



Central News

June 2021 - News from the Ohio School Boards Association's Central Region

ARCHER LEADS CENTRAL REGION IN 2021



President Kevin Archer has spent most of his professional life as a farrier (horseshoer). He attended The Midwest Farriers College in Illinois.

A product of the Teays Valley Local (Pickaway) School District, he currently serves as the district's board president and is serving in his 16th year.

Archer has served on the Central Region Executive Committee for nine years. Additionally, he has served on the OSBA Board of Trustees, Legislative Platform Committee and Capital Conference Planning Task Force.

He stated that his initial purpose in running for the school board was simply to try to give back to the district that had given so much to him and his family. Archer's wife and two daughters graduated from Teays Valley Local and currently three of his grandchildren attend school in the district. The family feels a sense of pride in their local public school district.

Archer says that his goal as the current Central Region president is "to not mess up what those who have gone before me have done," noting he's blessed to follow in the footsteps of great people who have poured their lives into public education.

Additionally, he wants to further raise awareness of the inequities in public education and to try to level the playing field for students in all public school districts. Archer wants students to have an equal opportunity to receive a quality education that prepares them for the next step in their journey of life.

In his spare time, Kevin enjoys spending time with family and traveling to see and experience new places. He serves in various capacities in his church and has volunteered for many years in the 4-H program.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FAIR

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

The fair will be held during the OSBA Capital Conference on Monday, Nov. 8.

Examples of district programs in the Student Achievement Fair include 1-to-1 technology programs, STEM engineering for middle grades, a workforce exchange program and career center culinary arts program.

One hundred programs highlighting student achievement will be selected. While multiple programs may be submitted for consideration, no more than two per district will be selected, so districts should prioritize their submissions.

Visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/saf-nominations> to nominate a student performing group or art program today!

Questions? Contact **Patty Hettinger** (psettinger@ohioschoolboards.org) or **Teri Morgan** (tmorgan@ohioschoolboards.org) at (614) 540-4000 or (800) 589-OSBA.

MEMORIAM

Former **Whitehall City** board of education member and former OSBA Central Region president. **Walter S. Armes** passed away on Dec. 3, 2020 after a battle with COVID-19.

His 50-plus years in education encompassed roles as a classroom teacher, coach, bus driver, drama adviser, summer school principal, school board member and high school administrator.



Chillicothe City's Joy Shoemaker passed away on Dec. 31, 2020. She began her career as an aide at Unioto Elementary where she worked before moving to Waverly. She spent the next 43 years as an elementary secretary in the Waverly City School District. Shoemaker loved her job and throughout the many years touched and inspired thousands of lives.

After retirement, she successfully ran for a seat on the Chillicothe City School Board. She just completed her seventh year as an active member. She also served two years on the Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center School Board.



Hamilton Local (Franklin) Director of Public Relations Vince Payne passed away Feb. 8, 2021 after complications from surgery. He was well known in the community and the Central Region. If you had a photo taken as an award winner with your colleagues, friends or family, Payne took the photo. His love for public education and the people he worked with was evident. He promoted every Ranger and orchestrated countless charitable events and assisted families throughout the community.

FALL AWARDS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE

The Central Region Executive Committee has been intentional about how it honors excellence. As such, only three awards are available to its members and member districts. The Central Region recognizes district nominees for the Friend of Public Education and Exemplary Employee award. The third award, determined by the region president and executive committee, is the Champion of Public Education award.

The Friend of Public Education award and the Exemplary Employee award epitomize what the region's board members and district administrators 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. Forms are available on the Central Region webpage at

www.ohioschoolboards.org/central-region

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.

Recipients will be recognized at Fall Conference on Sept. 22. Now more than ever, it is important to recognize the significant efforts of those who contribute to the success of our districts and region.

Plan to participate in the Central Region fall awards program.

Nominations are due by July 10.



STAN JEFFERSON, 2020 CHAMPION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION



Stan Jefferson, Superintendent at Mansfield City Schools and 2020 Central Region Champion of Public Education

2016 marked the creation of Central Region's Champion of Public Education Award. The Central Region Executive Committee established the award to recognize public servants who have a demonstrated career history of supporting and advocating for public education. This award is only the region's third recognition honoring individuals.

Stan Jefferson is a champion for students in public schools, serving over 30 years in K-12 public education and another 13 years in public education at The Ohio State University (OSU). He currently serves as the superintendent of Mansfield City Schools.

A Dayton-area native, Jefferson was a successful head football and track coach for the Mansfield Tygers and is a member of the school's athletic hall of fame as well as the Ohio High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

He served as principal at Mansfield Senior High School before he was hired by OSU football coach Jim Tressel to work with the OSU football program and was the director of player development under OSU football coach Urban Meyer. He was employed for 13 years with OSU before retiring in 2017. He then launched a new company, Jefferson Rowe Vertical Horizon Solutions Group, where he speaks on issues of leadership and cultural awareness.

In May 2010, Jefferson was one of seven national recipients of the Ohio State University African American Alumni Society Awards, receiving the Samella Lewis Professional Achievement Award for his long and distinguished career in education and athletics.

Jefferson emphasizes school and community relationships and partnerships, growing school leaders and leading selflessly. His priority is and always has been helping young people develop to their full potential.

The OSBA Central Region extends its deepest gratitude to Jefferson for his dedication, service and devotion to Ohio's public schools and the students they serve.

CENTRAL REGION LEGISLATIVE OPEN HOUSE

Join the OSBA Legislative Services team on Aug. 25 for the Central Region Summer Legislative Open House. 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 will begin with social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. The program will end by 8 p.m.

Registration details will be posted in next month's newsletter.

CENTRAL REGION BOARD VISITS

As an outreach to our region's school districts, Region 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, 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.



Fist bumps! Laura Uhrig of Union-Scioto receiving her 20 -year service award. Pictured left to right - Kim Miller - Smith, region manager and Laura Uhrig, board member Union-Scioto. Pictured right - Kenneth Upthegrove, board member Washington Court House board member displaying his 25-year award.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Board members serve on state and regional committees that shape the OSBA Capital Conference, nominate members to elected OSBA positions and plan regional events.

Consider serving on the Central Region Executive Committee. The committee meets three times a year - virtually in January, at the Capital Conference in November and late July or early August. We plan region events, and make sure our region's work is relevant to members.

Learn about the committees and download an application at www.ohioschoolboards.org/call-committee-nominations-2022

Questions? Call Central Region Manager, Kim Miller-Smith at (614) 540-4000. Applications are due June 30.

CENTRAL REGION FALL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 22

Mark Sept. 22 on your calendar today! You will not want to miss the **return of an in-person Central Region Fall Conference**. Friends of Public Education, Exemplary School Employees, Outstanding Teachers, Master Board Members, the Champion of Public Education, and board members with more than 30 years of service will be honored.

The event will be held at Villa Milano. A social hour will begin at 5 p.m. Reservations are \$40 per person. Registration details will follow in next month's newsletter and the Briefcase.