

Ohio School Boards Association

8050 North High Street • Suite 100 • Columbus OH 43235-6481
(614) 540-4000 • fax (614) 540-4100 • www.ohioschoolboards.org

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Contact: Angela Penquite
deputy director of
communication services
(614) 540-4000

apenquite@ohioschoolboards.org

Southeast Ohio school board member receives association's highest honor

COLUMBUS — A Muskingum County school board member will receive the Ohio School Boards Association's (OSBA) most esteemed award.

Ken Blood, who is in his 24th year on the East Muskingum Local Schools Board of Education, will be recognized as a 2019 All-Ohio School Board member on Sunday, Nov. 10, during the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show in Columbus. OSBA Chief Executive Officer Rick Lewis will introduce All-Ohio School Board members on the first day of the 64th annual conference, a three-day event attended by more than 9,000 Ohio public school board members, administrators and other education stakeholders.

Each year, OSBA names one board of education member from each of its five regions — Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest — to the All-Ohio School Board. The award recognizes outstanding service to public education and represents the dedication shown by thousands of board members across the state.

All-Ohio School Board candidates are nominated by their respective school boards. OSBA regional committees then select the five winners.

Blood, who has been elected six times to the East Muskingum Local Schools board, is director of athletic training at Muskingum University and an assistant professor of athletic training. He represents OSBA's Northwest Region.

"As a member of the East Muskingum (Local) Board of Education, Ken has never sought his own agenda but always asks what is best for the students, staff, district, community and beyond," his colleagues wrote in nominating him.

All-Ohio School Board 2/2/2/2/2/

Blood has played an integral role in the district's levy process and superintendent and treasurer selections, his colleagues wrote. He also has testified before the Ohio Senate Education Committee and an Ohio Department of Health committee about establishing criteria for young athletes who return to competition following a concussion.

In his community, Blood is an ordained minister at Friendship Baptist Church and board member and treasurer of the New Concord Area Arts and Recreation District.

Founded in 1955, OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.

For more information, contact OSBA or your local school district.

Note to reporters, editors: OSBA's All-Ohio School Board honorees have been told they are receiving the award. Please feel free to contact them for feature stories, comments or photos. Blood's phone number is (740) 260-3590. If you wish to cover the awards presentation in Columbus on Nov. 10, please contact Angela Penquite, whose contact information is at the top of this release.