years later, Phelps, at age 89, received an honorary diploma from the **Bellefontaine City** Board of Education.

"To see the pride he had in receiving it was a very special moment, and we're very glad we were able to do that for him," Superintendent **Brad Hall** told a local radio station.

Ohio law allows public school districts to confer a high school diploma to veterans who have served in any branch of the armed services between Sept. 16, 1940, and the end of the Vietnam War.

Source: peakofohio.com

discounted up to \$200 for a full-day workshop, while half-day sessions will receive a \$100 discount. Call (614) 540-4000 to schedule your training.

Wellness toolkit addresses school health challenges

The Ohio departments of

Education; Mental Health and Addiction Services: and Public Safety created a School Wellness Toolkit in response to heightened school wellness needs that educators, school administrators, behavioral health providers and other stakeholders have identified. The toolkit supplies practical resources and tools to help schools and families respond to the mental and behavioral health challenges amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Access the toolkit at http://links.ohioschoolboards. org/30396.



Briefcase

Ohio School Boards Association 8050 North High Street, Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43235-6481 (614) 540-4000 ● (800) 589-OSBA fax: (614) 540-4100 ● www.ohioschoolboards.org

OSBA President: Robert M. Heard Sr., Cleveland Municipal OSBA Chief Executive Officer: Richard C. Lewis, CAE

Editor: **Angela Penquite**, deputy director of communication services Managing editor, layout and design: **Katy Farson**, communication design manager Assistant editor: **Scott Gerfen**, senior communication manager

A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$150 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email. For more information, contact Susie Cinadr at the address or fax number above or email scinadr@ohioschoolboards.org. Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association. Postage paid at Columbus, Ohio. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Briefcase, Attn.: Data Operations Center, Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235-6481.

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OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.

OSBA online

www.ohioschoolboards.org

Need just the right gift to recognize your district's leaders and staff at the end of the school year? Then visit the online OSBA Store, which offers customized plaques and awards that are perfect for honoring people in your district. View the selection at www. ohioschoolboards.org/catalog.



BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

OSBA executive searches

Superintendent

District Deadline Contact

Wenston Local (Geauga)
 May 13
 OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000
 Pleasant Local (Marion)
 May 16
 OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000

Treasurer

District Deadline Contact

① Maple Heights City TBD OSBA Search Services, (614) 540-4000



Other searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Woodmore Local (Sandusky)	May 20	Brooke Moore, personnel coordinator,
			North Point ESC, (419) 627-3908
Treasurer	New Riegel Local (Seneca)	May 20	www.newriegelschools.org/
			OurDistrict.aspx

National searches

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Superintendent	Snook, Texas	May 11	Dr. Marian Strauss, executive search services, senior consultant, Texas Association of School Boards, (800) 580-8272
Superintendent	Columbia, N.C.	May 16	Jim O'Rourke , assistant legal counsel for superintendent searches, North Carolina School Boards Association, (919) 747-9711
Superintendent	Mooresville, N.C.	May 23	Jim O'Rourke, assistant legal counsel for superintendent searches, North Carolina School Boards Association, (919) 747-9711
Superintendent	Alma Center, Wis.	TBD	Cheryl Gullicksrud, search services consultant, Wisconsin Association of School Boards, (715) 530-0121

Editor's note

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

Board changes

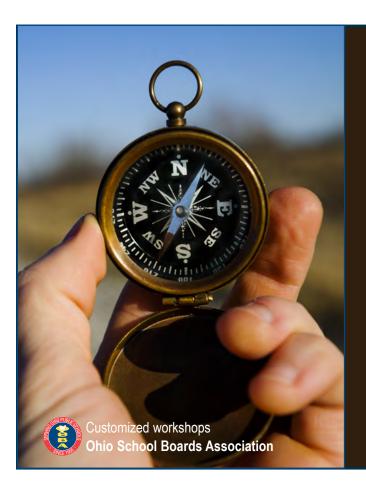
Alliance City appointed Suzie Dennis to the board effective immediately. She replaced Sally K. Ailes, who passed away in March. ••• Goshen Local (Clermont) Board of Education member John Gray announced his resignation effective April 24. ••• Holgate Local (Henry) appointed Kaitlin Faber to the board effective immediately. She replaced Liza Gerken-Schuller, who resigned due to her appointment as a Napoleon Municipal Court judge. ••• Madison-Plains Local (Madison) Board of Education member Kelly I. Cooley announced her resignation effective April 19. ••• Warren County ESC appointed Chad Bridgman to the board effective April 19. He replaced Jimmy Allen, who passed away.

Administrative changes

Superintendents

Amherst EV Superintendent Steven A. Sayers announced his resignation effective Dec. 31. ••• Clyde-Green Springs EV hired Lucas Messer as superintendent effective June 30. He will replace Interim Superintendent Patrick D. Adkins. Messer is currently a middle school assistant principal at Port Clinton City. ••• Lowellville Local (Mahoning) hired Christine Sawicki as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Dr. Eugene Thomas, who announced his resignation effective July 31. Sawicki currently is the chief academic advisor at Youngstown City. ••• Maysville Local (Muskingum) hired Brian Blum as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dr. Ruth Ellen Zitnik, who announced her retirement last year. Blum is currently superintendent at Van Buren Local (Hancock). ••• Noble Local (Noble) hired Jerry Todd Herman as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Dan Leffingwell, who is resigning effective July 31 to take the executive director of special products and student services position at East Central Ohio ESC. Herman currently is superintendent at Conotton Valley Union Local (Harrison). ••• Ridgedale Local (Marion)

Continued on page 5



Could your board benefit from the insight and direction of a governance expert?

OSBA's Division of Board and Management Services provides one-on-one consulting workshops that can help your team work through common governance issues such as:

- setting vision-focused goals and priorities;
- strengthening board and superintendent relations during periods of leadership transition;
- developing effective deliberation, meetings and communication;
- superintendent evaluation and board self-evaluation.

Call us at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA. We'll connect you with a consultant who will work with your board to design strategies and services that best meet your needs.

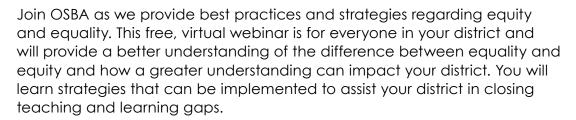
JOIN OSBA FOR THIS FREE WEBINAR

EQUITY IN EDUCATION EQUALITY versus EQUITY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 • 4:30 P.M.-7 P.M.

Calling all teachers, counselors, diversity and equity professionals, and school leadership personnel:

Learn the difference between equality and equity and how a greater understanding can impact your district.









4:30 p.m.	Welco	ome to	the room
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Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive, OSBA

4:40 p.m. Opening remarks

Robert M. Heard Sr., OSBA president; board member, Cleveland Municipal; and Rick Lewis, chief executive officer, OSBA

4:50 p.m. Introduction of opening speaker

Renee Coll, board member, East Muskingum Local (Muskingum)

4:55 p.m. What's the difference between equality and equity and why does it matter?

Dr. Jamie Lusher, deputy superintendent, South-Western City

5:20 p.m. Break

5:25 p.m. Introduction of keynote speaker

Stacie Belfrom, board member, Kings Local (Warren)

5:30 p.m. Beyond equality, towards equity: Guiding the practice of instruction to meet

the needs of unserved, underserved and marginalized learners

Dr. Almitra L. Berry, chief executive officer, A L Berry Consulting Inc.

6:30 p.m. Questions

Sara C. Clark, chief legal counsel, OSBA

6:50 p.m. Closing remarks

Dr. Kathy McFarland

7 p.m. Adjourn



Administrator compensation challenges

Tuesday, May 17 • 8:30 a.m.-9 a.m. • Virtual • Cost: Free

Jeff Rahmberg, partner at Rahmberg, Stover & Associates, reviews current issues school boards are facing based upon the firm's active engagements with Ohio school districts.

Key takeaways:

- Learn how to stay competitive in the market.
- Cover how to build effective salary schedules.
- Discuss the pros and cons of performance-based pay.

To register, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops



UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP

Reasonable Suspicion Training





Reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol training is the responsibility of all employers who manage drivers with commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) to ensure their staff is trained. OSBA's training is tailored specifically to school district needs. Completion of this course meets the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration U.S. Department of Transportation requirements. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion. Best practice is that each district have at least two individuals on staff trained.

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops



The 45th annual Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys

School Attorney Workshop

Friday, June 10 • 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m. • OSBA office, Columbus and Virtual • Cost: \$175

Hear from experienced education lawyers and discuss the latest developing legal issues in schools at the annual OCSBA School Attorney Workshop. Earn up to 5.5 CLEs (see below for more information).

Agenda

8:30 a.m. Breakfast 8:45 a.m. Welcome

9 a.m. Title IX: The thorniest issues and how to resolve them

Walk through some of the most difficult issues now arising under the statute's complex — and possibly soon to change — sexual harassment regulations. Review issues such as jurisdictional determinations at intake, consolidations of cases, best practices for informal resolution, making tough relevancy judgment calls, issuing discipline and more.

Kate Davis, senior attorney, and Katy Osborn, attorney, Bricker & Eckler LLP, Dayton

10 a.m. Avoiding controversy with the improper use of public funds

Representatives from the state auditor's office provide an overview of recent hot topics, including a review of their guidance on school levy limitations, common audit issues and trending findings for recovery.

Robert Hinkle, chief deputy auditor, and Kelly M. Berger-Davis, coordinator, Ohio Auditor of State's Office

11 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. Arbitrating cases and controversies

A panel of experienced arbitrators discuss the current dispute resolution landscape, share suggested best practices for hosting an efficient and effective arbitration hearing and offer their personal peccadilloes. *Ronald Talarico, arbitrator, Pittsburgh; and Dan Zeiser, arbitrator, Cleveland*

12:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Curriculum and controversy

This session will review Ohio's current framework for adopting and developing curricula and recent legislative efforts to limit the promotion of "divisive concepts" in schools. Get practical suggestions for addressing requests to review or remove instructional materials, opt out of specific lessons or discussions, and more. Derek Towster, partner, Scott Scriven LLP

2:15 p.m. Managing conflicts at the board meeting

Unmanaged conflict can hijack a board agenda and derail an entire board meeting. This session will review a board's options and obligations when conflicts or controversies come to the school board meeting, as well as the ethical, professional or personal dilemmas that can surface for the attorneys who represent boards embroiled in conflict or controversy.

Megan E. Greulich, partner, Walter Haverfield LLP, Columbus; Hollie F. Reedy, attorney of counsel, Ennis Britton Co. LPA, Columbus; and Sara C. Clark, chief legal counsel, OSBA

3:45 p.m. OCSBA annual business meeting

4 p.m. Adjourn

This program has been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 5.50 total CLE hours, with 1.5 hours of attorney professional conduct instruction.

This workshop is open to OCSBA members, school board members and in-house counsel of school districts that are members of OSBA. Unauthorized audio recording or videotaping of any session is strictly prohibited.

To register

Visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Register at www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops

OSBA members can access member-only information, including workshop registration, by logging in to the OSBA website.

How to log in

Click on "Log in to your account" on top right of the website. Log in using your email address on file and your password. Click "Reset your password" if needed.

If it says "We could not find your email address," or if this is your first time logging in to the site, click "Create new account." At the username prompt, enter your email address, select your affiliation and school district, and click "Submit." Create a password and add your job title on the next screen. An email with a link to activate your account will be sent to you. Click on the link to activate your account, and you will be directed to a home screen.





The OSBA Capital Conference Student Achievement Fair highlights outstanding student performance groups and fresh, innovative initiatives from school districts across the state.

Student Achievement Fair performing groups

OSBA will choose one performing group from each of the association's five regions to perform during the Student Achievement Fair. Past performances have included cheerleaders, choirs, bands, orchestras and percussion ensembles. Each group will perform for 20 minutes. The nomination deadline is **May 18**.

Contact **Amanda Husmann** (ahusmann@ohioschoolboards.org) or **Teri Morgan** (tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org) at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA with any questions.

Visit http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations to nominate a student performing group today!

Bulletin Board, continued from page 4 -

hired Dr. Erika Bower as superintendent effective Aug. 1. She will replace Robert A. Britton, who is retiring. Bower currently is chief academic officer at North Union Local (Union). ••• Wynford Local (Crawford) hired Forrest Trisler as superintendent effective Aug. 1. He will replace Fred Fox, who announced his retirement effective July 31. Trisler currently is a high school principal at Tiffin City.

Treasurers

Fairfield Local (Highland) hired Deborah L. Lawwell as treasurer effective June 1. She will replace Mike Morrow, who resigned in March to take the treasurer position at Kings Local (Warren). Lawwell currently is treasurer at Chillicothe City. ••• New Riegel Local (Seneca) Treasurer Jane Schalk announced her retirement effective Dec. 1.

Sympathies

Former Beaver Local (Columbiana) Assistant Treasurer Betty Ann Ayers died April 19. She was 77. ••• Former Orange City Board of Education member Edwin Z. Singer died April 12. He was 91.



Tuesday, May 24 ● 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. • Virtual • Cost: Free

OSBA Town Halls review relevant and timely topics pertinent to public school leaders. Join us for an overview of what has been going on in public education.

To register, visit www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops



INFORMATION

by Angela Penquite, deputy director of communication services

Nominations are open to serve on OSBA regional committees

Member participation on OSBA's regional and state committees is vital to the association's work. School board members benefit greatly when they volunteer to serve on an OSBA committee. It is a great way to get to know your fellow board members, network and collaborate while supporting your association.

Committees work best when OSBA's diverse members provide

their unique perspective. Whether you're in your first year of board service or your 30th, consider serving on an OSBA committee to increase your interaction with school board members from other districts and represent your fellow board members and school district at region and state events and meetings.

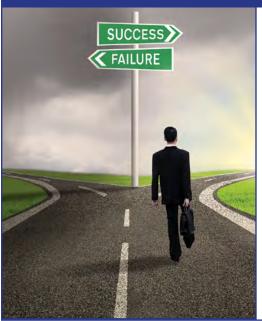
Currently, OSBA is accepting applications for the following 2023 regional and state committees:

- region executive committee members;
- regional executive committee president elect;
- regional appointments to the OSBA Board of Trustees;
- the Legislative Platform Committee;
- the Rules Committee;
- the Credentials Committee.

 The time commitment for the committees vary. You can view a

 Continued on page 7

Start employees on the path to success with an employee handbook



Many districts have employee handbooks, but they may be outdated or incomplete. OSBA can help your district create a concise and accurate handbook that is useful for employers and employees.

A handbook:

- provides clear notice of expectations to employees;
- is a handy reference for answering employees' questions and covering basic conditions of employment;
- supports growth and development;
- supports disciplinary actions when guidelines are not followed;
- is a reference tool for nonunion employees.

For more information, contact OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

East Knox Local students champion recycling programs

Students at **East Knox Local**'s **(Knox)** East Knox Elementary School have launched a recycling program with the help of the Knox County Recycling and Litter Prevention program.

A group of fifth- and sixthgraders came to program manager Matt Baugher with an idea to recycle candy wrappers after Halloween, he told a local newspaper.

"The wrappers go to a company that has a way of washing and

condensing the wrappers to make pet waste bags," Baugher said. "The waste bags end up in dog parks and humane societies."

Four fifth-graders also started a program to recycle regular paper items at the school.

"Basically, the students take turns," Baugher said. "They collect the paper and dump it into a big container. It's student led. They came up with the idea."

Fifth-grader **Ellie Clark** said, "We saw trash cans overflowing in

the cafeteria, and we wanted to help reduce waste."

Sixth-grader **Hayden Garman** wants to take the program to the junior-senior high school next year.

Baugher talked to more than 200 students at East Knox Elementary School about the benefits of recycling to the environment.

"I was really impressed with what they were able to bring to the table," said Baugher, who hoped to talk to younger students, too.

Source: Mount Vernon News

Information, continued from page 6

chart at www.ohioschoolboards. org/call-committee-nominations that outlines the length of the committee's term, number of yearly meetings and whether it is an appointed or elected position. The webpage also includes details on the committees' roles, composition and where and when they meet.

Any school board member interested in serving on a committee is encouraged to apply for various elected offices and appointed committees within the association. To learn more about a committee, review the descriptions on the webpage listed above or contact your regional manager.

The contact information for regional managers is listed at www.ohioschoolboards.org/region-managers.

If you currently serve on a 2022 committee that is appointed by the regions and would like to continue serving in 2023, you *must* submit an application. Current region executive committee members also should complete this form if they are interested in serving on any committees or if their term on the region executive committee expires in 2022 and they want to run again.

You can download the application at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/25715.

Applications are returned to OSBA Senior Membership Engagement Consultant **Mark E.Bobo**, then regional nominating committees review them and develop slates of candidates for the elected offices to be voted upon at the regions' fall conferences. Board members who aren't chosen as candidates may be considered for other committee appointments near the end of the year.

The deadline to apply is June 30. Completed forms should be emailed to Bobo at nominations@ ohioschoolboards.org or mailed to Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus, Ohio, 43235.

Ohio School Boards Association

8050 North High Street, Suite 100 Columbus OH 43235-6481

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May 11	2022 Equity in Education: Equality versus	30	2021-22 school year ends — RC 3313.62; end of third ADM reporting period — RC 3317.03(A).	31	3517.10(A)(4). Last day for board of education to adopt a plan to require students to access and
15	EquityWebinar OSBA Northwest Region Executive				complete online classroom lessons ("blizzard
	Committee meetingToledo	July :			bags") in order to make up hours for which
16	Last day for certain board members and all	1	2022-23 school year begins — RC 3313.62;		it is necessary to close schools — RC
	administrators to file financial disclosure		last day for board to notify teaching and		3313.482(A)(1).
	forms with the Ohio Ethics Commission —		nonteaching employees of succeeding year		
	RC 102.02(A)(4)(a).		salaries — RC 3319.082, 3319.12; board		st 2022
17	Coffee Chat: Administrator		may begin to adopt appropriation measure,	1	Personnel/Board Impact
0.4	Compensation Challenges Virtual		which may be temporary $-RC$ 5705.38(B);		webinar Virtual
24	Town HallVirtual		treasurer must certify available revenue in	1	Last day to submit certification for
I	2022		funds to county auditor $-RC 5705.36(A)$		November income tax levy to Ohio
		_	(1).		Department of Taxation — RC 5748.02(A)
1	Last day to take action to nonrenew	5	Last day for voter registration for August		(100 days prior to election); last day to file
	contracts of administrators other than		election — RC 3503.01, 3503.19(A) (30		statistical report with Ohio Department of
	superintendent and treasurer — RC	10	days prior to election).	2	Education — RC 3319.33.
	3319.02(C); last day to take action on and	10	Last day for termination of teaching contract by a teacher without consent of the board of	2	Special Election Day — RC 3501.01 (first
	give written notice of intent not to reemploy teachers — RC 3319.11(D); last day to take		education — RC 3319.15.	3	Tuesday after the first Monday). Reasonable Suspicion
	action on and give written notice of intent	15	OSBA Executive Committee	3	Reasonable Suspicion TrainingColumbus
	not to reemploy nonteaching employees	15	meetingColumbus	3	OSBA Central Region Executive
	(Note: this requirement does not apply	16	OSBA Board of Trustees	3	Committee meetingColumbus
	to municipal school district employees as	10	meetingColumbus	3	OSBA Northeast Region
	defined in RC 3311.71) — RC 4141.29(I)(1)	15	Last day to adopt school library district tax		Executive Committee
	(f).		budget on behalf of a library district — RC		meetingWadsworth and Virtual
8	Reasonable Suspicion		5705.28(B)(1).	5	Attendance, Tuition and Custody Law
	TrainingVirtual	29	Semiannual campaign finance reports must		WorkshopWesterville
10	OCSBA School Attorney		be filed by certain candidates (by 4 p.m.)		•
	WorkshopColumbus and Virtual		detailing contributions and expenditures		
28	Town HallVirtual		made through June 30, 2022 - RC		
			-		