



# OSBA CEO/Executive Director

## The Position

The Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) in Columbus, Ohio is searching for its next Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director (CEO). The search is expected to conclude in early August with the new CEO beginning their work as soon as possible after hire.

## The Association

OSBA is a private, not-for-profit association consisting of members who represent nearly all of Ohio's 711 public school districts, each with its own locally-elected school board. There are approximately 3,500 school board members in Ohio, most organized into five-member boards. The association owns an office building located in the north-central area of Columbus and is served by nearly 50 employees. OSBA is organized into seven divisions, each led by a director and one or more deputy directors. It employs five regional managers, part-time staff members who live and work in one of OSBA's five geographic regions. OSBA is a member of the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), a national association dedicated to sharing resources and information to support, promote and strengthen state school boards associations as they serve their local school districts and board members. OSBA is an organization dedicated to working closely and diligently with its strategic plan.

More information about OSBA may be found at its website: [www.ohioschoolboards.org](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org)

## Association Governance

The CEO works closely with a 32-member Board of Trustees (BOT), each representing one or more of Ohio's public traditional school districts, career and technical or educational service centers. Within the BOT is its eight-member Executive Committee (EC). Five of the eight are board members representing each region (region presidents or region past presidents) and the others (the officers) are OSBA's immediate past-president, president-elect and president. OSBA's presidents serve from January 1-December 31 each year. The 2025 OSBA president is Thomas C. Patterson, who represents Sandusky City Schools.

### OSBA Staff Divisions

OSBA's staff members are recognized experts in their areas of work, many of whom publish or present training and seminars across the state and nationally. They are regularly sought out for their knowledge and understanding by OSBA's members and by other state school board associations across the country.

- Executive (CEO, Sr. Executive Assistant, HR Manager)
- Business & Finance (CFO and staff)
- Legal (OSBA Legal Counsel and staff)
- Legislative (Director and staff)
- Board & Management Services (Director and staff in board services, policy and school transportation)
- Communication Services and Member Relations (Director and staff)
- Information Technology (Director and staff in data management and publication services)

## Expectation & Profile

OSBA's CEO is someone who brings significant leadership and professional experience to the position. They will understand and embrace opportunities to work within and outside the organization for its advancement as well as that of all its diverse public-school districts and the 1.6 million Ohio public school students they represent. The CEO must be an enthusiastic, empathetic and capable professional, with the ability to acknowledge, understand and balance the varying political interests and demographic differences of its members and their districts.

The CEO will partner and work closely with the leaders of many businesses, associations and organizations with public education focus and is expected to be considered a committed and pro-active member of that group. The CEO will lead or be a member of many OSBA and state-wide committees and work groups. OSBA works closely with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO).

The CEO must recognize this position requires that they work physically and primarily in its Columbus office. The position requires significant weekly hours, evening and weekend work. The CEO travels significantly within the state and nationally.

The new CEO will be offered a multi-year contract, including salary, retirement savings plan, personal leave, health benefits and work schedule flexibility.

## Search Timeline

Expected dates are listed here, but subject to change as necessary.

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| • Application Recruitment        | Now to July 5    |
| • Applications Close             | July 5           |
| • Initial Interviews (in-person) | July 18-19       |
| • Final Interviews (in-person)   | July 31-August 2 |
| • Position offer/acceptance      | August 4         |

## Application

Interested candidates must submit, via email, the following:

- Detailed cover letter
- Current résumé
- Names, titles and contact information for five professional references

Following receipt of these materials, the search facilitator may request additional information.

Applications should be submitted to Cheryl Ryan at [cwryan59@gmail.com](mailto:cwryan59@gmail.com)

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

## Search Facilitator

The search is being facilitated on behalf of the EC and BOT by Cheryl W. Ryan. She brings significant experience in board leadership and governance as well as search services. She may be contacted for application or questions at [cwryan59@gmail.com](mailto:cwryan59@gmail.com).

**Cheryl W. Ryan, Tumbling Rock LLC • [cwryan59@gmail.com](mailto:cwryan59@gmail.com)**