

# Leadership for Learning



Ohio School Boards Association  
2016 Capital Conference



## OSBA Delegate Handbook

Ohio School Boards Association Delegate Assembly  
Greater Columbus Convention Center Short North Ballroom  
Monday, Nov. 14, 2016 • 2:30 p.m.



# Agenda

# OSBA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Short North Ballroom, Greater Columbus Convention Center  
Monday, Nov. 14, 2016  
2:30 p.m. to conclusion

## AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER  
**Eric K. Germann**, OSBA president, board member, **Lincolnview Local (Van Wert)** and **Vantage Career Center**
2. INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM GUESTS
3. SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS
4. OHIO SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
**Paolo DeMaria**
5. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
  - A. Credentials Committee  
**Doug G. Stuart**, committee chair, board member, **Rittman EV** and **Wayne County Schools Career Center**
  - B. Rules Committee  
**Penny Kill**, committee chair, board member, **Spencerville Local (Allen)** and **Apollo Career Center**
  - C. Nominating Committee  
**Ed Penrod**, OSBA immediate past president, board member, **Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking)** and **Tri-County Career Center**
6. ELECTION OF THE 2017 PRESIDENT-ELECT
7. INTRODUCTION OF THE 2017 PRESIDENT-ELECT
8. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**Richard Lewis**, CAE, OSBA executive director
9. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM COMMITTEE  
**Denise Baba**, committee chair, 2016 OSBA president-elect, board member, **Streetsboro City**
10. PLATFORM AMENDMENTS INTRODUCED FROM THE FLOOR
11. NEW BUSINESS
12. *Kids* PAC — YOUR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
Awards presentation: Eric K. Germann
13. ADJOURNMENT

# 2016 OSBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Eric K. Germann, president  
Lincoln View Local (Van Wert) and Vantage Career Center

Denise Baba, president-elect  
Streetsboro City

Ed Penrod, past president  
Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking) and Tri-County Career Center

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

Thomas F. Brophey  
Wellsville Local (Columbiana)

Kevin Landin  
Ottoville Local (Putnam)

Gail Martindale  
Cedar Cliff Local (Greene) and Greene County Career Center

Bruce D. Nottke  
Athens City and Tri-County Career Center

# 2016 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM COMMITTEE

**Denise Baba, chair**

## CENTRAL REGION

Renda M. Cline, Mansfield City  
Suzanne Maclean, Knox County ESC  
Linda J. Miller, Union Scioto Local (Ross)  
Mark R. Milless, Bloom-Carroll Local (Fairfield)  
Charlie Wilson, Worthington City

## NORTHEAST REGION

Thomas F. Brophey, Wellsville Local (Columbiana)  
Karen Dendorfer, Parma City  
Brenda Kimble, Youngstown City  
Susie Lawson, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Career Center  
Larry Walton, East Liverpool City

## NORTHWEST REGION

Kenneth E. Ault, Wood County ESC  
Penny Kill, Spencerville Local (Allen) and Apollo Career Center  
Dr. Paul R. Lockwood II, North Point ESC and EHOVE Career Center  
Timothy McKinney, Bath Local (Allen)  
Chris Varwig, Toledo City

## SOUTHEAST REGION

Roger A. Brown, Athens City and Tri-County Career Center  
Jamie S. Murphy, Dawson-Bryant Local (Lawrence)  
Carol A. Porter, Gallia-Vinton ESC  
John Riebesell, Ridgewood Local (Coshocton) and Coshocton County Career Center  
James B. Swingle, Franklin Local (Muskingum)

## SOUTHWEST REGION

Linda A. Jordan, Clark County ESC  
Donna J. Myers, Northwestern Local (Clark)  
Randy Smith, Forest Hills Local (Hamilton)  
William Spahr, Xenia Community City and Greene County Career Center  
David E. Yockey, Milford EV and Great Oaks Career Campuses

# Parliamentary Procedure & Rules

# Proposed Rules for the 2016 Delegate Assembly Business Meeting

1. **CREDENTIALS** — All delegates present at the annual meeting shall have their credentials filed with the Executive Director and approved by the Credentials Committee. Credential badges and ribbons shall be displayed where easily recognized. Delegate ribbons must be presented to the Sergeant-At-Arms to permit the delegate to be admitted to the meeting. A delegate may represent only one board.
2. **SEATING** — All delegates shall sit in designated areas. Any delegate leaving the floor shall check out with the Sergeant-At-Arms and shall check in before returning to his or her seat.
3. **PARLIAMENTARIAN** — There shall be an official parliamentarian to whom questions may be directed only through the chair.
4. **RECOGNITION BY CHAIR** — A delegate wishing to speak from the floor shall rise, go to the nearest microphone and secure recognition by the chair before speaking.

**A DELEGATE SHALL GIVE HIS OR HER NAME IN FULL AND THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HE OR SHE REPRESENTS BEFORE ADDRESSING THE ASSEMBLY.**

5. **DEBATE ON THE FLOOR** — No delegate shall speak longer than three minutes at any one time except by consent of the majority of the delegates present. No delegate shall speak more than once on the same question until all other delegates have had an opportunity to speak on the question except by consent of the majority of the delegates present. All members of the Executive Committee and the Legislative Platform Committee shall have the privilege of speaking to any issue but not the privilege of voting on issues unless they are also delegates.
6. **MOTIONS TO TABLE** — A motion to table may be declared out of order by the chair if, in the opinion of the chair, there has not been sufficient discussion to provide the delegates with a clear understanding of the issues to be decided.



7. **DELEGATE ASSEMBLY VOTING REQUIREMENTS** — According to Article XII of the OSBA Constitution, amendments to that Constitution require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting for approval. The Constitution may not be amended unless a copy of the proposed amendment has been submitted by OSBA in writing (via postal delivery) to all member boards at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

According to Article 5 of the OSBA Bylaws, amendments to the Bylaws require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting for approval.

Approval of the OSBA Legislative Platform, amendments to the Legislative Platform, and any items raised under “New Business” shall require a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all delegates present and voting for approval.

Voting at the Delegate Assembly is conducted by a rising vote. If the results are unclear the chair may call for a count of those rising to vote.

8. **BUSINESS OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY** — Article 6 of the OSBA Bylaws requires that the proposed OSBA Legislative Platform as recommended by the Legislative Platform Committee for approval by the Delegate Assembly must be mailed to each member of OSBA member boards of education at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Article 6 of the OSBA Bylaws also requires that any matter not so referred to members of member boards of education 30 days in advance requires a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of all registered delegates present in order to be placed on the agenda.

Any matter not referred to members of member boards of education 30 days in advance must be in the form of a duly adopted board of education resolution certified by the treasurer and stating the date of adoption. New Business may also be originated by the Legislative Platform Committee, the Board of Trustees or the OSBA staff.

9. **DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS** — No printed materials other than official reports of the association officers and committees shall be distributed to delegates at the Annual Business Meeting unless prior permission is granted by the presiding officer or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.
10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** — The Board of Trustees shall act as a minutes committee to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
11. **ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER** — Rules not covered by this report or by the OSBA Constitution and Bylaws shall be those set forth in Robert’s Rules of Order (most recently revised).



# Nominating Committee Report

# OSBA Nominating Committee Report

The OSBA Nominating Committee will recommend to the 2016 Delegate Assembly the name of Randy Smith, a member of the Forest Hills Local Board of Education in Hamilton County for the office of 2017 president-elect. The nomination and election will take place during the Annual Business Meeting of the OSBA Delegate Assembly to be held on Monday, Nov. 14, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Randy Smith serves on OSBA's Legislative Platform Committee and Federal Relations Network, and previously served on the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, Board Member Cabinet, Nominating Committee and Capital Conference Planning Task Force. He also is a member of OSBA's Southwest Region Executive Committee and was region president in 2012. Smith earned the OSBA Master Board Member Award in 2007, a lifetime distinction, and has received multiple OSBA Awards of Achievement. A Cincinnati resident and graduate of Forest Hills Local Anderson High School, Smith helped establish several board of education committees at Forest Hills related to policy, technology and business. He also founded the Forest Hills Foundation for Education, a private organization that supports public education in the district. In addition, he serves as his legislative liaison to OSBA.

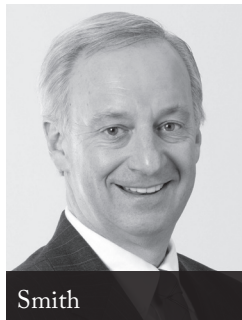
Denise Baba, a member of the Streetsboro City board of education will automatically, under the constitution of the association, become president. Mrs. Baba has served as OSBA president-elect and chair of the Legislative Platform Committee this past year. Additionally, she has served on the Executive and Nominating Committees, Board Member Cabinet, Investment Committee, as well as the Board of Trustees and the Capital Conference Planning Task Force. She is a member of the Northeast Region Executive Committee and Student Achievement Leadership Team, and also serves as Ohio chair of the Federal Relations Network.

Eric K. Germann, a member of the Lincolnview Local (Van Wert) and Vantage Career Center boards of education, has filled the office of president during 2016 and will become immediate past president, an office that will automatically retain him as a member of the OSBA Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and Northwest Region Executive Committee.

Ed Penrod	Chair
Dr. Marguerite Bennett	Central Region
Thomas F. Brophey	Northeast Region
Timothy McKinney	Northwest Region
Gail Requardt	Southeast Region
Rick Foster	Southwest Region

# Smith is president-elect nominee; Baba will lead OSBA in 2017

OSBA delegates will vote on the association's 2017 president-elect, a southwest Ohio school board member, at the Capital Conference and Trade Show in Columbus. The election is Nov. 14 during the Annual Business Meeting of the OSBA Delegate Assembly.



Current president-elect, **Denise Baba, Streetsboro City**, will become the association's 62nd president on Jan. 1, 2017.

The OSBA Nominating Committee selected **Forest Hills Local (Hamilton) Board of Education President Randy Smith** as the association's 2017 president-elect nominee in July.

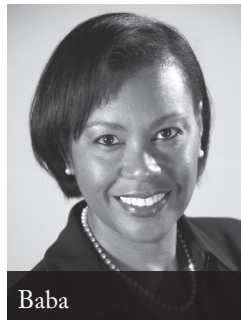
If elected by delegates, Smith will become OSBA president in 2018, following his term as president-elect. His assignments as president-elect include serving on OSBA's Board of Trustees and Executive Committee and chairing the Legislative Platform Committee and Federal Relations Network.

Elected four times to the Forest Hills board, Smith has served as board president four times (2016, 2015, 2011 and 2006).

He currently serves on the Legislative Platform Committee and Federal Relations Network and previously the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee. He has been a member of OSBA's Southwest Region Executive Committee for nine years and was region president in 2012.

Smith earned the OSBA Master Board Member Award in 2007, a lifetime distinction, and has received multiple OSBA Awards of Achievement. The awards recognize board members' commitment to learning and leadership.

The Cincinnati resident and graduate of Forest Hills Local's Anderson High School helped establish several board of education committees at Forest Hills related to policy, technology and business. He also founded the Forest Hills Foundation for Education, a private organization that supports public education in the district. In addition, he serves as his legislative liaison to OSBA.



Before retiring in 2015, Smith spent 36 years at the Procter & Gamble Co. where he was a marketing and policy manager. He currently is president and general manager of Noble Properties Inc.

At the University of Cincinnati, he earned a Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering and a Bachelor of Business

Administration in marketing and management. His graduate studies included broadcasting and communication.

Smith remains very active with his alma mater where he serves on several boards and committees, including the University of Cincinnati Foundation Board of Trustees. He also is a district chair for the Boy Scouts of America.

He and his wife, **Susan**, who also is retired from Procter & Gamble Co., are the parents of a son, **Steven**, and a daughter, **Sarah**.

Baba is in her 11th year on the Streetsboro board and serves as the district's legislative liaison to OSBA.

A Board of Trustees member for four years, she also is a member of the association's Executive Committee, and chairs the Federal Relations Network and Legislative Platform Committee. Other statewide duties include the Board Member Cabinet, Investment Committee, Capital Conference Planning Task Force and Student Achievement Leadership Team.

A former Northeast Region president, Baba has served on the region's executive committee for nine years and is a member of the region's Arrangements and Hospitality Team.

Baba earned the Master Board Member award in 2010 and is a four-time recipient of the Award of Achievement.

While serving on the Streetsboro board, Baba has been involved in the Core Team for Streetsboro's \$68 million building project, Streetsboro Levy Committee and several other district committees.

Baba is currently the executive director of Leadership Portage County, a nonprofit leadership development organization.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and a master's degree in education from

Cleveland State University.

She and her husband, **Frank**, a retired chief master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, are the parents of **Rachel**, an eighth-grader who attends Streetsboro Middle School.

# Legislative Platform

1 (Proposed) 2017  
2 Ohio School Boards Association Legislative Platform  
3

4 Preamble

5 The purpose of the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Legislative Platform is to  
6 state publicly OSBA's positions on a variety of issues facing public education. The  
7 platform conveys to legislators, policymakers, the public and the media where OSBA  
8 stands. The platform guides OSBA's advocacy efforts.  
9

10 Each item in the platform has been approved by at least 75% of the voting delegates in  
11 the OSBA Delegate Assembly, where every member board of education has a vote.  
12

13 The level of specificity in the language is by design. The platform is sufficiently precise  
14 to state OSBA's position, but it is not so specific that it ties OSBA's hands and prevents  
15 OSBA from achieving the best result consistent with the platform. Latitude is given to the  
16 staff to interpret and apply the statements in the platform. The staff is accountable to the  
17 membership and keeps the membership informed about progress in implementing the  
18 platform.  
19

20 Recognizing that support of public education is an investment in Ohio's future, OSBA  
21 works in cooperation with parents, students, staff, community groups, members of  
22 educational organizations, state and local policymakers and others to make the support of  
23 public education a state priority. OSBA promotes and supports reform that provides for a  
24 system of public schools that is accountable to the communities they serve and prepares  
25 students to be productive citizens in a competitive and global society.  
26

27  
28 Students and learning  
29

30 The education of Ohio's public school students is OSBA's top priority. Every child can  
31 learn, and every child will learn if the conditions are right. The key component to  
32 establishing the right educational environment is the relationship among students, parents,  
33 the school district and the community. Each needs to be accountable for sharing in the  
34 process.  
35

36 OSBA believes that all students must have equal access to a high-quality education that  
37 prepares them for higher education or career entry. Every student must be provided with  
38 challenging instructional programs presented by competent and caring teachers in a safe  
39 and supportive setting.  
40

41 **Adult education**

42 Ohio's adult residents and employees have ongoing needs for education and training.  
43 Ohio's public school districts should help meet the adult education needs of the  
44 communities they serve. Public school district facilities and programs should be made  
45 available for these purposes as determined by locally elected boards of education and as  
46 resources permit.



47 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
48 ● Develops and funds adult education programs in Ohio’s public schools.

49  
50 **Alternative schools**

51 Students often require targeted assistance to help them learn and grow. Alternative  
52 schools and educational programs offer supportive learning environments to  
53 accommodate the diverse needs of students. Moreover, the school climate for all students  
54 may be improved when students with diverse needs are served with alternative settings  
55 and/or programs.

56  
57 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
58 ● Allows school districts to collaboratively create alternative schools to address unique  
59 student needs and provides state funding for those schools.

60  
61 **Assessments**

62 Ongoing assessment of student learning provides an essential means for instruction and  
63 accountability. To be fair, effective and meaningful, student performance should be  
64 measured with appropriate tools and techniques that are clearly aligned with curriculum,  
65 instruction and standards and be collected in an objective and credible manner.  
66 Assessment systems should employ multiple and varied measures of knowledge, skill and  
67 abilities.

68  
69 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
70 ● Aligns state assessment laws with the federal ~~No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) or any~~  
71 ~~requirements. added by amendments or waivers to NCLB.~~  
72 ● Uses assessments as a diagnostic tool to improve instruction and learning.  
73 ● Uses data to ensure that every child has equal access to the resources necessary for a  
74 thorough and efficient education.  
75 ● Fully funds any and all requirements associated with implementing state and federal  
76 assessment laws.  
77 ● Provides school districts with flexibility and proper resources to meet their students’  
78 needs.  
79 ● Increases the 1% cap on alternative assessments for students to a realistic percentage  
80 that reflects the number of students with disabilities educated by the districts.

81  
82 *OSBA opposes legislation that*  
83 ● Subjects school districts to a one-size-fits-all approach that fails to recognize the unique  
84 needs of individual students and individual school districts.  
85 ● Rates and/or ranks schools or school districts, or is used in a punitive manner.  
86 ● Penalizes districts for a parent’s refusal to allow his/her student to participate in  
87 assessments.  
88 ● Subjects school districts to strict use of technology in testing requirements.  
89 ● **PREVENTS THE ADVANCEMENT OF A STUDENT TO THE NEXT GRADE**  
90 **LEVEL AND GRADUATION BASED SOLELY ON STATE ASSESSMENT**  
91 **RESULTS.**  
92 ● **SEEKS TO ADOPT THE SIMILAR STUDENT MEASURE.**  
93

94 **Curriculum**  
95 Public education is the responsibility of the state and locally elected boards of education.  
96 Governance must be vested in the locally elected board of education that is accountable  
97 to the local community. Arts and extracurricular activities play an integral role in the  
98 education of children. The primary responsibility for approving courses of study,  
99 instructional programs and selection of instructional materials must remain with the  
100 locally elected board of education, with input from the local community. Cuts,  
101 necessitated by finances, in no way diminish the belief that all students should have  
102 access to a curriculum that includes art, music, theater, physical education and world  
103 languages, in addition to mathematics, science, social studies, reading and writing.  
104 **ACCESS TO CAREER-TECHNICAL COURSES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED**  
105 **TO AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRIAL**  
106 **TECHNOLOGY AND FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES IS VITAL. All-**  
107 **day/every-day kindergarten programs, accompanied by clear academic standards and a**  
108 **comprehensive curriculum, have been proven to raise the achievement levels of all**  
109 **students and to reduce the achievement and readiness gaps in students first entering**  
110 **school.**

111  
112 A comprehensive curriculum is one focused on approaches toward learning, cognitive  
113 and general knowledge (including mathematics, science, and social studies), language  
114 and literacy development, arts, physical well-being, motor development and social-  
115 emotional development.

116  
117 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
118 ● Enables locally elected boards of education to make decisions regarding the adoption of  
119 curriculum, textbooks and instructional materials, with advice and input from staff,  
120 parents, students and community members.

121  
122 **Discipline**  
123 Student conduct standards are integral to maintaining an optimal learning environment.  
124 All students have the right to learn in a school environment that is safe and free of  
125 distraction.

126  
127 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
128 ● Furthers the ability of educators to maintain control of their classrooms, buildings,  
129 facilities and other school property, and offers appropriate discipline measures as  
130 determined by locally developed, board-approved policy and/or district procedures.  
131 ● **REPEALS STATE LAW ORC 3313.534, SO THAT THE DISCIPLINE OF**  
132 **STUDENTS CAN BE DEALT WITH INDIVIDUALLY IN A WAY THAT IS**  
133 **APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE, GENDER, MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION,**  
134 **EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**  
135 **WHILE APPROPRIATELY PROTECTING THE SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL**  
136 **ENVIRONMENT.**

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138 **School year/school day**  
139 Flexible instructional scheduling is important because time on task is critical to effective  
140 and efficient learning.

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*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Provides more flexible school schedules to adequately meet the needs of all students.
- Provides additional state aid for lengthening the school day and/or school year.

**State report card**

Reports of school district quality should provide accurate reflections of district, staff and student achievement. Publication of district and school report cards must be accurate, fair and credible. Reports should be communicated to the public in a clear and concise manner.

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Makes the overall rating on the state report card a meaningful indicator of the quality of a school district.
- Provides school districts with an appropriate amount of time to inform parents, students, staff and communities about changes to assessments and report card standards.
- Includes cohort graduation rates of students four and six years after entering the ninth grade cohort group.
- The graduation rate as computed by the Ohio Department of Education should allow students with disabilities additional time to complete graduation requirements without penalty as stated in federal requirements.

***OSBA OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT***

**● DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL STUDENTS IN THE BASELINE BEGINNING IN KINDERGARTEN AND CONTINUING THROUGH GRADE THREE.**

**Technology**

Every public school district should have access to modern technology, regardless of the wealth or geographical location of the district, because students with limited access to educational technology are at an educational and economic disadvantage. Full access to the Internet for students, staff and communities is critical. Appropriate and ongoing training is essential for effective use of technology.

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Provides the funds necessary to provide for the hardware, software, staff instructional in-service and infrastructure necessary to provide access to modern technology for all students.

School governance

The cornerstone of public education in Ohio is locally elected boards of education that exercise local control in establishing policy and governance of their public schools while remaining accountable to the citizens who elected them. Local control includes control over financial matters, curricula and educational programs, personnel, school calendars and educational priorities based on the unique needs of local communities.

**ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION**

188 STATE LAW REQUIRES THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
189 INSTRUCTION TO ESTABLISH AN ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION  
190 FOR EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAS BEEN DECLARED TO BE IN  
191 ACADEMIC EMERGENCY.

192

193 ***OSBA SUPPORTS LEGISLATION THAT***

194 ● FULLY INCLUDES LOCALLY ELECTED BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND  
195 DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS.

196 ● THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION AND REVIEW TEAM SHOULD  
197 REFLECT THE DEMOGRAPHICS (GEOGRAPHIC, ECONOMIC AND  
198 SOCIAL) OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

199 ● PROVIDES TRANSPARENCY IN THE WAY DISTRESS COMMISSIONS ARE  
200 FORMED AND CHAIRED.

201 ● PROVIDES A TRANSPARENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOALS AND  
202 PURPOSE FOR THE WORK OF THE DISTRESS COMMISSIONS.

203 ● PROVIDES CLEAR ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR THE  
204 COMMISSIONS, THE DISTRICTS AND CEO'S APPOINTED TO THE  
205 DISTRICT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCALLY ELECTED BOARD  
206 OF EDUCATION.

207 ● PLACES A FOCUS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

208 ● PROVIDES SUPPLEMENTAL OR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR  
209 IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSION WORK.

210 ● PLACES AN EMPHASIS ON IDENTIFYING AND SEEKING THE INPUT OF  
211 COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCIES.

212

213 ***OSBA OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT***

214 ● ALLOWS FOR THE EXCLUSION OF THE LOCALLY ELECTED BOARD  
215 MEMBERS FROM THE DISCUSSION AND WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

216

### 217 **Board member training**

218 Effective school board members are aware of and knowledgeable about key issues  
219 affecting the operation of public districts and schools. Awareness of key legislative and  
220 judicial decisions, educational reform initiatives and research-based instructional  
221 strategies to enhance student achievement is critical to being an effective board member.  
222 Ongoing professional development prepares board members to provide leadership and  
223 make critical educational decisions that support student achievement.

224

225 *OSBA supports legislation that*

226 ● Strongly encourages professional development for all elected school board members.

227

228 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

229 ● Mandates board member training.

230

### 231 **Charter/community schools**

232 OSBA supports educational options within the public school system as determined by  
233 locally elected boards of education. Locally elected boards of education may decide to

234 sponsor charter/community schools. Charter/community schools authorized and  
235 sponsored by other entities must be held accountable to the same standards as traditional  
236 public schools. All charter/community schools must be required to report annually  
237 information concerning finances and student achievement in a clear and concise manner.  
238 No local funds should be diverted from the public school district to support  
239 charter/community schools sponsored by any entity other than a locally elected board of  
240 education. The term, “Charter/Community Schools,” as used in this platform refers to  
241 brick and mortar schools, electronic schools and any other form of on-line school.

242

243 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 244 ● Holds charter/community schools and their operators to the same compliance and  
245 reporting requirements as public schools.
- 246 ● Requires charter/community school students to meet the State Board of Education’s  
247 minimum standards to be granted a high school diploma.
- 248 ● Requires that charter/community schools be subject to full fiscal and administrative  
249 oversight by a locally elected board of education.
- 250 ● Requires a charter/community school, receiving public tax dollars to disclose  
251 performance metrics, including but not limited to, the overall performance index and  
252 four-year graduation rate on all advertising.
- 253 ● Prohibits a charter/community school from advertising if that school does not meet or  
254 report minimum academic and/or financial standards established by the State of Ohio.

255

256 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 257 ● Authorizes the sponsorship of charter/community schools by an entity other than the  
258 locally elected board of education.
- 259 ● Creates a charter/community school that adversely impacts a public school district.

260

### 261 **Consolidation/Shared Services**

262 Sound fiscal policy requires school districts to maximize the use of available resources. It  
263 is important to examine carefully every feasible way to conserve financial resources.  
264 Consolidation, merger and/or sharing services, programs and staff may save dollars. The  
265 decision to undertake such efforts should be made by mutual agreement of the involved  
266 school districts and their boards of education, taking local factors and circumstances into  
267 account.

268

269 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 270 ● Supports and encourages districts to follow best practices regarding efficiencies and  
271 cost savings that may result from shared services and programs.

272

273 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 274 ● Requires mandatory consolidation of school districts.
- 275 ● Requires districts to join other joint vocational entities.

276

### 277 **Deregulation**

278 Freedom from excessive and constraining governmental regulation encourages innovative  
279 reform efforts to improve student achievement. Public school districts should be granted  
280 exemptions similar to those granted to nonpublic and charter/community schools.

281

282 *OSBA supports legislation that*

283 ● Expands deregulation to give locally elected boards of education the authority to  
284 exempt themselves from state statutes and administrative codes that do not apply to  
285 chartered nonpublic schools or to charter/community schools.

286 ● Gives educational service center governing boards the discretion to transfer regulatory  
287 functions to locally elected boards of education.

288

### 289 **Educational services**

290 Regional educational service organizations may provide locally elected boards of  
291 education the opportunity to purchase and offer services in a more efficient and less  
292 costly manner. The decision to participate in a regional system must be the responsibility  
293 of the locally elected board of education.

294

295 *OSBA supports legislation that*

296 ● Ensures school districts have access to quality regional educational services through the  
297 state's educational delivery system.

298 ● Requires those responsible for delivering these regional educational services to be held  
299 accountable to locally elected school board members.

300

### 301 **Locally elected boards of education**

302 Control of the public school system by locally elected board members produces an  
303 educational system designed to meet the needs of the community's children. The locally  
304 elected school board provides citizens with a direct means to influence local education  
305 policies, programs, costs and outcomes.

306

307 *OSBA supports legislation that*

308 ● Maintains locally elected school boards, which exemplify representative government.

309

310 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

311 ● Diminishes local control.

312 ● Mandates alternative governance structures, including mayoral takeover, without a  
313 public referendum.

314

### 315 **Open enrollment**

316 Decisions regarding student enrollment must rest with the locally elected board of  
317 education of the district providing the educational service. Open enrollment may have  
318 local benefits, but the ultimate decision must be made by the locally elected board of  
319 education, based on local factors.

320

321 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

322 ● Imposes mandatory open enrollment policies.

323 ● Mandates expansion of open enrollment to noncontiguous districts.

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**Sale/lease of real property**

School facilities represent a major investment of community resources for public education. School facilities and real property represent the most visible evidence of that investment. School board members are stewards of these community resources. Good stewardship requires that facilities be properly maintained and that any proposed disposition of property be of direct benefit to the district and its community. The locally elected board of education must retain the final decision in these matters.

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Provides school districts with the flexibility to sell or lease real property in a manner that offers the most benefit to the school district as determined by the locally elected board of education.

*OSBA opposes legislation that*

- Provides facilities funding to private and charter/community schools.

**Service funds**

Financial resources are necessary to support the professional development of school board members to attend appropriate workshops, seminars, conferences and local board development activities to enable board members to be effective public officials and policymakers.

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Supports the authority of public school districts to create a service fund in which it sets aside a sum each year from its general fund.

**State Board of Education**

The State Board of Education has a constitutional and statutory obligation to set forth the needs of public education in its budget and policy recommendations to the governor and members of the General Assembly. OSBA supports a State Board of Education composed entirely of elected members.

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Provides for an elected State Board of Education.
- Provides for a reduction in the number of appointed board members.
- Provides for the regulation of education standards by an elected State Board of Education.
- **PROVIDES NO APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS.**

*OSBA opposes legislation that*

- Attempts to remove regulatory control of educational standards from the State Board of Education as it fulfills its statutory responsibilities, including, but not limited to, the creation of a professional practice board.

**Vouchers**

370 Although OSBA supports educational options within the public school system as  
371 determined by locally elected boards of education, granting state-funded vouchers to  
372 students to attend nonpublic schools reduces the level of funding available to support and  
373 improve the public school system.

374

375 *OSBA supports legislation that*

376 ● Requires that schools accepting voucher students be held to the same standards and  
377 accountability requirements as public schools.

378 ● Requires that schools accepting voucher students be held to the same performance  
379 reporting requirements as public schools.

380

381 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

382 ● Uses public funds to expand voucher programs in nonpublic schools.

383 ● Expands vouchers, scholarships, tuition tax credits and similar programs at either the  
384 state or federal levels.

385

386

## Finance

387

388 Stable and adequate funding is essential to a sound educational system. OSBA supports  
389 the creation and establishment of an adequate and equitable funding system for Ohio  
390 public schools. The association believes that this is a constitutional responsibility of the  
391 General Assembly, with oversight from the courts. The association pledges to work with  
392 the governor and members of the General Assembly to create such a funding system.

393

### **All-day/every-day kindergarten funding**

394 All-day/every-day kindergarten programs, accompanied by clear academic standards  
395 have been proven to raise the achievement levels of all students and to reduce the  
396 achievement and readiness gaps in students first entering school.

397

398 *OSBA supports legislation that*

399 ● Provides full state funding for all-day/every-day kindergarten that incorporates a  
400 comprehensive curriculum.

401 ● Provides school facilities funding for districts that do not have sufficient space to  
402 accommodate an all-day/every-day kindergarten program that incorporates a  
403 comprehensive curriculum.

404

405

### **Assessment rates**

406 The funding of public education is a shared responsibility of the state of Ohio and local  
407 communities. Tax policy at the state level has a direct influence on local revenue.

408 Consequently, it is essential to maintain an appropriate balance between state and local  
409 revenues. State actions that reduce local revenue resources must be accompanied by  
410 appropriate increases in state educational funding.

411

412

413 *OSBA supports legislation that*



414 ● Replaces lost revenues with state funds when legislation results in local revenue losses,  
415 such as a reduction of the tax base, exemptions from taxation or other tax structure  
416 changes.

417

418 **Average daily membership (ADM)**

419 School districts must have the ability to project revenues accurately on an annual basis. A  
420 school-funding formula based on frequent measures of enrollment and attendance  
421 negatively impacts a district's ability to make accurate forecasts.

422

423 *OSBA supports legislation that*

424 ● Supports enrollment calculations that allow school districts to prepare and provide  
425 programs and services in a way that does not harm the educational experiences of  
426 students.

427 ● Stabilizes school funding by limiting the number and frequency of enrollment counts to  
428 three or fewer spaced at appropriate intervals.

429

430 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

431 ● Changes average daily membership to average daily attendance.

432

433 **Base-formula amount**

434 The provision and funding of a thorough and efficient system of common schools are the  
435 responsibilities of the state of Ohio. In practice, the funding of public education is a  
436 shared responsibility of the state of Ohio and the local community. The capacity of local  
437 communities to generate revenue varies widely across the state. Without the state  
438 providing sufficient funds for all, some children will be denied the right to an adequate  
439 education. Local communities must retain the ability to exercise discretion in offering  
440 educational programs that exceed the defined level of an adequate education.

441

442 *OSBA supports legislation that*

443 ● Establishes a process for determining the components and costs of a high-quality  
444 education.

445 ● Provides that the state shall pay 100% of the cost for an adequate education for every  
446 child and 100% of the cost of categoricals that enable every school district to provide  
447 such an education to every student.

448

449 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

450 ● Prohibits communities from voting additional taxes to provide educational programs  
451 beyond the defined level of an adequate education.

452

453 **Categorical parity**

454 Children with special educational needs place extraordinary demands on public school  
455 district revenues. Because of the wide disparities in the capacity to generate local  
456 revenues that exist across school districts, additional state revenues must be made  
457 available to ensure that children with special educational needs are served appropriately.

458

459 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 460 ● Establishes that the state, in addition to determining the cost of a high-quality  
461 educational program, must determine the additional costs necessary to provide services to  
462 students with special educational needs, such as students who are economically  
463 disadvantaged, students with disabilities and students who require career-technical  
464 education or gifted educational services.  
465 ● Indexes the cost of providing educational services to students with special educational  
466 needs against the cost of providing a high-quality educational program for regular students,  
467 so that each component increases proportionately and in parity with those costs.  
468 ● Fully funds at 100% of the cost, the services needed for every child with special  
469 educational needs.

470

471 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 472 ● Equalizes the funding weights for special needs categories, in addition to the cost of a  
473 basic education to provide educational services to special education, career-technical  
474 education and gifted students.

475

#### 476 **Charter/community school funding**

477 Full transparency of the costs of both public schools and charter/community schools  
478 dictates that the flow of tax dollars be accurately reflected. Any transfer of state tax  
479 dollars to charter/community schools must be based on accurate enrollment information.  
480 The public school district of residence must be immediately notified when a student  
481 enrolls or withdraws from a charter/community school. The current practice of deducting  
482 funding for charter/community school children from the state funds provided to  
483 traditional public school districts is unnecessary and confusing. State funding for  
484 charter/community schools must flow directly to the charter/community school sponsor.  
485 All local dollars generated through local levies must remain with the local taxing  
486 authority.

487

488 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 489 ● Provides state base funding, as well as support for special education, career-technical  
490 education, poverty aid and transportation services, directly to the charter/community  
491 school rather than deducting the payment to the charter/community from the local  
492 district's state funding.  
493 ● Prohibits state funds for any charter/community school that refuses to accept all  
494 students who apply.  
495 ● Eliminates the process of flow-through funding to charter/community schools.  
496 ● Prohibits the use of local tax dollars to fund charter/community schools, except those  
497 sponsored by a locally elected board of education.  
498 ● Requires that school districts be paid an administrative fee to cover the cost of tracking  
499 charter/community school enrollment.  
500 ● Provides full state funding to purchase additional buses required to provide  
501 transportation for charter/community school students.  
502 ● Requires charter/community schools to coordinate schedules with the district providing  
503 the transportation services.

- 504 ● Requires transparency in finances and accounting for all funds transferred to  
505 management companies by charter/community school governing boards for the purpose  
506 of administering and operating a charter/community school.  
507 ● Requires the management company to keep all financial records and to make all such  
508 documents public records available to the governing boards and to the public.

509  
510 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 511 ● Includes children attending charter/community schools in the public school district's  
512 ADM count.  
513 ● Deducts funding for children attending charter/community schools from the resident  
514 district.  
515 ● Requires school districts to share local tax revenues and resources with  
516 charter/community schools.  
517 ● Transfers funds from a public school to a charter/community school without complying  
518 with the legal requirement to notify the home district of enrollment or withdrawal.

519  
520 **Court-ordered judgment counted as debt**

521 A true and accurate representation of school district valuation reflects all debt obligations.

522

523 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 524 ● Requires that contractual agreements with the state and/or bonds issued to satisfy a  
525 court-ordered judgment will count as real debt for a district's net indebtedness for  
526 participation in state-assisted programs.

527

528 **Developmental disabilities services**

529 Local tax revenues are generated to support programs for the clients of county  
530 developmental disabilities agencies. When a locally elected board of education is  
531 providing the educational programming and services, the public school district must be  
532 fairly compensated by the respective county developmental disabilities agency.

533

534 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 535 ● Develops a process for fair financial compensation to those school districts that provide  
536 the educational services to students that are within the jurisdiction of the county  
537 developmental disabilities agency, but whose developmental disabilities board declines to  
538 provide financial compensation to the actual provider.

539

540 **Diversion of voter-approved tax revenue**

541 Voters must be assured that revenues raised through taxes will go directly for the  
542 purposes stated. Voter-approved tax funds generated for education purposes must be  
543 administered by locally elected boards of education and must be spent only for public  
544 education purposes.

545

546 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 547 ● Prohibits the diversion of voter-approved tax money without the approval of voters.

548

549 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 550 ● Diverts voter-approved tax funds to another purpose without voter approval.  
551

552 **Earmarking/tax increases**

553 An adequate level of support for every Ohio public school student requires additional  
554 state revenues. Any additional revenues generated to support public education must be  
555 earmarked to ensure that it is spent for the designated public education purpose. New or  
556 additional sources of funding shall not be used to supplant general revenue funds or  
557 lottery profits funds currently designated for public education support.  
558

559 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 560 ● Provides the necessary revenues to support an adequate and equitable system of  
561 funding public schools in Ohio and to permit them to offer a high-quality educational  
562 program to every student.  
563 ● Provides an increase in state revenues either through the enactment of an increase in the  
564 state sales tax and/or the state personal income tax and/or the commercial activities tax.  
565 ● Separately appropriates all lottery profits funding to be allocated to districts on a per  
566 pupil basis.  
567

568 **Educational service centers funding**

569 ~~Educational service centers are a vital link and partner in the educational process,~~  
570 ~~providing curriculum development, staff development, technology assistance, special~~  
571 ~~education services, and other services for the public school districts they serve.~~  
572 **EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS (ESCs) SERVE AS A VITAL LINK AND**  
573 **PARTNER IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS. GOVERNED BY LOCALLY**  
574 **ELECTED BOARDS OF EDUCATION, ESCs ARE CONSIDERED TO BE**  
575 **SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNDER STATE LAW AND AS LOCAL EDUCATION**  
576 **AGENCIES UNDER FEDERAL LAW. ESCs PROVIDE A WIDE VARIETY OF**  
577 **DIRECT AND SUPPORT SERVICES, INCLUDING CURRICULUM**  
578 **DEVELOPMENT, STAFF DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE**  
579 **AND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
580 **DISTRICTS THEY SERVE, AS WELL AS SHARED SERVICES WITH OTHER**  
581 **GOVERNMENTAL BODIES. ESCs SAVE THE STATE OF OHIO AND**  
582 **SCHOOL DISTRICTS MONEY THROUGH COST-EFFECTIVE,**  
583 **COLLABORATIVE VENTURES THAT EXPAND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO**  
584 **RESOURCES AND MAXIMIZE OPERATING AND FISCAL EFFICIENCIES.**  
585 **DESPITE DIMINISHING LEVELS OF STATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ESCs**  
586 **HAVE MAINTAINED HIGH LEVELS OF SERVICE BY BECOMING MORE**  
587 **ENTREPRENERUIAL IN THEIR OPERATIONS.**  
588

589 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 590 ● Provides an adequate funding mechanism for educational service centers that provides  
591 for inflationary growth.  
592 ● Requires state funding for facilities to be part of the educational service centers’  
593 funding formula.  
594

595 **Election opportunities**

596 Public education depends upon support from local communities through voter-approved  
597 tax levies and bond issues. Because the cycle of elections and revenue collection requires  
598 sufficient opportunity to place issues before the public for approval, the current practice  
599 of a primary election and a general election, combined with the opportunity for two  
600 special elections, is necessary.

601

602 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

603 ● Reduces the number and frequency of election opportunities available to school  
604 districts for ballot issues.

605

### 606 **Facilities**

607 OSBA supports a state facilities funding program that provides access to state support  
608 when public school districts determine that a facility program is required. The facility  
609 program must address the demands upon districts and issues related to classroom  
610 facilities caused by state operating requirements and expenditure and reporting standards.  
611 A facility program must be subject to state standards for school construction, rather than  
612 on a state-prescribed schedule.

613

614 *OSBA supports legislation that*

615 ● Provides funds and resources to support school safety programs.

616 ● Provides for safe facilities that meet building codes, are conducive to providing  
617 educational services and support the inclusion of technology in the classroom.

618 ● Uses median income of the district's residents as a measure of fiscal capacity, in  
619 addition to recognized valuation.

620 ● Immediately reflects in the facilities funding formula changes in valuation resulting  
621 from legislative or judicial action.

622 ● Requires school buildings determined to be unsafe by local fire and health departments  
623 to be upgraded immediately.

624 ● Authorizes locally elected boards of education that have unsafe buildings in their  
625 district to impose an emergency capital improvements levy to upgrade and correct the  
626 unsafe conditions in the facility.

627 ● Requires the state to provide its full faith and credit as backing for all local facility  
628 bonds.

629 ● Repeals the 1/2-mill maintenance requirements.

630 ● Provides funds to support mandated programs, such as all-day kindergarten, preschool  
631 programs and accessibility needs.

632

### 633 **Fees**

634 Funds provided for educational purposes should be directed only for educational  
635 purposes. Accordingly, user fees must not be charged to local educational agencies.

636

637 *OSBA supports legislation that*

638 ● Eliminates or reduces state-imposed fees for board of election expenses and auditor fees.

639

640 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

641 ● Requires districts to incur a debt limit that will harm a district's financial position.

- 642 ● Attempts to pass on to school districts any fees by government entities to pay for  
643 services that are the normal responsibility of that entity.

644

### 645 **Gambling**

646 The Ohio Lottery Commission's advertisements and promotions frequently pair the  
647 lottery with educational funding, which has generated misunderstanding among the  
648 general public. Such advertisements give the general public the false impression that  
649 gambling and the lottery are a major source of educational funds. While the lottery, by  
650 law, does direct lottery profits to education, such revenues are not sufficient for  
651 educational funding and, over the years, have been used to supplant other state funding.  
652 A portion of revenues derived from gambling operations authorized by the state is also  
653 set aside for schools and other local government entities and should not be used to  
654 supplant other state funding.

655

656 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 657 ● Prohibits advertising or campaigning by the Ohio Lottery Commission or agents of the  
658 state of Ohio that implies directly or indirectly that the funding of public education is  
659 contingent upon gambling.

660

661 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 662 ● Uses profits from casinos and video lottery terminals to supplant other funding directed  
663 to public education.

664

### 665 **Impact fees**

666 Impact fees are a source of capital expenses and have been widely used to meet school  
667 district and community needs. Impact fees are particularly useful to those districts  
668 experiencing rapid growth in residential development where the local tax base has not  
669 grown sufficiently to offset the costs associated with student enrollment growth.

670

671 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 672 ● Provides for locally elected boards of education to propose to the voters an impact fee  
673 assessed on new housing to provide the additional revenues needed for capital expenses  
674 incurred in rapidly developing school districts.

675

### 676 **Inflationary growth**

677 School districts must realize real funding growth adequate to address revenue needs  
678 without requiring voter approval of new tax levies. House bill 920, passed in 1976, places  
679 a tax reduction factor on the inflationary growth on real property values caused by  
680 reappraisal. The net effect of HB 920 is to prevent natural growth in revenues as property  
681 values grow, thereby requiring school districts to continue to seek voter approval for  
682 school tax levies.

683

684 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 685 ● Provides for inflationary growth to ensure an adequate and equitable funding system for  
686 Ohio's public schools.

687

688 **Local taxing options**

689 The economic capacity of school communities varies widely across the state of Ohio.  
690 Locally elected boards of education benefit from the availability of flexible options that  
691 enable ballot issues designed to meet the unique economic conditions of the district.

692

693 *OSBA supports legislation that*

694 ● Supports local taxing options that allow flexibility at the county, district and regional  
695 levels for school districts.

696

697 **Medicaid**

698 ~~The state of Ohio should participate in federally sponsored programs designed to provide~~  
699 ~~financial resources to support federally mandated programs.~~ **THE MEDICAID**

700 **SCHOOL PROGRAM IS ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF**  
701 **MEDICAID AND THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND**  
702 **REIMBURSES SCHOOLS FOR MEDICAID ELIGIBLE SERVICES PROVIDED**  
703 **TO CHILDREN WITH AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN. THE OHIO**  
704 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IS REQUIRED TO ADMINISTER ASPECTS**  
705 **OF THE MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM PURSUANT TO AN**  
706 **INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF**  
707 **MEDICAID.**

708

709 *OSBA supports legislation that*

710 ● Supports a state program that reimburses school districts for medical and related  
711 services as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act provided to  
712 Medicaid-eligible students.

713

714 **Phantom revenue/chargeoff**

715 The calculation of the local share of the cost of a high-quality education must be based on  
716 a true representation of the true district valuation and effective millage rate. Such  
717 calculations must not assume a higher millage rate than the amount actually in effect.

718

719 *OSBA supports legislation that*

720 ● Aligns the local share (chargeoff) of the cost of a high-quality education program with  
721 the tax reduction floor.

722 ● Bases the local share on actual local revenues available at the chargeoff rate.

723 ● Eliminates all forms of phantom revenue.

724

725 **Pooling**

726 Locally elected boards of education must rely upon voter support to raise local tax  
727 revenues. Local property taxes raised to support public education must only be used for  
728 public education purposes.

729

730 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

731 ● Pools local property tax revenues and/or diverts locally approved revenues to other  
732 entities.

733

734 **Prekindergarten funding**  
735 Prekindergarten programs benefit children, families and communities. Multiple studies  
736 have shown that high-quality prekindergarten programs lead to increased graduation rates,  
737 reduced retention rates and fewer children ultimately placed in special education.

738  
739 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 740 ● Provides full state funding to support prekindergarten programs when the locally  
741 elected board of education chooses to offer such programs.

742  
743 **Property tax relief**

744 Ohio's overreliance on local property taxes to fund public education has and will  
745 continue to cause local burdens and hardships in fully funding the education system.

746  
747 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 748 ● Increases property tax relief, while ensuring that all taxpayers pay a fair share of the  
749 cost of public education.
- 750 ● Eliminates the overreliance on local property taxes.

751  
752 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 753 ● Achieves increased property tax relief from the existing funding for elementary and  
754 secondary education.

755  
756 **Public/nonpublic school funding**

757 The Ohio General Assembly is charged with providing a thorough and efficient system of  
758 common schools. Public school districts must receive no fewer state funds than the  
759 amount received by any nonpublic school.

760  
761 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 762 ● Grants Ohio's public schools at least the same per-pupil amount as the chartered  
763 nonpublic schools in Ohio receive.
- 764 ● **DIRECTS ANY AND ALL FUNDS, RETURNED TO THE STATE BY**  
765 **CHARTER SCHOOLS, TO TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF**  
766 **RESIDENCE.**

767  
768 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 769 ● Diverts state dollars from public education to support nonpublic schools.

770  
771 **Robin Hood**

772 OSBA believes school funding must be equitable among Ohio's diverse public school  
773 districts.

774  
775 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 776 ● Provides the funding changes necessary for adequacy and equity, without lowering the  
777 funding of other districts.
- 778 ● Supports a high-quality educational program for all public school students, regardless  
779 of their geographical location in the state.

780



781 **School bus purchase and transportation reimbursement**

782 Because safe and reliable pupil transportation depends on the availability of mechanically  
783 sound vehicles, locally elected boards of education rely upon scheduled state  
784 reimbursement payments to maintain their transportation fleets.

785

786 *OSBA supports legislation that*

787 ● Provides for the revision of state standards for school bus purchase reimbursement to  
788 consider the age and condition of the bus to be replaced, as well as the mileage.

789 ● Reinstates state funding for bus purchase reimbursements and operating expenses.

790 ● Makes a state appropriation to replace all buses that are more than 10 years old and do  
791 not have the latest safety features.

792

793 **School district income tax**

794 An increasing number of school districts rely on school district income taxes for a portion  
795 of their funding. Tax credits for senior citizens on fixed incomes increase the likelihood  
796 that these voters will support income tax levy campaigns.

797

798 *OSBA supports legislation that*

799 ● Provides for increasing the senior citizen school district income tax credit.

800 ● Establishes and enforces strict rules for reporting school district state income tax  
801 identification numbers.

802

803 **School district levy reduction/repeal**

804 School district levy requests are based on five-year or longer projections of costs and  
805 revenues. The ability to repeal levies within the first five years could increase the need  
806 for more frequent levy requests.

807

808 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

809 ● Allows a reduction or repeal by citizen petition and vote of any levy that has been  
810 approved by the voters unless such referendum has been initiated by the school district.

811

812 **School district liability**

813 Excessive court judgments against school districts can seriously impair the district's  
814 ability to provide an adequate education to its students.

815

816 *OSBA supports legislation that*

817 ● Allows school districts to recover legal costs for any appeal of a court judgment when  
818 no monetary damages were issued by the court.

819

820 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

821 ● Increases a school district's liability or increases the damages assessed against a school  
822 district.

823

824 **School funding factors**

825 OSBA believes school-funding distribution formulas must be equitable and adequate  
826 across Ohio's diverse public school districts.

827

828 *OSBA supports legislation that*  
829 ● Makes adjustments in school funding based on operational costs, needs of students and  
830 geographical challenges and funding capacity that exist among school districts.

831

832 **Self-insured workers' compensation program**

833 School districts that are self-insured for purposes of workers' compensation realize  
834 benefits such as self-administration and claim-related cost savings.

835

836 *OSBA supports legislation that*

837 ● Allows all public school districts in Ohio to self-insure for the purposes of workers'  
838 compensation programs.

839

840 **State fuel tax exemption**

841 All local governments, including school districts, should be exempt from all state taxes in  
842 order to avoid the imposition of a double tax on local taxpayers.

843

844 *OSBA supports legislation that*

845 ● Exempts fuel purchased by boards of education from the state fuel tax.

846

847 **State investment in education**

848 The Ohio Constitution requires the Ohio General Assembly to provide for a thorough and  
849 efficient system of common schools. The state's commitment to public education was  
850 strengthened by the 1851 Ohio Constitution's mandate that "it shall be the duty of the  
851 general assembly to ... encourage schools and the means of instruction and to make such  
852 provision, as will secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout  
853 the State." An investment in education is an investment in the future of Ohio's citizens  
854 and must be the top priority of everyone.

855

856 *OSBA supports legislation that*

857 ● Makes the support of public education the state's number one priority.

858

859 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

860 ● Attempts to shift the responsibility of costs to locally elected boards of education.

861

862 **Tangible personal property tax replacement**

863 The local tax base relies on the fair and accurate assessment of property values.  
864 Challenges to an assessed value must be reported to all affected taxing authorities at the  
865 time the challenge is filed. Any affected taxing authority must have standing to appeal  
866 decisions on valuations. Tangible personal property tax and public utility tangible  
867 property tax revenues are no longer applied and replacement of these losses have been  
868 phased out from all but a few districts.

869

870 *OSBA supports legislation that*

871 ● Reinstates state reimbursement that fully matches the loss of the local tangible personal  
872 property tax base.

873 ● Assesses no interest payment in cases when repayment is necessary due to an error on  
874 the part of the taxpayer.

875

### 876 **Tax abatements**

877 Tax abatements siphon critical funding away from public school districts, leaving local  
878 taxpayers to make up the difference.

879

880 *OSBA supports legislation that*

881 ● Requires that locally elected boards of education be involved in all discussions and  
882 decisions regarding tax abatements.

883 ● Grants locally elected boards of education the authority to enter into negotiations to  
884 receive compensation for lost revenues with entities granting abatements and with  
885 businesses receiving abatements.

886 ● Grants locally elected boards of education veto power if, in the board's judgment, the  
887 abatements adversely impact the district.

888 ● Requires locally elected boards of education to receive state-mandated compensation  
889 based on all payroll generated from the abatement (whether tenant or owner).

890 ● Requires locally elected boards of education to receive all reports, studies and  
891 information available regarding the abatement.

892 ● Allows locally elected boards of education to have standing to institute legal action if  
893 the recipient of an abatement has not complied with the terms of a tax abatement.

894

### 895 **Tax policy**

896 Ohio's tax system must be stable, competitive and reflective of the current economy. The  
897 funding of public education is a shared responsibility of the state of Ohio and local  
898 communities. Tax policy at the state level has a direct influence on local revenues. It is  
899 essential to maintain an appropriate balance between state and local revenues. State  
900 actions that reduce local revenue resources must be accompanied by appropriate  
901 increases in state education funding.

902

903 *OSBA supports legislation that*

904 ● Requires all sectors of the economy to pay their fair share of the cost of public school  
905 education and state government.

906 ● Replaces lost revenues with state funds when legislation results in local revenue losses,  
907 such as a reduction of the tax base, exemptions from taxation or other tax structure  
908 changes.

909

### 910 **Taxing/spending limitations**

911 Locally elected boards of education should have the opportunity and flexibility to work  
912 with their local communities on taxation and spending issues without restrictions from  
913 the state.

914

915 *OSBA supports legislation that*

916 ● Preserves and supports the right of locally elected boards of education to challenge or  
917 appeal property tax valuations.

918

919 *OSBA opposes legislation that*  
920 ● Restricts local taxation and spending by school districts.

921  
922 **Pupil transportation**

923 Pupil transportation presents a significant challenge for many districts. In many areas of  
924 the state, students would face great challenges in getting to school were it not for the  
925 option to ride a school bus. Rural districts often encompass a large geographic area but  
926 have low-density populations. Funding for transportation services should incentivize  
927 efficiencies and account for specific circumstances among districts.

928  
929 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 930 ● Provides sufficient funding for every child who rides a school bus.
- 931 ● Rewards schools for efficiency.
- 932 ● Incentivizes school districts to transport students residing within one to two miles of  
933 their school.
- 934 ● Incentivizes school districts to provide transportation for high school students.
- 935 ● Fully compensates districts for the transportation of students to schools which are not  
936 part of the district.
- 937 ● Provides for better support of rural districts with low density and low wealth.
- 938 ● Operates separately from the education funding formula to ensure districts actually  
939 receive the state transportation levels to which they are entitled.
- 940 ● Reinstates funding for school bus purchases.

941  
942 **Unfunded/underfunded mandates**

943 Unfunded or underfunded mandates create burdens locally and sometimes  
944 disproportionately across school districts in Ohio. Federal and state officials should be  
945 conscious of mandate burdens being shouldered by public school districts.

946  
947 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 948 ● Prohibits the U.S. Congress, the Ohio General Assembly and federal or state  
949 administrative agencies from enacting or promulgating statutes or rules that result in  
950 unfunded and underfunded mandates.
- 951 ● Requires that fiscal impact statements accompany all school-related proposed statutes  
952 or rules.

953  
954 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 955 ● Does not have funding associated with it.

956  
957

958 **Personnel**

959

960 The effective recruitment and retention of high-quality staff are critical for the success of  
961 any school district. Properly trained and highly motivated personnel can provide  
962 maximum learning opportunities for students. Ongoing evaluation of staff performance is  
963 essential.

964

965 Ohio enacted a comprehensive collective bargaining statute in April 1984. The enactment  
966 of the collective bargaining bill and a series of court cases, particularly in the area of  
967 teacher evaluation and nonrenewal, have made it difficult for locally elected boards of  
968 education to effectively manage schools. OSBA believes that changes and modifications  
969 to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4117, as well as to Sections 3319.11, 3319.111 and  
970 3319.16, are necessary.

971

### 972 **Collective bargaining**

973 OSBA believes that some board affairs may not be appropriate matters for formal  
974 negotiations such as, but not limited to, the length of the school day and school year,  
975 class size, curriculum, course of study, and textbook and instructional materials selection.

976

977 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 978 ● Restores management rights to the collective bargaining statutes.
- 979 ● Recognizes the right of employees to organize for professional organization goals,  
980 without interference, coercion or reprisal from the board or its representatives, and  
981 guarantees employees the right to refrain from joining any organization.
- 982 ● Permits parties to negotiate mutually satisfactory dispute resolution processes.
- 983 ● Provides penalties and sanctions imposed upon striking public employees that are an  
984 effective deterrent to such strikes.
- 985 ● Limits picketing at the residence and/or places of business of public officials.
- 986 ● Requires a 10-day written notice prior to the commencement of picketing, striking or  
987 other concerted refusal to work.
- 988 ● Allows locally elected boards of education to suspend individual employment contracts  
989 for all types of employees for economic considerations.
- 990 ● Limits the ability of a local collective bargaining contract from impeding a district's  
991 ability to suspend individual employment contracts.
- 992 ● Supports innovative approaches to employee compensation initiated on the local level.

993

994 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 995 ● Places restrictions on the exercise of free choice of either party in designating its  
996 representatives to the bargaining team.
- 997 ● Mandates joining an organization by a scheme of fees, assessments or other coercion by  
998 an organization upon nonmembers.
- 999 ● Permits any person or agency to intervene in negotiations or a job action without the  
1000 agreement of all parties.
- 1001 ● Permits strikes by public employees.
- 1002 ● Imposes binding arbitration as a method of resolving collective bargaining disputes.

1003

### 1004 **Confidentiality of personnel applications**

1005 Maintaining confidentiality permits districts to attract the best candidates possible for  
1006 employment or promotions.

1007

1008 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1009 ● Provides through the Ohio Public Records Act that applications for employment,  
1010 including applications for promotion, are confidential and not subject to disclosure except  
1011 at the discretion of the locally elected board of education.

1012

### 1013 **Evaluations**

1014 Evaluations serve as both an evaluative process and a communication tool between the  
1015 employer and employee. Evaluations communicate desired outcomes to employees and  
1016 help employees see how their work and expected contributions benefit their schools.

1017

1018 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1019 ● Provides for evaluations of all school employees.

1020 ● Permits the removal of employees who do not correct identified deficiencies and  
1021 improve their performance.

1022 ● Creates a probationary period for those employees who have deficiencies noted in the  
1023 evaluation process so that they may correct deficiencies. Failure to correct deficiencies  
1024 after appropriate intervention may be cause for termination.

1025 ● Authorizes the components of evaluations to be developed locally, including job  
1026 descriptions and performance standards.

1027 ● Mandates that personnel evaluations of employees be confidential records which may  
1028 be released only at the discretion of the board.

1029

1030 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

1031 ● Requires evaluations of school personnel in a manner that hinders a board's ability to  
1032 nonrenew an employee.

1033

### 1034 **Health care**

1035 Health care pooling may offer significant savings for districts.

1036

1037 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1038 ● Supports the concept of expanding health care pooling, provided that school districts  
1039 maintain local decision-making authority, that their employees maintain quality benefit  
1040 levels and that significant cost savings or other efficiencies are created by the pooling.

1041

### 1042 **Professional development**

1043 Students must be prepared to compete in the global marketplace. Consequently, teachers  
1044 must be prepared to provide modern methods and instructional strategies that meet the  
1045 academic needs of students.

1046

1047 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1048 ● Requires institutions of higher education for teachers to include in their curriculum  
1049 courses in technology, classroom management, crisis management and behavior  
1050 management, including training in appropriate behavioral intervention techniques.

1051

### 1052 **Retirement systems**

1053 Ohio school employee retirement systems offer benefits to their members and may help  
1054 attract and retain employees. OSBA supports the school employee retirement systems and

1055 has not opposed benefit enhancements in the past. However, when determining pension  
1056 benefits and eligibility, the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) and State  
1057 Employees Retirement System (SERS) should consider current demographic realities  
1058 such as life expectancy and the number of years employees remain in the workforce.  
1059

1060 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1061 ● Includes representation of locally elected boards of education on the STRS and SERS  
1062 boards.

1063

1064 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

1065 ● Provides future benefit enhancements proposed by STRS and SERS unless the  
1066 enhancement is accompanied with a reduction in the 14% employer's share and repeal of  
1067 the SERS surcharge.

1068 ● Increases the employer's share to cover increases in costs.





# Reference Materials

# OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

## Summary of Minutes of the Sixtieth Annual Business Meeting

Monday, Nov. 9, 2015  
Greater Columbus Convention Center Terrace Ballroom  
Columbus, Ohio

The 60th Annual Business Meeting of the Ohio School Boards Association convened in the Terrace Ballroom of the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio, on Monday, Nov. 9, 2015. OSBA President Ed Penrod, Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking), presided.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Ed Penrod called the 60th Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly to order.

### 2. INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM GUESTS

President Penrod introduced the following head table guests: Jay Smith, OSBA deputy director of legislative services; Damon Asbury, OSBA director of legislative services; Richard Lewis, OSBA executive director; Eric Germann, OSBA president-elect; Mary Remson, parliamentarian; and Sara Clark, OSBA director of legal services.

### 3. SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS

President Penrod recognized members of the Board of Trustees, Legislative Platform Committee and regional managers of OSBA.

### INTRODUCTION OF OSBA PAST PRESIDENTS

President Penrod acknowledged the dedication and commitment of the OSBA past presidents. President Penrod introduced past presidents Sue Ann Norton, Ray Hicks, Bonnie Eddy, Patricia McNickel, Paul D. Mock, Kathy Leavenworth, Linda Anderson, Larry E. Holdren, Catherine Ingram, Edward A. Bischoff, John Pennycuff, Sharon Manson, Charlie Wilson and Susie Lawson.

### 4. OHIO SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

President Penrod introduced and welcomed Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Richard A. Ross. Dr. Ross thanked President Penrod for his introduction. Dr. Ross addressed the delegates.

### 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Doug Stewart, Rittman EV and Wayne County Schools Career Center and chair of the Credentials Committee, reported that the committee met to review the procedures for registration of delegates and credentials presented by delegates and alternates. Mr. Stewart reported that Article VI, Section 2 of the OSBA constitution provides that 25% of the board members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. The Credentials Committee chair declared a quorum with 315 delegates/alternates present and moved for adoption of the Credentials Committee report. **Motion carried.**

John Boyer, Waverly City and chair of the Rules Committee, gave the report of the committee. Mr. Boyer stated

the Rules Committee met in July by conference call and today, for the purpose of reviewing rules proposed for conduct of this assembly. The committee has reviewed and approved the rules, and he moved to adopt the rules as printed in the delegate book for the 2015 Delegate Assembly. **Motion carried.**

Susie Lawson, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center, OSBA Immediate Past President and chair of the Nominating Committee, gave the report of the committee. Ms. Lawson stated that the committee met on Aug. 8 to consider four applicants for the position of president-elect for 2016. The members of the committee were Marguerite Bennett, Doug Stuart, Eric Germann, Dan Hothem and Rick Foster. As directed by the Nominating Committee, the Committee nominated Denise Baba, of Streetsboro City, for the office of 2016 President-Elect of the Ohio School Boards Association.

## **6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT**

President Penrod moved to accept the Nominating Committee's report and the nomination of Denise Baba for 2016 president-elect. Al Haberstroh, Trumbull County ESC, provided an honorary second to the motion. **Motion carried.**

## **7. INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT**

President Penrod congratulated Ms. Baba. 2016 President-elect Baba gave the following remarks.

“Thank you. Well, OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions. And it's my honor to offer my assistance in any way to help OSBA achieve that mission as an officer of the organization. And I have a goal of representing OSBA and its membership with enthusiasm and dignity, and I would appreciate all of your support in the years to come. And as an aside, I have to say you will notice that Al referred to me as a girl twice during his comments, which I am forever grateful for. Thank you.”

President Penrod now introduced Mr. Richard Lewis for the purpose of making his annual report to the Delegate Assembly.

## **8. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — Richard C. Lewis**

Executive Director Richard Lewis gave the following remarks.

“Before each of you is a brand new unsharpened pencil. Take a long look at it. Close your eyes and recall your school days and your collection of new pencils with flawless erasers and sharpened points ready to take on the learning tasks ahead. A new pencil is indeed a beautiful thing, but only if it is prepared for its journey of service.

Long ago, a pencil maker was preparing to put a very important pencil in a box. Before doing so, he told the pencil, “There are five things you need to know. If you can remember these five things, you will become the best pencil you can possibly be.”

President Penrod and delegates to the 60th annual business meeting of the Ohio School Boards Association— thank you for the privilege of addressing you today for you are truly the best pencils of public education.

Year after year, Ohio public schools are among the best in the country, earning national recognition, landing on prestigious award lists and showcasing models of efficiency and achievement. While your challenges are substantial — poverty, funding uncertainties and ever-changing mandates — it is clear that Ohio public education is thriving. As you strive to provide a world-class education, it remains OSBA's mission to lead the way through

superior service and creative solutions. The future belongs to those who see possibilities before they become obvious. That is why OSBA will seize every opportunity and take heed the following five lessons of the pencil maker.

Lesson one. You will be able to do great things, but only if your service has a purpose and a point, unlike the pencils before you, and you allow yourself to be held in someone else's hand.

Just like the pencil, you must at times be carefully guided by coaching and mentoring from people who care. There are few greater calls to public service than paying forward as a school board member. The future of millions of children — not to mention our communities and nation — are in the hands of those who lead our schools. May I ask those of you completing your service on your board to please stand? As an outgoing board member, you should be proud. Public education has achieved much under your watch. OSBA thanks you for your service.

Children today are learning more, graduation rates are rising and teachers are more qualified than ever before. Ohio's school facilities are exceptional places to learn. Your dedication has benefited the boards on which you have served. It will benefit the board that you will soon pass the baton to, as well as every board that serves your community in the future.

Just this past week hundreds of men and women were elected to boards across Ohio. It is now the responsibility of veteran board members and this association to prepare them to carry the banner of public education. If you are continuing your service, please consider participating in OSBA's mentor program to assist those newly elected board members and share your years of knowledge and experience.

Lesson two — stay sharp because an unsharpened pencil is worthless. Feedback is painful at times, but without it you become dull.

Constantly take the time to sharpen your skills through self-evaluation. Also, read as much as you can about leadership, attend workshops, and observe and absorb. Sharpening is painful, but critical if you want to become a better pencil.

OSBA is a very successful organization with a rich tradition of serving school boards since 1955. But to stay strong, we need your committed involvement. This association has never been — nor will it ever be — simply a staff in Columbus. OSBA is you. It represents the collective work of more than 700 school boards and nearly 3,500 board members. Its strength lies in remaining true to its roots as a member-driven organization. Your participation in the Delegate Assembly here today is powerful proof of that.

Joining you are over 93% of Ohio's public school districts. In addition, we have conducted over 100 workshops and webinars in 2015, attracting nearly 3,000 members of the school management team. Faithful to our strategic plan, OSBA effectively communicates with our members to exchange ideas and share information.

Lesson three. Because you have an eraser, you can correct most mistakes, though some may be harder to erase than others. It's okay to make mistakes. Embrace the mistakes as opportunities to learn. So, learn, erase and become better! On average, nearly half of Ohio's school board members are serving their first term and there can be little debate about the value of experience. As Mark Twain declared, "A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way." Experience is the name we give our mistakes. It is the teacher of all things. It is what allows a leader to make new mistakes instead of repeating old ones.

This brings us to Lesson four. Believe in yourself. We all come in different shapes, sizes and colors – just like pencils. But it’s what’s inside that matters most. You can have a powerful impact by believing in yourself and your purpose. Our collective voice continues to expand with OSBA’s statewide public awareness campaign – “Stand Up for Public Schools.” The campaign’s mission is to raise awareness of the value and successes of Ohio public schools and the importance of locally elected school boards. We want to make state, community and business leaders aware of how effective their public schools really are. We want those without children in school to see that public education works. And we want to remind those with children in our schools what a vital resource these institutions are.

And finally, lesson five. Whatever surface you are used on, make sure you leave your mark. You provide the educational foundation that each child needs to go on to college and careers — and succeed in life. No matter how hard, rough or easy, you must continue to write. Don’t give up. Sometimes you will wonder if it is worth it. But hold to your vision even when it seems it has dimmed. Others are counting on you to take them where you are going. And you can count on OSBA to lead through demonstrated expertise, active and engaged membership.

In these difficult times, a strong professional association representing school boards is more important than ever. OSBA is that association. In 2015, OSBA’s legislative team and school boards successfully lobbied for aid to districts with significant amounts of agricultural land to address CAUV issues. We succeeded in blocking efforts to limit districts’ right to challenge property valuations, as well as stopping a proposal that would have exempted certain industries from portions of taxes. Both of these moves would have denied Ohio schools badly needed revenue.

We successfully lobbied to change the funding formula taking local capacity to raise revenues into account, and we successfully pushed to reduce the frequency, length and type of student assessments. We are also pleased that the legislature finally acted on our collective calls to increase the accountability and transparency for charter school sponsors, governing boards and operators. But our work at the statehouse is not complete. We will also continue to strenuously object to the last-minute addition of the “Youngstown” amendment to House Bill 70 and work hard to address the impact of cuts to districts reliant on tangible personal property taxes.

OSBA’s attorneys answered thousands of calls this year from members seeking legal information, saving districts tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees. They issued Legal Alerts on crucial case rulings and our Legal Assistance Fund supported eight cases dealing with matters of statewide significance, including school funding, child abuse reporting, property tax exemptions, open meeting laws, construction contracts, and charter school accountability. OSBA’s legal advocacy efforts found their way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Our briefs made a difference promoting favorable judicial decisions that can have a very positive impact on your districts and your students.

OSBA continued providing valuable consulting services like strategic planning, executive searches, labor relations, communication, policy development, transportation and more. And to deliver on our pledge to keep pace with an ever-changing world, OSBA is always innovating. 2015 saw transformational change in our use of technology in executive searches and policy development. These services have no equal in the field in price or innovativeness. We embrace forward thinking and the dynamic renovation it brings.

OSBA also is pleased to offer a new subscription service beginning in January. This program will expand access to transportation expertise and training. It allows us to better leverage our resources so that more districts can receive affordable transportation guidance. More importantly, it opens up networking opportunities for administrators responsible for student transportation. Our goal is to ensure each district has the necessary

resources to successfully run their transportation operations and obtain the information needed to maintain safety and efficiency.

OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials continue to offer SchoolComp, Ohio's largest and most stable workers' compensation pool. The combined savings of the program total nearly \$30.7 million dollars and our Group Retrospective Rating program has returned more than \$7.6 million dollars in premium refunds.

Our three associations also partnered with the Ohio Schools Council to create Power4Schools, an electricity purchasing program that saved members well over \$8 million dollars this past year bringing our total savings to over \$41.7 million dollars, an amazing return on the investment of your membership dues. I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank BASA and OASBO who are more than just business partners. We greatly value their collaboration in advocacy at the statehouse and in modeling the concept of the management team and extend our gratitude and appreciation to the leadership of both associations.

OSBA's relationships with groups sharing our goal of a strong education system are ever expanding. We've collaborated with the State University Education Deans and private colleges to improve teacher preparation. You'll find further examples of this outreach in conference workshops and at University Square, located in the Trade Show.

To that end, OSBA pledges to continue working with the State Board of Education and our new State Superintendent. On behalf of the association I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Richard Ross, our current State Superintendent of Public Instruction for more than 40 years of service on behalf of Ohio's boys and girls. We applaud his efforts to position our schools for better academic success. I also promise that OSBA will continue to reach out to Governor Kasich with the message that working together, we can propel Ohio and our outstanding system of public education to even greater heights.

Delegates, I am pleased to share that your association marches into 2016 in excellent condition. Our finances, programs and services remain strong. This is possible only through the shared commitment of the membership, leadership and staff.

You should know that your Board of Trustees and your officers, Ed Penrod, Eric Germann and Susie Lawson work very hard — most of the time behind the scenes. Beyond their local board work, they constantly labor on your behalf. They have earned your support and appreciation. You don't see their sacrifice of time, miles and personal life, but they have served tirelessly, and I thank them.

And you should know how very proud I am of your staff. They travel throughout Ohio, devoting many evenings and weekends to you and your schools. They are proud to serve Ohio's school board members and constantly strive to improve that service. They have walked alongside you as diligent advocates for 60 years. I consider them the finest association staff in the nation.

In closing, I encourage you to take pride in the collective accomplishments of school boards and the Ohio School Boards Association — we are making a difference in millions of lives — and I hope this conference furthers those accomplishments. Our goal is that you find this year's conference and trade show "not as good as" — but better than any that came before — the best yet!

We hope that as you provide Leadership for Learning with nearly 10,000 peers at this event, you will gain valuable insights to make your schools better than ever too. Thank you for everything you do each and every

day for Ohio’s schoolchildren and your communities. Working together, we can face the future knowing that by heeding the lessons of the pencil maker, we can all leave a lasting mark.”

President Penrod thanked Mr. Lewis for his report. President Penrod explained we are now on Agenda item 9.

## **9. REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM COMMITTEE**

President Penrod referred to the Legislative Platform Committee discussions, input and deliberations at the August meeting. Resolutions were discussed and voted on individually. President Penrod called on Chairman Eric Germann, Lincolnview Local (Van Wert) and Vantage Career Center, to present the proposed platform amendments as recommended by the Platform Committee. The following amendments were approved by the Delegate Assembly modifying OSBA’s legislative platform.

Section: Students and learning  
Plank: Assessments  
Change: Removes language

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- ~~Allows locally elected school boards to exempt foreign exchange students from taking the Ohio Graduation Test during the year they are visiting the United States.~~

Section: Students and learning  
Plank: Curriculum  
Change: Adds new language

*OSBA opposes legislation that*

- **SUBJECTS SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO STRICT USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN TESTING REQUIREMENTS.**

Section: Students and learning  
Plank: Discipline  
Change: Adds new language

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- **Furtheres the ability of educators to maintain control of their classrooms, buildings, facilities and other school property, and offers appropriate discipline measures as determined by locally developed, board-approved policy AND/OR DISTRICT PROCEDURES.**

Section: School governance  
Plank: Charter/community schools  
Change: Removes language

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- ~~Limits the sponsorship of charter/community schools solely to locally elected boards of education.~~

Section: School governance  
Plank: Charter/community schools  
Change: Adds new language

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- Holds charter/community schools **AND THEIR OPERATORS** to the same compliance and reporting requirements as public schools.

Section: School governance  
Plank: Charter/community schools  
Change: Adds new language to plank

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- **REQUIRES A CHARTER/COMMUNITY SCHOOL, RECEIVING PUBLIC TAX DOLLARS TO DISCLOSE PERFORMANCE METRICS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDEX AND FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE ON ALL ADVERTISING.**

Section: School governance  
Plank: Charter/community schools  
Change: Adds new language to plank

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- **PROHIBITS A CHARTER/COMMUNITY SCHOOL FROM ADVERTISING IF THAT SCHOOL DOES NOT MEET OR REPORT MINIMUM ACADEMIC AND/OR FINANCIAL STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE OF OHIO.**

Section: School governance  
Plank: Sale/lease of real property  
Change: Adds new language

*OSBA opposes legislation that*

- **PROVIDES FACILITIES FUNDING TO PRIVATE AND CHARTER/COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.**

Section: School governance  
Plank: Vouchers  
Change: Adds new language

*OSBA supports legislation that*

- **REQUIRES THAT SCHOOLS ACCEPTING VOUCHER STUDENTS BE HELD TO THE SAME PERFORMANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

Section: Finance  
Plank: Earmarking/tax increases  
Change: Adds new language



*OSBA supports legislation that*

● **SEPARATELY APPROPRIATES ALL LOTTERY PROFITS FUNDING TO BE ALLOCATED TO DISTRICTS ON A PER PUPIL BASIS.**

Section: Finance  
Plank: Pupil Transportation  
Change: Adds new plank introduction and plank

### **PUPIL TRANSPORTATION**

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION PRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE FOR MANY DISTRICTS. IN MANY AREAS OF THE STATE, STUDENTS WOULD FACE GREAT CHALLENGES IN GETTING TO SCHOOL WERE IT NOT FOR THE OPTION TO RIDE A SCHOOL BUS. RURAL DISTRICTS OFTEN ENCOMPASS A LARGE GEOGRAPHIC AREA BUT HAVE LOW-DENSITY POPULATIONS. FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES SHOULD INCENTIVIZE EFFICIENCIES AND ACCOUNT FOR SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES AMONG DISTRICTS.**

### *OSBA SUPPORTS LEGISLATION THAT*

- **PROVIDES SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR EVERY CHILD WHO RIDES A SCHOOL BUS.**
- **REWARDS SCHOOLS FOR EFFICIENCY.**
- **INCENTIVIZES SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS RESIDING WITHIN ONE TO TWO MILES OF THEIR SCHOOL.**
- **INCENTIVIZES SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.**
- **FULLY COMPENSATES DISTRICTS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOLS WHICH ARE NOT PART OF THE DISTRICT.**
- **PROVIDES FOR BETTER SUPPORT OF RURAL DISTRICTS WITH LOW DENSITY AND LOW WEALTH.**
- **OPERATES SEPARATELY FROM THE EDUCATION FUNDING FORMULA TO ENSURE DISTRICTS ACTUALLY RECEIVE THE STATE TRANSPORTATION LEVELS TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED.**
- **REINSTATES FUNDING FOR SCHOOL BUS PURCHASES.**

### **10. PLATFORM AMENDMENTS INTRODUCED FROM THE FLOOR**

President Penrod thanked Chairman Germann, members of the Legislative Platform Committee and the OSBA Executive Committee for their work and their efforts. President Penrod also thanked North Olmsted City for their participation in the platform process by submitting resolutions. President Penrod asked for new amendments from the floor.

Margie Lairson, Northridge Local (Montgomery) moved to amend the legislative platform to add the following sentence to the School governance section, Charter/community schools plank introduction, the term Charter/community schools as used in this platform refers to brick and mortar schools, electronic schools and any other form of online school. Randy Smith, Forest Hills Local (Hamilton) in seconding the amendment stated, "OSBA committee and my fellow delegates, the OSBA legislative division director and staff support this amendment. It has been pre-cleared by a parliamentarian. It is an appropriate amendment and it is a technical adjustment to clarify our platform. So based on that, I recommend support to this amendment." **Motion carried.**

President Penrod moved to item #11.

### **11. NEW BUSINESS**

President Penrod asked if any new business needed to come before the Delegate Assembly. Seeing none, President Penrod proceeded to item #12.

### **12. Kids PAC — YOUR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

President Penrod challenged members of the governance committees and members of the OSBA delegate assembly to support *Kids* PAC, the resource that supports OSBA's lobbying efforts at the Statehouse.

President Penrod presented the Valedictorian Award for their contribution to Kids PAC of \$500 to Karen Dendorfer, Parma City; Al Haberstroh, Trumbull County ESC; Susie Lawson, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center; and Jim Sommer, Greenville City.

The Golden Apple Award for their summa cum laude contribution to *Kids* PAC of \$250 was presented to Rick Foster, Manchester Local (Adams); Warren Stevens, Urbana City and Ohio Hi-Point Career Center; Ruth Nau, Noble Local (Noble); and Ed Penrod, Logan-Hocking Local (Hocking) and Tri-County Career Center.

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

President Penrod declared the meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

#### **ACTION BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Approved by the OSBA Board of Trustees February 10, 2016.

# Notes

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## Advocating for public education

*Kids PAC* gives board members the opportunity to belong to a PAC whose members are aware of the problems facing public education and whose goals are aimed at dealing with these issues.

With a PAC, we have a voice and can advocate for the future of public education. *Kids PAC* allows OSBA to advance its legislative platform by supporting candidates who believe in its goals.

## Why is *Kids PAC* important?

*Kids PAC* supports candidates who are involved with and passionate about public education. It also raises the visibility of school board members' views, interests and concerns among influential legislators.

**Join *Kids PAC* today!**

# Invest in their future

We must be active advocates for Ohio's children. We need a strong PAC. Contribute to *Kids PAC* today! Contributions can be made online • by personal check made payable to *Kids PAC* • or by cash up to \$100. By law, school district and corporate checks cannot be accepted. *Kids PAC* is a political committee, and contributions are not tax deductible.

**Stop by booths 122-124 at the OSBA Capital Conference Trade show and learn how you can make a difference for Ohio students.**

***Kids PAC***  
because kids count



**Ohio School  
Boards Association**