

# BRIEF CASE

THE OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Serving the public school leadership team



## Ohio students invited to enter competition honoring work of MLK

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission recently announced its annual statewide Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Art, Writing & Multimedia Contest. The contest is intended to encourage students to reflect upon King's life, philosophy and impact on the Civil Rights movement and present day America. It is meant to challenge students to think about how civil rights and diversity affect their lives and how they can continue King's work in their own way. All Ohio students in grades six through 12 are invited to enter; each student may submit one entry. Entries may be in the form of multimedia presentations, artwork or essays and must be accompanied by an official entry form. For more information and entry forms for each category, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/48153>. The submission deadline is Dec. 20.

## ODE seeks nominations to honor military-friendly schools

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is accepting nominations through Dec. 15 for the Purple Star Award for military-friendly schools. The award honors learning communities that show a major commitment to serving students and families connected to the nation's armed forces. A school will be honored with the Purple Star Award if it completes all the required activities, plus one optional activity. Awardees receive a special recognition to display in their buildings. More program details, including how to apply, are available on the Purple Star webpage at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/86196>. The Purple Star Advisory Board, made up of the Ohio departments of Education, Higher Education, Veterans Services and Adjutant General, helps decide a school's eligibility for the award.

## CDF provides annual county profiles on kids' health, safety, education

The Children's Defense Fund-Ohio 2021 KIDS COUNT County Profiles study reviews child well-being across five different areas: health care; safety; homes and communities; finance; and education. These profiles offer a comprehensive look at state, county and school district data and give insights into ways to use recovery funds to address gaping racial and economic divides and stabilize communities as they emerge from the public health crisis, the nonprofit organization said in a press release. The profiles are posted at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/19664>.

## OSBA Southeast Region launches new education grant program

The OSBA Southeast Region has kicked off the Southeast Region OSBA Education Book Grant to be presented to high school seniors in the region's OSBA member districts. Its purpose is to inspire and encourage students interested in teaching or working with children by supporting those students' attendance at an accredited

**Nov. 8, 2021**

Volume 53 Issue 21

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*Go digital and get the OSBA Briefcase newsletter free; OSBA continues deep discount on SMN subscription; OSBA online*

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### Route workshop information to:

- ☐ Administrative professionals
- ☐ Administrators
- ☐ Communications staff
- ☐ Principals
- ☐ Transportation supervisors

Ohio college or university, career-technical school or technical college. The award has been made possible by donations from board members in the region and funds raised through region workshops and other activities. The grant will be awarded annually, and recipients and their parents will be guests at one of the region's two annual spring conferences. The application deadline is Dec. 1. For more information, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/50203>.

### **Go digital and get the OSBA Briefcase newsletter free**

Districts can get the OSBA Briefcase newsletter free if *all* subscribers sign up to receive it electronically. If anyone in the district does not choose the electronic option, the district rate of \$145 for up to 15 subscribers applies. Please note your district's preference on the 2022 OSBA membership invoice, which will be

### **Paulding EV students paint pumpkins for nursing homes**

Students in **Paulding EV's** Paulding High School greenhouse class painted pumpkins to share with residents in local nursing homes.

In past years, students have delivered fruit bags and even provided a petting zoo for nursing home residents. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has restricted visits.

Students decided to spread some joy by painting pumpkins, which featured everything from mummies to monsters. The Paulding chapter of the National FFA Organization painted more than 25 pumpkins. "We understand that the times are still different this year, but we are committed to serving our community and have continued to follow the FFA motto: Living to serve," FFA chapter leaders told a local newspaper.

Source: The Crescent-News

sent at the end of November.

### **OSBA continues deep discount on SMN subscription**

OSBA is again offering its School Management News (SMN) newsletter at a 25% discount to member districts in which *all* subscribers choose to receive it

electronically. The electronic subscription rate is \$150 annually for up to 15 subscribers; the paper subscription is \$200. Please indicate which option your district prefers on the 2022 OSBA membership invoice. SMN is a monthly newsletter providing districts the latest news affecting district operations. Topics include labor relations, human resources, business, finances, labor contract settlements, insurance, arbitration awards and more.

### **OSBA online**

● [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

Were there workshops at the OSBA Capital Conference that you were interested in but unable to attend? Is there information from sessions that you did attend and would like to share with colleagues in your district? Then visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/handouts>, where you'll find handouts from most of the conference workshops.



## **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](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

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Managing editor, layout and design: **Katy Farson**, communication design manager

Assistant editor: **Scott Gerfen**, communication manager

*A one-year subscription to Briefcase is \$145 for up to 15 subscribers. Briefcase also is available electronically by email or by fax. For more information, contact Susie Cinadr at the address or fax number above or email [scinadr@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:scinadr@ohioschoolboards.org). Briefcase is published semimonthly by the Ohio School Boards Association.*

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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.



# BULLETIN BOARD

compiled by Melanie Price, senior administrative assistant of communication services

## Other searches

| Position                               | Location         | Deadline | Contact   |
|--|------------------|----------|---|
| Treasurer                              | Clark County ESC | Nov. 12  | <b>Daniel E. Bennett</b> , superintendent,<br>Clark County ESC,<br>dan.bennett@clarkesc.org |
| Executive director of<br>human capital | Sylvania City    | Nov. 12  | <b>Gwen Clark</b> , human resource assistant,<br>Sylvania City, (419) 824-8555              |
| Director of Transportation             | Sylvania City    | Nov. 19  | <b>Gwen Clark</b> , human resource assistant,<br>Sylvania City, (419) 824-8555              |

## National searches

| Position       | Location      | Deadline | Contact   |
|----------------|---------------|----------|---|
| Superintendent | Mathis, Texas | Dec. 8   | <b>Dr. Marian Strauss</b> , senior consultant,<br>Texas Association of School Boards,<br>(800) 580-8272 |

## Board changes

Canal Winchester Local (Franklin) appointed **Steve Donahue** to the board effective Oct. 18. He replaced **Michael A. Yonnotti**, who resigned in September. ●●● Holgate Local (Henry) Board of Education member **Adam Eis** announced his resignation effective Oct. 24.

## Administrative changes

### Treasurers

**Greenon Local (Clark)** hired **Garth Whitaker** as treasurer effective Nov. 1. He replaced **Brad McKee**, who resigned in August. Whitaker previously was assistant treasurer at **Xenia Community City**. ●●● **Northwestern Local (Clark)** hired **Jennifer R. Ashbaugh** as treasurer effective Jan. 1. She will replace **Julie L. Gibson**, who is retiring. Ashbaugh currently is treasurer at **Northridge Local (Montgomery)**. ●●● **South Range Local (Mahoning)** Treasurer **James Phillips** announced his retirement effective Dec. 31.

### Editor's note

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

## Sympathies

Former Hopewell-Loudon Local (Seneca) Board of Education member **Charles A. "Chuck" Brendle** died Oct. 15. He was 68. ●●● Former Maplewood Local (Trumbull) Board of Education member **Dr. Charles Thomas "Chuck" Moxley** died Sept. 21. He was 61. ●●● **Lucy Jane Wheeler Bates**, former **Noble Local (Noble)** board of education member and current **Mid-East Career and Technology Centers** board member, died Oct. 11. She was 87. ●●● Former **North Canton City** Board of Education member **Susie Hertler VanVranken** died Oct 10. She was 65. ●●● Former **Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City** Board of Education member **Jack L. McGuffin** died Oct. 9. He was 81. ●●● Former **Southwest Local (Hamilton)** Board of Education member **Leo H. Rolfes Jr.** died Oct. 11. He was 78.



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**performance**  
with the Achiever

## Recruit and retain the best with the Achiever Leadership Assessment.

The Achiever measures cognitive skills and personality dimensions, providing relevant data to enable you to make the right leadership decisions for your district. Key benefits include:

- **maximizing** potential;
- **streamlining** the hiring process;
- **enhancing** decision-making.



**Ohio School  
Boards Association**

Learn more at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/achiever](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/achiever) or contact **Teri Morgan** at (614) 540-4000 • (800) 589-OSBA • [tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org)

## NEW WEBINAR:



# SMART ENERGY = SMART MONEY!

**Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021 • 11 a.m.–noon • Virtual • Cost: \$60**

The Ohio Schools Council Power4Schools program has grown to be Ohio's largest energy purchasing consortium by earning the trust of its members. As districts face budget cuts, some are looking for ways to stabilize the total amount of their energy costs while others want to explore how to reduce costs and learn more about the benefits of renewable options. This webinar will help you understand more about energy sources and how to reduce your energy costs.

*Speakers: **Barb Delroso**, utility program manager, Power4Schools; **Tim Payne**, senior business development manager, Engie Resources; and **Todd Main**, director, Econergy*

**To register**

Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/events](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/events)

***Power4Schools is an OSBA endorsed program.***

# OSBA Master of Transportation Administration (MTA) Program

Don't miss the 2021-22 MTA program. This series of workshops will help those involved in student transportation better understand and perform day-to-day operations.

These half-day workshops — offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — include a working lunch and time for questions. Each class is \$100, or you can purchase an MTA subscription for the workshop series. Contact **Doug Palmer**, OSBA transportation consultant, for subscription information. All workshops will be offered virtually and in-person at the OSBA office, 8050 N. High St., Columbus, 43235. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/transportation-training-programs) to learn about the MTA certification program.



## Workshop dates and descriptions

### **Dec. 1 — Transportation rules and regulations**

This course is essential for new transportation administrators and any school administrator involved with transportation services. The rules and regulations — revised and administrative codes — that govern student transportation will be reviewed. The local policy contains the standards to which you are held and can be a liability when your department fails to meet them. This course is an annual part of MTA and is different each year to focus on areas that are particularly sensitive in the current environment.

### **Feb. 2 — Federal regulations, guidance and agencies**

School transportation is not only governed by local rules but also is subject to a significant number of federal rules and regulations. We will look at the external impacts on transportation and consider the federal alphabet soup: including FMCSA, NHTSA, NTSB, TSB and ODI. Part of this session will look at various federal studies that continue to be landmarks in the student transportation industry.

### **March 2 — Laws, rules and policy — what, how and why**

What is the difference between revised code, administrative code and department policy? Are they all mandates that must be followed, or are they just best practice that should be followed? What happens when they conflict? We will look at the technical aspects of various regulatory controls and the process that is invoked in moving an idea for change into policy, rule or revised code. Is this “government 101”? Perhaps, but it is also important for you to understand in the event you want to help influence the future.

### **April 6 — Hot topics — safety, trends and statistics**

This final session of the year will look at hot topics in the school transportation industry. As part of that review, we will look at the never-ending discussion on passenger restraints, review crash studies completed by the National Transportation Safety Board, look at Ohio school bus accident statistics and leave the door open for attendees to bring up topics that are important in their districts. While we explore these hot topics, an underlying focus is also on how to identify the learning points in each of these areas and to share them with the staff that delivers our front-line transportation services.

Register by contacting **Doug Palmer** at (614) 635-0820, (800) 589-OSBA or [mta@ohioschoolboards.org](mailto:mta@ohioschoolboards.org). You also can purchase a subscription plan for all the workshops in this series; contact Palmer for more information.



# SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION



*Recognize accomplishments with an OSBA customized plaque or award*

When words are not enough, a personalized gift might be the answer. OSBA's customized plaques and awards add more meaning to your expression of thanks or welcome aboard. These classy, elegant items appropriately express your appreciation to those who serve the cause of quality public education, and are an excellent way to welcome new members and staff.

Available in a variety of styles and sizes, these popular plaques and awards arrive ready for presentation.



**A. Horizontal plaque — \$72**

8" x 6" walnut plaque with black steel plate with silver lasered lettering.

Plate size: 6.5" x 4.5"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**B. Mahogany box — \$130**

8" x 6" x 2" mahogany box with full-color tile plate.

Plate size: 6" x 4"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**C. Gavel and block — \$72**

10" gavel and 4.25" walnut block with inscribed plate.

Plate size: 4.5" x .875"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**D. Round-top desk clock — \$75**

4.75" x 7.5" walnut base with 3" diameter battery-operated clock with inscribed plate.

Plate size: 3.5" x 2.25"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**E. Rectangle desk clock — \$82**

6.5" x 5" Stuart Austin battery-operated clock. Roman numeral face with rosewood base.

Plate size: 3.75" x 1.5"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**F. State of Ohio plaque — \$52**

7" x 9" mahogany plaque with inscribed gold metal plate.

Plate size: 4.5" x 5"



**G. Color desk nameplate — \$42**  
10.5" x 3" walnut wedge with personalized etched plate.  
Plate size: 10" x 1.75"



**H. Desk nameplate — \$45**  
10.5" x 3" walnut wedge with personalized black steel plate with gold lasered lettering.  
Plate size: 10" x 1.75"



**I. Jade crystal book — \$75**  
7.875" x 5.875" x 0.75" jade crystal book with two locations for etching. Book weighs four pounds.

*May be customized with your logo\**



**J. Jade crystal plaque — \$48**  
9" tall etched jade crystal plaque on piano wood base.  
Base: 9" x 4"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**K. Round crystal plaque — \$55**  
5" tall etched beveled-edge jade crystal plaque with glass base.  
Base: 4" x 2.5"

*May be customized with your logo\**



**L. Curved glass plaque — \$60**  
4.5" tall bevel-etched glass plaque with a glass base.  
Base: 6" x 2"

*May be customized with your logo\**

Order now from OSBA's variety of high-quality styles and designs. Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/store](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/store) to place your order online or fax the form on the back of this brochure to (614) 540-3299. Please allow two to four weeks for delivery of customized awards. For quick orders, try OSBA's State of Ohio plaque, which will arrive in 10 days or less.

\*Items A, B, C, D, E, I, J, K and L can be customized with your school district's logo for a one-time setup fee of \$35.

Prices valid through Nov. 1, 2021.

# Order form (duplicate form as needed)

| Item                    | Quantity | Price each | Total |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|-------|
| A. Horizontal plaque    | _____    | \$72       | _____ |
| B. Mahogany box         | _____    | \$130      | _____ |
| C. Gavel and block      | _____    | \$72       | _____ |
| D. Round-top desk clock | _____    | \$75       | _____ |
| E. Rectangle desk clock | _____    | \$82       | _____ |
| F. State of Ohio plaque | _____    | \$52       | _____ |
| G. Color desk nameplate | _____    | \$42       | _____ |
| H. Desk nameplate       | _____    | \$45       | _____ |
| I. Jade crystal book    | _____    | \$75       | _____ |
| J. Jade crystal plaque  | _____    | \$48       | _____ |
| K. Round crystal plaque | _____    | \$55       | _____ |
| L. Curved glass plaque  | _____    | \$60       | _____ |

☐ Check here if you want items A, B, C, D, E, I, J, K or L customized with your district's logo (\$35 one-time fee) \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Individuals and businesses must add 7.5% sales tax on orders. No tax will be imposed if ordered through a school district using a district check, credit card or purchase order. Rush charge: orders with a 48 hour turnaround will be charged a \$15 fee.

\* Please note: There is a shipping charge for all orders that will be added to your order total.

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sales tax (7.5%) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rush charge (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total\* \_\_\_\_\_

## Please check one:

- ☐ Payment enclosed (sales tax applies to orders paid by personal check, personal credit card, money order or non-sales tax exempt organizations) Make check payable to: Ohio School Boards Association
- ☐ Purchase order # \_\_\_\_\_

## Credit card information:

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ expires (Mo./Yr.): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV code \_\_\_\_\_  
3- or 4-digit code on back of card

## Personalize as follows (type or print):

1. School district \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) of service \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of recipient \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recipient's title (desk nameplate only) \_\_\_\_\_
2. School district \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) of service \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of recipient \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recipient's title (desk nameplate only) \_\_\_\_\_

## Ship awards to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 District name \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/state/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ home ☐ business address

☐ Please check if you need by a certain date. Need by when? \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: Ohio School Boards Association, 8050 N. High St., Ste. 100, Columbus OH 43235-6481 or fax form and PO to (614) 540-3299. Please allow two to four weeks for delivery, except for item F, which can be delivered in 10 days or less.



# Levy Success

**Friday, Dec. 3 • 9 a.m.–3 p.m. • OSBA office,  
Columbus or virtual • Cost: \$100**

The education and economic landscape of Ohio is still uncertain and continually changing. What does that mean for your school district as you prepare to be on the ballot? Join us for an interactive workshop covering the basics of successful school levy campaigns; the board's unique role and its responsibilities in preparing the district and community; and considerations before putting a levy on the ballot.

Co-hosted by OSBA, Real Choice Ohio and Support Ohio Schools Research and Education Foundation.

**9 a.m.            Registration**

**9:30 a.m.       Welcome**

**9:35 a.m.       Board roles and responsibilities**

*Teri Morgan, senior deputy director of board and management services, OSBA*

**10 a.m.          Break**

**10:15 a.m.      Winning campaigns in a COVID-19 era**

*Michael Collins, executive director; Jerry Rampelt, founder emeritus; Ryan Collins, digital media; Nathan Miner, business development/fundraising; and Andrea Kruse, communications/messaging, Support Ohio Schools Research and Education Foundation*

**Noon            Lunch**

**12:45 p.m.      Winning campaigns in a COVID-19 era, continued**

Discussion of best practices continues.

*Michael Collins, Jerry Rampelt, Ryan Collins, Nathan Miner and Andrea Kruse*

**3 p.m.           Adjourn**

**To register**

Visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)



# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

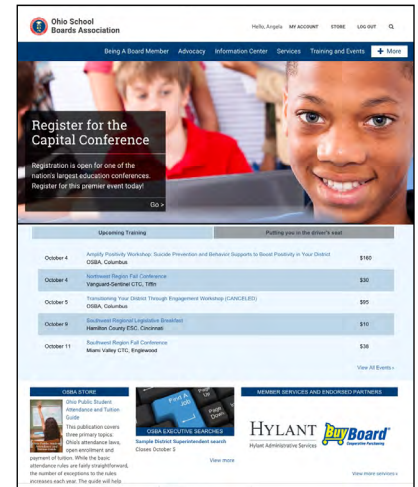
Register at [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)

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.



## UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Reasonable Suspicion Training

Tuesday, Dec. 7 • 10 a.m.–noon • OSBA office, Columbus • Cost: \$60

OSBA is offering a reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol training program for supervisors. Completion of this course is required for all supervisors of safety sensitive commercial driver's license (CDL) drivers, including school bus drivers. Best practice is that each district have at least two administrators trained in this requirement. The course meets the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration U.S. Department of Transportation requirements. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion.

To register, visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)

### OASBO/OSBA/BASA Winter Finance Workshop

Friday, Dec. 10 • 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m. • Virtual • Cost: \$120

An annual update of timely topics from the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Auditor of State, Ohio Education Policy Institute, School Funding Workgroup & Fair School Funding Plan, and the education associations.

For registration information, visit <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/WinterFinance>

### Coffee Chat: Anatomy of a Communications Audit

Tuesday, Dec. 14 • 8:30 a.m. • Virtual • Free

A communications audit is an opportunity to explore and enhance a school district's communications to meet the needs of internal and external audiences. It can help a district build a strong communications program that promotes trust and helps build a shared sense of ownership in the district's goals and achievements. Hennes Communications shares how a communications audit can help give the people who live in your district information they value and can use.

To register, visit [www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/workshops)



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Will Schwartz, deputy director of legislative services

### Racism resolution leads to State Board of Education shake-up

Nearly 11 months after being reappointed to the State Board of Education, President **Laura Kohler** and member **Eric Poklar** resigned abruptly and were replaced by **Richard Chernesky** and **Brandon Kern** — all within a matter of hours.

Kohler, who was first appointed under former Gov. **John R. Kasich** and again under Gov. **Mike DeWine**, authored the July 2020

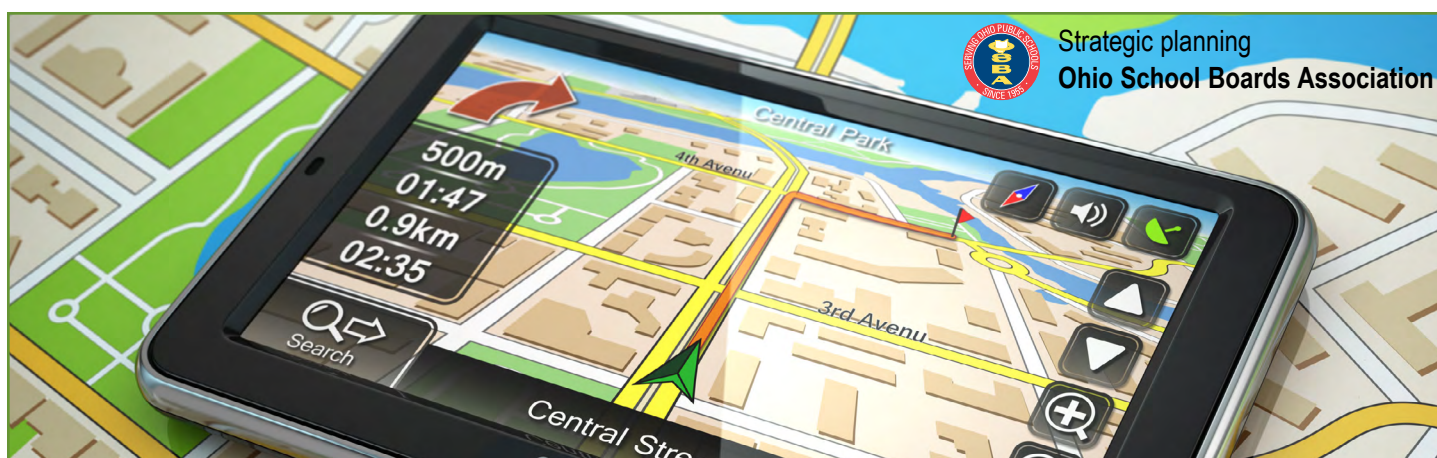
board resolution that sought to condemn racism and advance equity and opportunity for black students, indigenous students and students of color. That resolution garnered intense criticism from fellow board members and state legislative leaders, leading the board to overturn the measure last month.

The State Board of Education is composed of 19 members. Eleven

members are elected and eight are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Ohio Senate.

Under continued pressure to reconsider its 2020 resolution, the board reconvened in October and passed a resolution that would repeal the 2020 resolution, among other items. The 2021 resolution passed 10-7. Kohler and Poklar —

*Continued on page 6*



## OSBA strategic planning — the road map for decision-making

Let OSBA put you on the path to success. OSBA can help your district create a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to ensure you always know which road to take. OSBA consultants will help you identify critical issues, set comprehensive goals for the district and determine priorities for the future.

Call OSBA at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA to get moving in the right direction today.

Legislative Report, continued from page 5

two supporters of the initial 2020 resolution — voted against the new resolution.

Voting no on the new resolution likely was the death knell for Kohler and Poklar. Just days after the vote, the Ohio Senate, on Oct. 27, consented to only three of DeWine's appointments to the State Board of Education: **Stephen Dackin**, **Martha Manchester** and **J. Timothy Miller**, all of whom voted for the 2021 resolution that repealed the 2020 resolution. Kohler and Poklar still needed Senate consent,

but did not receive the upper chamber's approval that day.

Talking to reporters after the session, Senate President **Matt Huffman** (R-Lima) explained the refusal to consent, saying that he, members of his caucus and constituents had concerns with Kohler and Poklar, including their support for the 2020 resolution, opposition to the 2021 version and "geographical diversity," a reference to the fact that too many appointees hail from central Ohio, he alleged. Kohler resides in New

Albany, Poklar in Worthington.

Understanding that Senate consent was impossible, Kohler announced that she would resign and told reporters that DeWine had also requested her resignation. Poklar followed suit shortly thereafter, with both resignations effective Oct. 29. Before the close of business that day, DeWine replaced them with Chernesky and Kern, a Dayton-area attorney and Ohio Farm Bureau lobbyist from Amanda, respectively.

*Continued on page 7*



OSBA Legal Assistance Fund  
Ohio School Boards Association

## Achieving more together

The OSBA Legal Assistance Fund provides financial or legal assistance in matters of statewide importance to local school districts.

### What we can do:

- File friend of the court (amicus) briefs supporting issues of statewide importance.
- Minimize the financial hardship of costly litigation to individual boards of education.
- Supplement legal services available to boards of education.

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- Favorable judicial decisions that set precedents that can have a positive impact in your district.
- Direct assistance to your district if it is involved in a lawsuit of statewide significance.
- A quarterly e-newsletter of recent Ohio school law developments.

To join, contact the OSBA Division of Legal Services at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK!

compiled by Scott Gerfen, assistant editor

## State legislators discuss roles, learn issues at Edison Local

Two state legislators visited students in **Edison Local (Jefferson)**, where they provided a lesson in civics and heard about issues impacting the district.

Sen. **Frank Hoagland** (R-Mingo Junction) and Rep. **Ron Ferguson** (R-Wintersville), visited John Gregg and Stanton elementary schools and Edison High School as part of the Hearts and Souls Project.

OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business

Officials are asking districts to invite legislators into their buildings to show them the “hearts and souls” of the children schools serve every day — the children who are impacted by the decisions made at the Statehouse.

Student council members at John Gregg Elementary asked Hoagland about improving access to the internet, which was vital to remote learning and remains an issue for many students.

Hoagland said technological

improvements are needed to provide a quality level of service to students.

He said research shows there are ways to expand Wi-Fi to unserved areas, but that local government entities should have a voice in how that’s done to ensure funds are spent wisely.

Learn more about the Hearts and Souls Project at [www.ohio-schoolboards.org/hearts-and-souls-project](http://www.ohio-schoolboards.org/hearts-and-souls-project).

Source: The Herald-Star

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*Legislative Report, continued from page 6*

Kohler concluded the Senate’s decision was directly connected to her support of the 2020 resolution and opposition to the 2021 resolution, telling a reporter, “I believe that is in all likelihood it was the vote that made Sen. Huffman decide that my contributions are no longer necessary.”

These political machinations come amid the search for a new superintendent of public instruction as well as two competing proposals to revise the composition and role of the State Board of Education.

The first — House Bill 298 — would increase the number of

elected members of the board from 11 to 15 and phase out the eight appointed members. The other — Senate Bill (SB) 178 — would, according to the bill title, “reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Department of Education.”

SB 178 contains only legislative intent language but is rumored to become a redo of a proposal from 2018 by Sen. **Bill Reineke** (R-Tiffin). That bill sought to create the Ohio Department of Learning and Achievement by combining the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Department of Higher

Education and the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation into this new agency created by the bill. The State Board of Education would be stripped of all its roles and responsibilities, except for overseeing educator licensure.

Huffman forecast the debate in an interview.

“We’re looking at a different way for the state school board to operate and exist,” he said. “What does the state school board look like going forward? That’s the discussion we’re having right now.”

*Editor’s note:* Information in this article was current as of Oct. 31, 2021.

## November 2021

- 8 OSBA Central Region Executive Committee meeting..... Columbus
- 16 Smart Energy = Smart Money ..... Virtual
- 30 *Deadline to file consolidated school mandate report — RC 3301.68.*

## December 2021

- 1 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration: Transportation rules and regulations ..... Columbus or Virtual
- 3 Levy Success..... Columbus
- 7 Reasonable Suspicion Training ..... Columbus
- 10 OASBO/OSBA/BASA Winter Finance Workshop..... Virtual
- 10 *Post-general election campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates appearing on the ballot (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures made from the last day reflected in the previous report to the close of business on Dec. 3, 2021 — RC 3517.10(A)(2) (38 days after the election).*
- 14 Coffee Chat: Anatomy of a communications audit ..... Virtual
- 31 *Last day for treasurer to canvass the board to establish a date for the organizational meeting — RC 3313.14.*

## 2022

### January 2022

- 8-9 Board Member
- 101 .... Liberty Township and Perrysburg
- 11 OSBA Central Region Executive Committee meeting..... Virtual
- 15 *Deadline for boards of education of city, exempted village and local school districts to meet and organize — RC 3313.14; last day for boards of education of city, exempted village, vocational and local school districts to adopt tax budgets for the coming school fiscal year — RC 5705.28(A)(1).*
- 20 *Last day for boards of education to submit fiscal tax-year budget to county auditor — RC 5705.30.*
- 22-23 Board Member
- 101 ..... Westerville and Independence
- 24 *Last day to submit certification for income tax levy to Ohio Department of Taxation for May primary election — RC 5748.02(A) (100 days prior to election).*
- 28 *Last day to submit May emergency, current operating expenses or conversion levy to county auditor for May election — RC 5705.194, 5705.195, 5705.213, 5705.219(C) (95 days prior to election).*
- 31 *Deadline for educational service center (ESC) governing boards and joint vocational school districts (JVSD) boards of education to meet and organize — RC*

*3313.14; deadline for secondary schools to provide information about College Credit Plus to all students enrolled in grades six through 11 — RC 3365.04(A); annual campaign finance reports must be filed by certain candidates (by 4 p.m.) detailing contributions and expenditures from the last day reflected in the previous report through Dec. 31, 2021 — RC 3517.10(A)(3).*

## February 2022

- 2 OSBA Master of Transportation Administration: Federal Regulations, Guidance and Agencies ..... Columbus or Virtual
- 2 *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 May election — RC 133.18(D); last day for county auditor to certify school district bond levy terms for May election — RC 133.18(C); last day to submit continuing replacement, permanent improvement or operating levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5705.192, 5705.21, 5705.25; last day to certify resolution for school district income tax levy or renewal of conversion levy for May election to board of elections — RC 5748.02(C), 5705.219(G);*