



2023 OSBA DELEGATE HANDBOOK

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Greater Columbus Convention Center
Union Station Ballroom
Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 | 2:30 p.m.



OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION



AGENDA

**Annual Business Meeting of the
Ohio School Boards Association
Delegate Assembly**

Greater Columbus Convention Center
Union Station Ballroom

Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 • 2:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
Christine Varwig,
OSBA president, board member, **Toledo City**
2. Introduction of platform guests
3. Special introductions
4. Ohio Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction
Dr. J. Christopher Woolard
5. Ohio Teacher of the Year
Mark Lowrie,
Gahanna Lincoln High School, **Gahanna-Jefferson City**
6. *Kids* PAC — your political action committee
7. Reports of committees
 - A. Rules and Credentials Committee
Susie Lawson, committee chair, **Tri-County ESC** and
Wayne County Schools Career Center
 - B. Nominating Committee
Robert M. Heard Sr., OSBA immediate past president,
board member, **Cleveland Municipal**
8. Election of the 2024 president-elect
9. Introduction of the 2024 president-elect
10. Report of the chief executive officer
Dr. Kathy McFarland, chief executive officer, OSBA
11. Report of the Legislative Platform Committee
Sally S. Green, committee chair, 2023 OSBA president-elect,
board member, **Tuscarawas Valley Local (Tuscarawas)**
12. Platform amendments introduced from the floor
13. New business
14. Adjournment

**Annual Business Meeting of the
Ohio School Boards Association
Delegate Assembly**

Greater Columbus Convention Center
Union Station Ballroom

Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 • 2:30 p.m.

2023 OSBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Christine Varwig, president
Toledo City

Sally S. Green, president-elect
Tuscarawas Valley Local
(Tuscarawas)

Robert M. Heard Sr., immediate past president
Cleveland Municipal

Renda M. Cline
Mansfield City

Mary Pat Hanson
Morgan Local (Morgan)

Lynda O'Connor
Lakota Local (Butler)

Doug G. Stuart
Rittman EV and Wayne County
Schools Career Center

Christopher Widman
Vanguard-Sentinel Career
& Technology Centers

2023 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM COMMITTEE

Sally S. Green, chair

CENTRAL REGION

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

Emily Gephart
Grandview Heights City

Beryl Piccolantonio
Gahanna-Jefferson City

Mary M. Pierce
Eastland-Fairfield Career
& Technical Schools

NORTHEAST REGION

Jacquelyn Arendt
Cuyahoga Valley
Career Center

Susie Lawson
Tri-County ESC and Wayne
County Schools Career Center

Kathy Quintiliano
Midview Local (Lorain) and
Lorain County JVS

Dr. Lisa Thomas
Cleveland Municipal

SOUTHEAST REGION

Debra L. Grooms
Western Local (Pike)

Stephanie Lang
Fort Frye Local (Washington)

Jamie S. Murphy
Dawson-Bryant Local
(Lawrence)

Carol A. Porter
Gallia-Vinton ESC

SOUTHWEST REGION

Mary Cleveland
Princeton City and Great Oaks
Career Campuses

Terry Gibson
Lockland Local (Hamilton) and
Great Oaks Career Campuses

Sandy Harrod
Hamilton County ESC and
Great Oaks Career Campuses

Thomas H. York
Edgewood City

NORTHWEST REGION

Brian L. Baker
Northwest Ohio ESC and Four
County Career Center

Dr. Paul R. Lockwood II
North Point ESC and
EHOVE Career Center

Thomas C. Patterson
Sandusky City

Bob Vasquez
Toledo City



PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE & RULES

PROPOSED RULES FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

1. CREDENTIALS

All delegates present at the annual meeting shall have their credentials filed with the Chief Executive Officer 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. QUORUM

According to Article VI of the OSBA Constitution, delegates from twenty-five percent (25%) of the member boards shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

5. MICROPHONES

Microphones are placed in front of the meeting room and are identified as "procedural," "pro" and "con" microphones.

- A. The "procedural" microphone will be available to those who wish to offer:
1. A motion
 2. An amendment to a motion
 3. Requests for information about the subject being discussed
 4. Parliamentary inquiries about the rules or procedures of the business meeting
 5. A point of order when a delegate thinks the rules of the meeting are being violated

6. Other procedural motions, such as a motion to close debate, recess or adjourn, limit or extend the time of debate, or postpone consideration.

B. The "pro" microphone will be available to those persons recognized by the chair who wish to speak in support to a motion on the floor.

C. The "con" microphone will be available to those persons recognized by the chair who wish to speak in opposition to a motion on the floor.

6. SPEAKING ON THE FLOOR

Before a delegate may make a motion or discuss the merits of any motion, the delegate must rise and go to the microphone that most closely reflects the purpose for which they seek recognition.

The chair will recognize delegates, who are standing behind each microphone in a single file, in the order of their entry into that file, alternating between the pro and con microphones. The chair reserves the right to recognize any person at any time, including a person who has not approached a microphone or a person unable to stand in line.

After being recognized by the chair, the delegate must give their full name, district name and purpose of their comments. Ex. "John Doe, Ohio School District. I speak in favor of the motion."

Any person whose remarks are not consistent with the purpose of the microphone they have been permitted to use shall be called to order by the chair.

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 as long as any other delegate who has not spoken on the

PROPOSED RULES FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

question desires the floor. 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.

7. **MOTIONS TO TABLE OR POSTPONE**

A motion to table or postpone 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 issue(s) to be decided.

8. **BUSINESS OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

Article 6 of the OSBA Bylaws requires all matters to be voted upon at the annual meeting to be communicated to each member of affiliated school boards at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the annual meeting.

Any matter not so referred to members of affiliated boards thirty (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 and requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all registered delegates present and voting in order to be placed on the agenda.

New Business may also be originated by the Legislative Platform Committee, the Board of Trustees or the OSBA staff.

9. **DELEGATE ASSEMBLY VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

According to Article XII of the OSBA Constitution, amendments to the OSBA Constitution require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting delegates of the association present at the annual meeting of the association, provided that a copy of the amendment shall have been submitted in writing to all member boards at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

According to Article 5 of the OSBA Bylaws, the OSBA Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting delegates of the association present at the annual meeting of the association.

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

Voting at the Delegate Assembly is conducted by a poll of the delegates.

10. **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.

11. **USE OF RECORDING DEVICES**

During the annual meeting, delegates and guests are prohibited from photographing, recording or broadcasting any delegate or any part of the business portion of the annual meeting without first obtaining the consent of the OSBA President. The OSBA President may revoke such consent at any time during the meeting.

12. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees shall act as a minute's committee to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

13. **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

REPORT OF THE OSBA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The OSBA Nominating Committee will recommend to the 2023 Delegate Assembly the name of Thomas C. Patterson, a member of the Sandusky City Board of Education for the office of 2024 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. 13.

Thomas C. Patterson is in his seventh year on the association's Board of Trustees and in his 18th year on the Sandusky City Schools Board of Education. He has served on OSBA's Executive Committee, Northeast Region Executive Committee, 2020 Region President, Nominating Committee, Governance Review Committee and Legislative Platform Committee. Patterson has also served on the association's Board Member Cabinet, Capital Conference Planning Task Force, VISA Team 2022 and Urban Network. In 2020, Patterson was named recipient of the 15 Year Veteran Board Member award and will be recognized with the Master Board Member Award in 2024.

Under the constitution of the association, Sally S. Green, a member of the Tuscarawas Valley Local Board of Education will automatically become president on Jan. 1, 2024. Mrs. Green is in her third year on the association's Board of Trustees and serves on the Executive Committee, Diversity and Equity Committee and Legislative Platform Committee, among others. She has served on OSBA's Capital Conference Planning Task Force and is also a member of OSBA's Northeast Region Executive Committee and was the 2022 region president. Green has served on many committees in her school district including reading stories to school children, room mom, post prom and PTO 1993-2006. She also received the Trojan Pride Award in November 2009.

Christine Varwig, a member of the Toledo City Board of Education, filled the office of president during 2023 and will become immediate past president, an office that will automatically retain her as a member of the OSBA Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and Northwest Region Executive Committee.

Robert M. Heard Sr.
Chair

Sally S. Green
Northeast Region

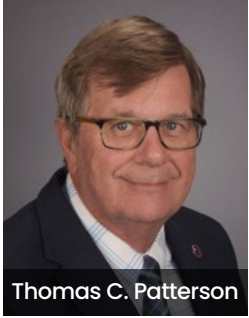
Ed Penrod
Southeast Region

Renda M. Cline
Central Region

Christopher Widman
Northwest Region

Lynda O'Connor
Southwest Region

PATTERSON IS PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE; GREEN WILL LEAD IN 2024



Thomas C. Patterson

For nearly 20 years, **Thomas C. Patterson** has been deeply committed to OSBA's mission of serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent.

The veteran **Sandusky City** school board member has

been actively involved with the association since 2006 and says he's "seen firsthand the tremendous benefit it offers school districts across Ohio."

Patterson will lead the association as its president in 2025 if OSBA delegates approve his nomination as the 2024 president-elect on Nov. 13 during the Annual Business Meeting of the OSBA Delegate Assembly.

Delegates meet at the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show.

In July, the OSBA Nominating Committee selected Patterson as the president-elect nominee. OSBA's president-elect serves on OSBA's Board of Trustees and Executive Committee and chairs the Legislative Platform Committee and Federal Legislative Advocacy Group as part of their duties.



Sally S. Green

Sally S. Green, Tuscarawas Valley Local (Tuscarawas), will serve as OSBA's 69th president in 2024.

"I have seen good leaders within OSBA, and I want to continue that progress," said Patterson, who was first elected to his board in 2001

and is in his 18th year of board service.

He currently serves on OSBA's Board of Trustees, Board Member Cabinet and Legislative Platform Committee. Patterson also is a member of the association's Northwest Region Executive Committee. He was region president in 2020.

His dedication to his local community is evident in his extensive involvement with various agencies and boards. Currently, he holds the position of sergeant at arms on the Sandusky Rotary Club board, actively contributing to the club's mission and goals. He also serves on the Marine and House Committee at the Sandusky Yacht Club and the district bridge of the Sandusky Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons – a nonprofit fraternal boating organization of both sailors and power boaters.

Patterson and his wife, Cindy, have been married 53 years. Three of their four children have roles in public education. The Patterson family's connection to Bowling Green State University (BGSU) runs deep, with Patterson, his wife, their daughters and even a granddaughter all proudly holding BGSU degrees. The eldest of Patterson's six grandchildren, a recent BGSU graduate, is a preschool teacher.

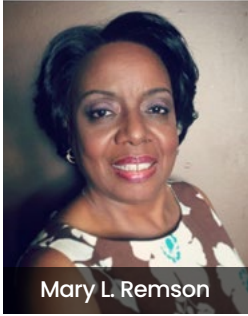
Patterson is a 1967 graduate of Sandusky City's Sandusky High School and in 2019 retired from Industrial Nut Corp., where he worked in logistics and purchasing.

Green, who is in her 18th year on the Tuscarawas Valley Local board, was first elected to that position in November 2005. She currently serves on OSBA's Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, Board Member Cabinet, Legislative Platform Committee, Federal Legislative Advocacy Group, Nominating Committee, Diversity and Equity Committee, Black Caucus, Student Achievement Leadership Team and Investment Committee. She was president of OSBA's Northeast Region Executive Committee in 2022.

Green also serves on her district's Fine Arts Council and Certificated Personnel & Benefits, Building and Grounds and Public Relations/Publicity committees.

She and her husband, David, have been married for 40 years. They have two children and six grandchildren.

MARY L. REMSON TO SERVE AS PARLIAMENTARIAN AT ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING



The OSBA Rules and Credentials Committee — consisting of five school board members — proposed rules for the annual business meeting, which the Delegate Assembly will vote on.

The proposed rules include the assignment of a parliamentarian to whom “questions may be directed only through the chair.” According to Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, a parliamentarian is a consultant who advises committees on matters of parliamentary procedure. Their role during a meeting is “purely an advisory and consultative one — since parliamentary law gives to the chair alone the power to rule on questions of order or to answer parliamentary inquiries.”

Mary L. Remson will again be the parliamentarian for the annual business meeting. Remson is a professional registered parliamentarian from the National Association of Parliamentarians and a certified professional parliamentarian teacher. She is one of 25 parliamentarians worldwide holding this level of certification. A practicing parliamentarian who has a Master of Business Administration from Ohio State University, Remson serves clients nationwide.



LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Note: Updates to the OSBA Legislative Platform are identified on the following pages.
Language that is ~~struekthrough~~ was deleted;
language that is **BOLD AND CAPITALIZED** was added.

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

51

52 *OSBA supports legislation that*

53 ● Allows school districts to collaboratively create alternative schools to address unique student
54 needs and provides state funding for those schools.

55

56 **Assessments**

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

62

63 *OSBA supports legislation that*

64 ● Aligns state assessment laws with the federal requirements.

65 ● Uses assessments as a diagnostic tool to improve instruction and learning.

66 ● Uses data to ensure that every child has equal access to the resources necessary for a thorough
67 and efficient education.

68 ● Fully funds any and all requirements associated with implementing state and federal
69 assessment laws.

70 ● Provides school districts with flexibility and proper resources to meet their students' needs.

71 ● Increases the 1% cap on alternative assessments for students to a realistic percentage that
72 reflects the number of students with disabilities educated by the districts.

73

74 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

75 ● Subjects school districts to a one-size-fits-all approach that fails to recognize the unique needs
76 of individual students and individual school districts.

77 ● Rates and/or ranks schools or school districts or is used in a punitive manner.

78 ● Penalizes districts for a parent's refusal to allow his/her student to participate in assessments.

79 ● Subjects school districts to strict use of technology in testing requirements.

80 ● Prevents the advancement of a student to the next grade level and graduation based solely on
81 state assessment results.

82 ● Seeks to adopt the similar student measure.

83

84 **Curriculum**

85 Public education is the responsibility of the state and locally elected boards of education.

86 Governance must be vested in the locally elected board of education that is accountable to the

87 local community. Arts and extracurricular activities play an integral role in the education of

88 children. The primary responsibility for approving courses of study, instructional programs and

89 selection of instructional materials must remain with the locally elected board of education, with

90 input from the local community. Cuts, necessitated by finances, in no way diminish the belief

91 that all students should have access to a curriculum that includes art, music, theater, physical

92 education and world languages, in addition to mathematics, science, social studies, reading and

93 writing. Access to career-technical courses, such as, but not limited to agriculture and
94 environmental systems, business administration, engineering and science technologies, career
95 based intervention programs, education and training, and family and consumer sciences is vital.
96 Preschool and all-day/every-day kindergarten programs, accompanied by clear academic
97 standards and a comprehensive curriculum, have been proven to raise the achievement levels of
98 all students and to reduce the achievement and readiness gaps in students first entering school.
99

100 A comprehensive curriculum is one focused on approaches toward learning, cognitive and
101 general knowledge (including mathematics, science, and social studies), language and literacy
102 development, arts, physical well-being, motor development and social-emotional development.
103

104 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 105 ● Enables locally elected boards of education to make decisions regarding the adoption of
106 curriculum, textbooks and instructional materials, with advice and input from staff, parents,
107 students and community members.

109 **Discipline**

110 Student conduct standards are integral to maintaining an optimal learning environment. All
111 students have the right to learn in a school environment that is safe and free of distraction.
112

113 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 114 ● Furthers the ability of educators to maintain control of their classrooms, buildings, facilities
115 and other school property, and offers appropriate discipline measures as determined by locally
116 developed, board-approved policy and/or district procedures.
- 117 ● Prohibits the mandating of zero tolerance policies and instead enables discipline of students to
118 be dealt with individually in a way that is appropriate for their age, gender, mental health
119 condition, emotional development and special educational needs and appropriately protects the
120 school's educational environment.

122 **Drug addiction prevention**

123 Drug addiction is a national, state and local crisis. The rate and incidence of heroin and other
124 opioid abuse among Ohioans is staggering. Local school districts are called upon to educate
125 students and families about the tragic consequences of drug addiction. It is essential that we
126 provide students with information, skills and support to help them abstain from such harmful
127 behaviors and their consequences.
128

129 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 130 ● Provides new and additional dedicated funds to assist schools in the battle against drug
131 addiction, heroin and other opioid abuse.
- 132 ● Provides sufficient funding to implement trauma-informed training and school program
133 development.

135 **Racism/Equity**

136 There is no place for racism or hatred in our schools. We acknowledge the historical,
137 generational and compounding reality of the systems, structures and practices that have created
138 and continue to afford advantages to some groups while perpetuating inequities for others. Race,

139 ethnicity and socioeconomic background inequalities produce unequal opportunities for student
140 success. Strong public schools are the great equalizer, and education provides the foundation to
141 change perceptions and attitudes. It is imperative that Ohio implement meaningful solutions that
142 eliminate racism, social injustice, disparate discipline and bias, as well as foster equity to provide
143 a catalyst for sustained improvement for students of color and impoverished communities.
144

145 Inequitable systems of school finance at the federal, state and local levels, including special
146 grants, caps and guarantees, fail to provide schools with adequate or sufficient funding to achieve
147 a world-class education necessary to prepare students for the future. OSBA is committed to
148 ensuring school boards have the resources they need to provide students of all backgrounds and
149 abilities with a high-quality education. It is essential that we create an inclusive environment that
150 ensures that our students have a future that allows all students to be successful, no matter their
151 race, ethnicity or socioeconomic background.
152

153 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 154 ● Creates an inclusive environment that ensures that our students have a future that allows all
155 students to be successful, no matter their race, ethnicity or socioeconomic background.
- 156 ● Provides districts with the resources and tools they need to provide students of all backgrounds
157 and abilities a high-quality education.
- 158 ● Removes and actively repairs racial and social inequities to ensure positive educational
159 outcomes for our students in alignment with our mission and vision.
- 160 ● Funds racial and social justice programs in Ohio’s public schools.
- 161 ● Addresses racial disparities in discipline through restorative justice.
- 162 ● Funds equitable education throughout the state of Ohio.

163
164 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 165 ● Limits resources and/or opportunities for students of color and those who are traditionally
166 underserved based on their race, ethnicity or socioeconomic background.

167 **School year/school day**

168 Flexible instructional scheduling is important because time on task is critical to effective and
169 efficient learning.
170

171
172 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

175 **State report card**

176 Reports of school district quality should provide accurate reflections of district, staff and student
177 achievement. Publication of district and school report cards must be accurate, fair and credible.
178 Reports should be communicated to the public in a clear and concise manner.
179

180
181 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 182 ● Makes the overall rating on the state report card a meaningful indicator of the quality of a
183 school district.

184 ● Provides school districts with an appropriate amount of time to inform parents, students, staff
185 and communities about changes to assessments and report card standards.
186 ● Includes cohort graduation rates of students four and six years after entering the ninth-grade
187 cohort group.

188 ● Ensures the graduation rate as computed by the Ohio Department of Education does not
189 penalize districts for allowing students with disabilities additional time to complete graduation
190 requirements as stated in federal requirements.

191 ● **ALLOWS STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON AN IEP WHO HAVE MET ALL**
192 **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR**
193 **EDUCATION (DEFER THEIR DIPLOMA) TO COUNT AS A GRADUATE USING THE**
194 **GRADUATION RATE FORMULA FOR THEIR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT.**

195 ● **ALLOWS STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON AN IEP WHO CONTINUE THEIR**
196 **EDUCATION (DEFER THEIR DIPLOMA) TO MAINTAIN ALL SUPPORTS**
197 **PROVIDED BY FEDERAL LAW.**

198
199 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

200 ● Does not include all students in the baseline beginning in kindergarten and continuing through
201 grade three.

202 203 **Student and school employee safety**

204 Student and school employee safety is the paramount concern for school districts. Ensuring a
205 safe learning and working environment is a shared responsibility among school board members,
206 school employees and community members working in collaboration with lawmakers, law
207 enforcement, mental health and security experts in determining how best to provide a safe
208 environment within our districts.

209
210 *OSBA supports legislation that*

211 ● Provides for enhanced mental health services and substance abuse treatment so that all
212 individuals, including children, have sufficient access to these services.

213 ● Increases access to school safety measures, including but not limited to, school resource
214 officers (SRO), school safety infrastructure and other security measures designed to protect
215 students and staff.

216 ● Provides for training for school employees and enhanced coordination with law enforcement
217 agencies and first responders to ensure appropriate responses to incidents of violence in schools.

218 ● Provides full funding for the items above.
219

220 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

221 ● Mandates the implementation of any safety and security measure that is not fully funded by the
222 state.

223 ● Mandates any security measure to be implemented without the approval of the local school
224 district board of education.

225 226 **Technology**

227 Every public school district should have access to modern technology, regardless of the wealth
228 or geographical location of the district, because students with limited access to educational
229 technology are at an educational and economic disadvantage. Affordable broadband and full

230 access to the Internet for students, staff and communities is critical. Appropriate and ongoing
231 training is essential for effective use of technology.

232

233 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

236

237

School governance

238

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

244

Academic distress commission

245 State law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish an Academic Distress
246 Commission for each school district that has been declared to be in academic emergency.

247

248 *OSBA supports legislation that*

249 ● Fully includes locally elected boards of education and district administration in the decision-
250 making process.

251

252 ● Provides for the composition of the commission and review team to reflect the demographics
253 (geographic, economic and social) of the school district.

254

255 ● Provides transparency in the way district commissions are formed and chaired.

256

257 ● Provides a transparent understanding of the goals and purpose for the work of the distress
258 commissions.

259

260 ● Provides clear accountability measures for the commissions, the districts and CEO's appointed
261 to the district in collaboration with the locally elected board of education.

262

263 ● Places a focus on student achievement.

264

265 ● Provides supplemental or additional funding for implementation of commission work.

266

267 ● Places an emphasis on identifying and seeking the input of community services agencies.

268

269 ● Repeals Amended Substitute House Bill 70 (131 GA).

270

271 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

272 ● Allows for the exclusion of the locally elected board members from the discussion and work of
273 the commission.

274

275 ● Establishes academic distress commissions, as defined and implemented under Amended
276 Substitute House Bill 70 (131 GA) or any similar creation that interferes with the governance of
277 public school districts by elected boards of education.

278

Board member training

279 Effective school board members are aware of and knowledgeable about key issues affecting the
280 operations of public districts and schools. Awareness of key legislative and judicial decisions,
281 educational reform initiatives and research-based instructional strategies to enhance student
282 achievement is critical for board members to be effective. Ongoing professional development

276 prepares board members to provide leadership and make critical educational decisions that
277 support student achievement.

278
279 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

281
282 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 283 ● Mandates board member training.

284
285 **Charter/community schools**

286 OSBA supports educational options within the public school system as determined by locally
287 elected boards of education. Locally elected boards of education may decide to sponsor
288 charter/community schools. Charter/community schools authorized and sponsored by other
289 entities must be held accountable to the same standards as traditional public schools. All
290 charter/community schools must be required to report annually information concerning finances
291 and student achievement in a clear and concise manner. No local funds should be diverted from
292 the public school district to support charter/community schools sponsored by any entity other
293 than a locally elected board of education. The term, “Charter/Community Schools,” as used in
294 this platform refers to brick and mortar schools, electronic schools and any other form of on-line
295 school.

296
297 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 298 ● Holds charter/community schools and their operators to the same compliance and reporting
299 requirements as public schools.
- 300 ● Requires charter/community school students to meet the State Board of Education’s minimum
301 standards to be granted a high school diploma.
- 302 ● Requires that charter/community schools be subject to full fiscal and administrative oversight
303 by a locally elected board of education.
- 304 ● Requires a charter/community school, receiving public tax dollars to disclose performance
305 metrics, including but not limited to, the overall performance index and four-year graduation rate
306 on all advertising.
- 307 ● Prohibits a charter/community school from advertising if that school does not meet or report
308 minimum academic and/or financial standards established by the state of Ohio.
- 309 ● Prohibits a charter/community school from any and all advertising if, and while, that school is
310 being formally investigated by any governmental agency for possible misuse of taxpayer funds.

311
312 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

316
317 **Consolidation/shared services**

318 Sound fiscal policy requires school districts to maximize the use of available resources. It is
319 important to examine carefully every feasible way to conserve financial resources.

320 Consolidation, merger and/or sharing services, programs and staff may save dollars. The

321 decision to undertake such efforts should be made by mutual agreement of the involved school
322 districts and their boards of education, taking local factors and circumstances into account.

323
324 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

327
328 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

329 ● Requires mandatory consolidation of school districts and or services.
330 ● Requires districts to join other joint vocational entities.

331
332 **Deregulation**

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

336
337 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

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

343
344 **Educational services**

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

349
350 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

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

355
356 **Legislative process**

357 The Ohio School Boards Association believes that every piece of legislation introduced in the
358 Ohio General Assembly should follow a consistent and thorough deliberative process, allowing
359 ample opportunity for public review and comment, with the rules established by the Ohio
360 Constitution.

361
362 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

363 ● Once having been introduced, is later attached to a different and/or larger piece of legislation
364 before it has been thoroughly and properly vetted and heard by both chambers of the General
365 Assembly.

366

367 **Locally elected boards of education**

368 Control of the public school system by locally elected board members produces an educational
369 system designed to meet the needs of the community’s children. The locally elected school board
370 provides citizens with a direct means to influence local education policies, programs, costs and
371 outcomes.

372

373 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 374 ● Maintains locally elected school boards, which exemplify representative government.
- 375 ● Amends Ohio Revised Code and increases the rate of maximum compensation for school
- 376 board members, and provides for inflationary growth, in order to better ensure that board
- 377 members are compensated more commensurately with the responsibilities of their position.

378

379 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 380 ● Diminishes local control.
- 381 ● Mandates alternative governance structures, including mayoral takeover, without a public
- 382 referendum.

383

384 **Open enrollment**

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

388

389 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 390 ● Imposes mandatory open enrollment policies.
- 391 ● Mandates expansion of open enrollment to noncontiguous districts.

392

393 **Sale/lease of real property**

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

400

401 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 402 ● Provides school districts with the flexibility to sell or lease real property in a manner that
- 403 offers the most benefit to the school district as determined by the locally elected board of
- 404 education.
- 405 ● Repeals the right of first refusal to purchase property by private, charter/community, college-
- 406 preparatory boarding schools, STEM schools and on-line schools.
- 407 ● Allows local school boards the flexibility to make facility sales and purchasing decisions based
- 408 on the needs of the district.

409

410 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

412

413 **Service funds**

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

417

418 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

421

422 **State Board of Education**

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

427

428 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 429 ● Provides for an elected State Board of Education.
- 430 ● Provides for a reduction in the number of appointed board members.
- 431 ● Provides for the regulation of education standards by an elected State Board of Education.
- 432 ● Provides no appointed board members.

433

434 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

438

439 **Vouchers**

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

444

445 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 446 ● Requires that schools accepting voucher students be held to the same standards and
447 accountability requirements as public schools.
- 448 ● Requires that schools accepting voucher students be held to the same performance reporting
449 requirements as public schools.

450

451 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 452 ● Uses public funds to expand voucher programs in nonpublic schools.
- 453 ● Expands vouchers, scholarships, tuition tax credits and similar programs at either the state or
454 federal levels.

455

456

Finance

457

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

463

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

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

468

469 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 470 ● Provides full state funding for all-day/every-day kindergarten that incorporates a
471 comprehensive curriculum.
- 472 ● Provides school facilities funding for districts that do not have sufficient space to
473 accommodate an all-day/every-day kindergarten program that incorporates a comprehensive
474 curriculum.

475

476 **Assessment rates**

477 The funding of public education is a shared responsibility of the state of Ohio and local
478 communities. Tax policy at the state level has a direct influence on local revenue. Consequently,
479 it is essential to maintain an appropriate balance between state and local revenues. State actions
480 that reduce local revenue resources must be accompanied by appropriate increases in state
481 educational funding.

482

483 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

486

487 **Average daily membership (ADM)**

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

491

492 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 493 ● Supports enrollment calculations that allow school districts to prepare and provide programs
494 and services in a way that does not harm the educational experiences of students.
- 495 ● Stabilizes school funding by limiting the number and frequency of enrollment counts to three
496 or fewer spaced at appropriate intervals.

497

498 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 499 ● Changes average daily membership to average daily attendance.

500

501 **Base-formula amount**

502 The provision and funding of a thorough and efficient system of common schools are the
503 responsibilities of the state of Ohio. In practice, the funding of public education is a shared

504 responsibility of the state of Ohio and the local community. The capacity of local communities to
505 generate revenue varies widely across the state. Without the state providing sufficient funds for
506 all, some children will be denied the right to an adequate education. Local communities must
507 retain the ability to exercise discretion in offering educational programs that exceed the defined
508 level of an adequate education.

509

510 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 511 ● Establishes a process for determining the components and costs of a high-quality education.
- 512 ● Provides that the state shall pay 100% of the cost for an adequate education for every child and
- 513 100% of the cost of categoricals that enable every school district to provide such an education to
- 514 every student.

515

516 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

519

520 **Categorical parity**

521 Children with unique educational needs place extraordinary demands on public school district
522 revenues. Because of the wide disparities in the capacity to generate local revenues that exist
523 across school districts, additional state revenues must be made available to ensure that children
524 with unique educational needs are served appropriately.

525

526 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 527 ● Establishes that the state, in addition to determining the cost of a high-quality educational
- 528 program, must determine the additional costs necessary to provide services to students with
- 529 unique educational needs, such as students who are economically disadvantaged, students with
- 530 disabilities and students participating in career-technical education or gifted educational services.
- 531 ● Indexes the cost of providing educational services to students with unique educational needs
- 532 against the cost of providing a high-quality educational program for regular students, so that each
- 533 component increases proportionately and in parity with those costs.
- 534 ● Fully funds at 100% of the cost, the services needed for every child with unique educational
- 535 needs.

536

537 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 538 ● Equalizes the funding weights for unique needs categories, in addition to the cost of a basic
- 539 education to provide educational services to career-technical education students, economically
- 540 disadvantaged students, English learners, gifted students, and students with disabilities.

541

542 **Charter/community school funding**

543 Full transparency of the costs of both public schools and charter/community schools dictates that
544 the flow of tax dollars be accurately reflected. Any transfer of state tax dollars to
545 charter/community schools must be based on accurate enrollment information. The public school
546 district of residence must be immediately notified when a student enrolls or withdraws from a
547 charter/community school. The current practice of deducting funding for charter/community
548 school children from the state funds provided to traditional public school districts is unnecessary
549 and confusing. State funding for charter/community schools must flow directly to the

550 charter/community school sponsor. All local dollars generated through local levies must remain
551 with the local taxing authority.

552

553 *OSBA supports legislation that*

554 ● Provides state base funding, as well as support for special education, career-technical
555 education, poverty aid and transportation services, directly to the charter/community school
556 rather than deducting the payment to the charter/community from the local district's state
557 funding.

558 ● Prohibits state funds for any charter/community school that refuses to accept all students who
559 apply.

560 ● Eliminates the process of flow-through funding to charter/community schools.

561 ● Prohibits the use of local tax dollars to fund charter/community schools, except those
562 sponsored by a locally elected board of education.

563 ● Requires that school districts be paid an administrative fee to cover the cost of tracking
564 charter/community school enrollment.

565 ● Provides full state funding to purchase additional buses required to provide transportation for
566 charter/community school students.

567 ● Requires charter/community schools to coordinate schedules with the district providing the
568 transportation services.

569 ● Requires transparency in finances and accounting for all funds transferred to management
570 companies by charter/community school governing boards for the purpose of administering and
571 operating a charter/community school.

572 ● Requires the management company to keep all financial records and to make all such
573 documents public records available to the governing boards and to the public.

574

575 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

576 ● Includes children attending charter/community schools in the public school district's ADM
577 count.

578 ● Deducts funding for children attending charter/community schools from the resident district.

579 ● Requires school districts to share local tax revenues and resources with charter/community
580 schools.

581 ● Transfers funds from a public school to a charter/community school without complying with
582 the legal requirement to notify the home district of enrollment or withdrawal.

583

584 **Court-ordered judgment counted as debt**

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

586

587 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

591

592 **Developmental disabilities services**

593 Local tax revenues are generated to support programs for the clients of county developmental
594 disabilities agencies. When a locally elected board of education is providing the educational

595 programming and services, the public school district must be fairly compensated by the
596 respective county developmental disabilities agency.

597
598 *OSBA supports legislation that*

599 ● Develops a process for fair financial compensation to those school districts that provide the
600 educational services to students that are within the jurisdiction of the county developmental
601 disabilities agency, but whose developmental disabilities board declines to provide financial
602 compensation to the actual provider.

603
604 **Diversion of voter-approved tax revenue**

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

608
609 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

611
612 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

614
615 **Earmarking/tax increases**

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

621
622 *OSBA supports legislation that*

623 ● Provides the necessary revenues to support an adequate and equitable system of funding public
624 schools in Ohio and to permit them to offer a high-quality educational program to every student.

625 ● Provides an increase in state revenues either through the enactment of an increase in the state
626 sales tax and/or the state personal income tax and/or the commercial activities tax.

627 ● Separately appropriates all lottery and casino profits funding to be allocated to districts on a
628 per-pupil basis.

629
630 **Educational service centers funding**

631 Educational Service Centers (ESCs) serve as a vital link and partner in the educational process.
632 Governed by locally elected boards of education, ESCs are considered to be school districts
633 under state law and as local education agencies under federal law. ESCs provide a wide variety
634 of direct and support services, including curriculum development, staff development, technology
635 assistance and special education services to the public school districts they serve, as well as
636 shared services with other governmental bodies. ESCs save the state of Ohio and school districts
637 money through cost-effective, collaborative ventures that expand equitable access to resources
638 and maximize operating and fiscal efficiencies. Despite diminishing levels of state financial
639 support, ESCs have maintained high levels of service by becoming more entrepreneurial in their
640 operations.

641
642 *OSBA supports legislation that*
643 ● Provides an adequate funding mechanism for educational service centers that provides for
644 inflationary growth.
645 ● Requires state funding for facilities to be part of the educational service centers' funding
646 formula.
647
648 **Election opportunities**
649 Public education depends upon support from local communities through voter-approved tax
650 levies and bond issues. Because the cycle of elections and revenue collection requires sufficient
651 opportunity to place issues before the public for approval, the current practice of a primary
652 election and a general election, combined with the opportunity for two special elections, is
653 necessary.
654
655 *OSBA opposes legislation that*
656 ● Reduces the number and frequency of election opportunities available to school districts for
657 ballot issues.
658
659 **Facilities**
660 OSBA supports a state facilities funding program that provides access to state support when
661 public school districts determine that a facility program is required. The facility program must
662 address the demands upon districts and issues related to classroom facilities caused by state
663 operating requirements and expenditure and reporting standards. A facility program must be
664 subject to state standards for school construction, rather than on a state-prescribed schedule.
665
666 *OSBA supports legislation that*
667 ● Provides funds and resources to support school safety programs.
668 ● Provides for safe facilities that meet building codes, are conducive to providing educational
669 services and support the inclusion of technology in the classroom.
670 ● Uses median income of the district's residents as a measure of fiscal capacity, in addition to
671 recognized valuation.
672 ● Immediately reflects in the facilities funding formula changes in valuation resulting from
673 legislative or judicial action.
674 ● Requires school buildings determined to be unsafe by local fire and health departments to be
675 upgraded immediately.
676 ● Authorizes locally elected boards of education that have unsafe buildings in their district to
677 impose an emergency capital improvements levy to upgrade and correct the unsafe conditions in
678 the facility.
679 ● Requires the state to provide its full faith and credit as backing for all local facility bonds.
680 ● Repeals the 1/2-mill maintenance requirements.
681 ● Provides funds to support mandated programs, such as all-day kindergarten, preschool
682 programs and accessibility needs.
683
684 **Fees**
685 Funds provided for educational purposes should be directed only for educational purposes.
686 Accordingly, user fees must not be charged to local educational agencies.

687
688
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697
698
699
700
701
702
703
704
705
706
707
708
709
710
711
712
713
714
715
716
717
718
719
720
721
722
723
724
725
726
727
728
729
730
731
732

OSBA supports legislation that

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

OSBA opposes legislation that

- Requires districts to incur a debt limit that will harm a district’s financial position.
- Attempts to pass on to school districts any fees by government entities to pay for services that are the normal responsibility of that entity.

Gambling

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

OSBA supports legislation that

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

OSBA opposes legislation that

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

Impact fees

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

OSBA supports legislation that

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

Inflationary growth

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

733 *OSBA supports legislation that*
734 ● Provides for inflationary growth to ensure an adequate and equitable funding system for
735 Ohio’s public schools.

736
737 **Local taxing options**

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

741
742 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

745
746 **Medicaid**

747 The Medicaid School Program is administered by the Ohio Department of Medicaid and the
748 Ohio Department of Education and reimburses schools for Medicaid eligible services provided to
749 children with an individualized education plan. The Ohio Department of Education is required to
750 administer aspects of the Medicaid School Program pursuant to an interagency agreement with
751 the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

752
753 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

757
758 **Phantom revenue/chargeoff**

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

762
763 *OSBA supports legislation that*

764 ● Aligns the local share (charge off) of the cost of a high-quality education program with the tax
765 reduction floor.

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

767 ● Eliminates all forms of phantom revenue.

768
769 **Pooling**

770 Locally elected boards of education must rely upon voter support to raise local tax revenues.

771 Local property taxes raised to support public education must only be used for public education
772 purposes.

773
774 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

776
777 **Prekindergarten funding**

778 Prekindergarten programs benefit children, families and communities. Multiple studies have
779 shown that high-quality prekindergarten programs lead to increased graduation rates, reduced
780 retention rates and fewer children ultimately placed in special education.

781

782 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

785

786 **Property tax relief**

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

789

790 *OSBA supports legislation that*

791 ● Increases property tax relief, while ensuring that all taxpayers pay a fair share of the cost of
792 public education.

793 ● Eliminates the overreliance on local property taxes.

794 ● Enhances the Homestead Exemption Program to provide additional financial assistance for
795 senior citizens.

796

797 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

798 ● Achieves increased property tax relief from the existing funding for elementary and secondary
799 education.

800

801 **Public/nonpublic school funding**

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

805

806 *OSBA supports legislation that*

807 ● Grants Ohio's public schools at least the same per-pupil amount as the chartered nonpublic
808 schools in Ohio receive.

809 ● Directs any and all funds, returned to the state by charter/community schools, to traditional
810 public schools of residence.

811 ● Requires all private non-public schools receiving public tax money to be held to the same
812 accountability standards governing Ohio's public schools including licensure requirements.

813 ● Requires all private non-public schools receiving public tax money to be subject to the same
814 financial reporting, audit requirements and sunshine laws as Ohio's public schools.

815

816 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

818

819 **Pupil transportation**

820 Pupil transportation presents a significant challenge for many districts. In many areas of the state,
821 students would face great challenges in getting to school were it not for the option to ride a
822 school bus. Rural districts often encompass a large geographic area but have low-density

823 populations. Funding for transportation services should incentivize efficiencies and account for
824 specific circumstances among districts.

825

826 *OSBA supports legislation that*

827 ● Provides sufficient funding for every child who rides a school bus.

828 ● Rewards schools for efficiency.

829 ● Incentivizes school districts to transport students residing within one to two miles of their
830 school.

831 ● Incentivizes school districts to provide transportation for high school students.

832 ● Fully compensates districts for the transportation of students to schools which are not part of
833 the district.

834 ● Provides for better support of rural districts with low density and low wealth.

835 ● Operates separately from the education funding formula to ensure districts actually receive the
836 state transportation levels to which they are entitled.

837 ● Limits the requirement for public school districts to provide transportation to only those days
838 that are synchronous with the public school district adopted calendar.

839 ● Fully funds districts for the cost of transportation of special education students, foster children,
840 and homeless students who receive transportation accommodations.

841

842 **Robin Hood**

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

844

845 *OSBA supports legislation that*

846 ● Provides the funding changes necessary for adequacy and equity, without lowering the funding
847 of other districts.

848 ● Supports a high-quality educational program for all public school students, regardless of their
849 geographical location in the state.

850

851 **School bus purchase and transportation reimbursement**

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

855

856 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

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

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

862

863 **School district income tax**

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

867

868 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 869 ● Provides for increasing the senior citizen school district income tax credit.
870 ● Establishes and enforces strict rules for reporting school district state income tax identification
871 numbers.

872

873 **School district levy reduction/repeal**

874 School district levy requests are based on five-year or longer projections of costs and revenues.

875 The ability to repeal levies within the first five years could increase the need for more frequent
876 levy requests.

877

878 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

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

881

882 **School district liability**

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

885

886 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

889

890 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 891 ● Increases a school district's potential liability or increases the damages potentially assessed.

892

893 **School-funding factors**

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

896

897 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 898 ● Makes adjustments in school funding based on operational costs, needs of students and
899 geographical challenges and funding capacity that exist among school districts.

900

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

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

904

905 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

908

909 **State fuel tax exemption**

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

912

913 *OSBA supports legislation that*

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

915
916 **State investment in education**
917 The Ohio Constitution requires the Ohio General Assembly to provide for a thorough and
918 efficient system of common schools. The state’s commitment to public education was
919 strengthened by the 1851 Ohio Constitution’s mandate that “it shall be the duty of the general
920 assembly to ... encourage schools and the means of instruction and to make such provision, as
921 will secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the State.” An
922 investment in education is an investment in the future of Ohio’s citizens and must be the top
923 priority of everyone.
924
925 *OSBA supports legislation that*
926 ● Makes the support of public education the state’s number one priority.
927
928 *OSBA opposes legislation that*
929 ● Attempts to shift the responsibility of costs to locally elected boards of education.
930
931 **Tangible personal property tax replacement**
932 The local tax base relies on the fair and accurate assessment of property values. Challenges to an
933 assessed value must be reported to all affected taxing authorities at the time the challenge is
934 filed. Any affected taxing authority must have standing to appeal decisions on valuations.
935 Tangible personal property tax and public utility tangible property tax revenues are no longer
936 applied, and replacement of these losses have been phased out from all but a few districts.
937
938 *OSBA supports legislation that*
939 ● Reinstates state reimbursement that fully matches the loss of the local tangible personal
940 property tax base.
941 ● Assesses no interest payment in cases when repayment is necessary due to an error on the part
942 of the taxpayer.
943
944 **Tax abatements**
945 Tax abatements siphon critical funding away from public school districts, leaving local taxpayers
946 to make up the difference.
947
948 *OSBA supports legislation that*
949 ● Requires that locally elected boards of education be involved in all discussions and decisions
950 regarding tax abatements.
951 ● Grants locally elected boards of education the authority to enter into negotiations to receive
952 compensation for lost revenues with entities granting abatements and with businesses receiving
953 abatements.
954 ● Grants locally elected boards of education veto power if, in the board’s judgment, the
955 abatements adversely impact the district.
956 ● Requires locally elected boards of education to receive state-mandated compensation based on
957 all payroll generated from the abatement (whether tenant or owner).
958 ● Requires locally elected boards of education to receive all reports, studies and information
959 available regarding the abatement.

- Allows locally elected boards of education to have standing to institute legal action if the recipient of an abatement has not complied with the terms of a tax abatement.
- Prohibits a township, municipality, or county from imposing a unilateral tax exemption upon a school district.

Tax policy

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

OSBA supports legislation that

- Requires all sectors of the economy to pay their fair share of the cost of public school education and state government.
- Replaces lost revenues with state funds when legislation results in local revenue losses, such as a reduction of the tax base, exemptions from taxation or other tax structure changes.

Taxing/spending limitations

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

OSBA supports legislation that

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

OSBA opposes legislation that

- Restricts local taxation and spending by school districts.

Unfunded/underfunded mandates

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

OSBA supports legislation that

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

OSBA opposes legislation that

- Does not have funding associated with it.

Personnel

1005 The effective recruitment and retention of high-quality staff are critical for the success of any
1006 school district. Properly trained and highly motivated personnel can provide maximum learning
1007 opportunities for students. Ongoing evaluation of staff performance is essential.
1008

1009 Ohio enacted a comprehensive collective bargaining statute in April 1984. The enactment of the
1010 collective bargaining bill and a series of court cases, particularly in the area of teacher evaluation
1011 and nonrenewal, have made it difficult for locally elected boards of education to effectively
1012 manage schools. OSBA believes that changes and modifications to Ohio Revised Code Chapter
1013 4117, as well as to Chapter 3319, are necessary.
1014

1015 **Collective bargaining**

1016 OSBA believes that some board affairs may not be appropriate matters for formal negotiations
1017 such as, but not limited to, the length of the school day and school year, class size, curriculum,
1018 course of study, and textbook and instructional materials selection.
1019

1020 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 1021 ● Restores management rights to the collective bargaining statutes.
- 1022 ● Recognizes the right of employees to organize for professional organization goals, without
1023 interference, coercion or reprisal from the board or its representatives, and guarantees employees
1024 the right to refrain from joining any organization.
- 1025 ● Permits parties to negotiate mutually satisfactory dispute resolution processes.
- 1026 ● Provides penalties and sanctions imposed upon striking public employees that are an effective
1027 deterrent to such strikes.
- 1028 ● Limits picketing at the residence and/or places of business of public officials.
- 1029 ● Requires a 10-day written notice prior to the commencement of picketing, striking or other
1030 concerted refusal to work.
- 1031 ● Allows locally elected boards of education to suspend individual employment contracts for all
1032 types of employees for economic considerations.
- 1033 ● Limits the ability of a local collective bargaining agreement from impeding a district's ability
1034 to suspend individual employment contracts.
- 1035 ● Supports innovative approaches to employee compensation initiated on the local level.
1036

1037 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 1038 ● Places restrictions on the exercise of free choice of either party in designating its
1039 representatives to the bargaining team.
- 1040 ● Mandates joining an organization by a scheme of fees, assessments or other coercion by an
1041 organization upon nonmembers.
- 1042 ● Permits any person or agency to intervene in negotiations or a job action without the
1043 agreement of all parties.
- 1044 ● Permits strikes by public employees.
- 1045 ● Imposes binding arbitration as a method of resolving collective bargaining disputes.
1046

1047 **Confidentiality of personnel applications**

1048 Maintaining confidentiality permits districts to attract the best candidates possible for
1049 employment or promotions.
1050

1051 *OSBA supports legislation that*
1052 ● Provides through the Ohio Public Records Act that applications for employment, including
1053 applications for promotion, are confidential and not subject to disclosure except at the discretion
1054 of the locally elected board of education.

1055
1056 **Evaluations**

1057 Evaluations serve as both an evaluative process and a communication tool between the employer
1058 and employee. Evaluations communicate desired outcomes to employees and help employees see
1059 how their work and expected contributions benefit their schools.

1060
1061 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 1062 ● Provides for evaluations of all school employees.
1063 ● Permits the removal of employees who do not correct identified deficiencies and improve their
1064 performance.
1065 ● Creates a probationary period for those employees who have deficiencies noted in the
1066 evaluation process so that they may correct deficiencies. Failure to correct deficiencies after
1067 appropriate intervention may be cause for termination.
1068 ● Authorizes the components of evaluations to be developed locally, including job descriptions
1069 and performance standards.
1070 ● Mandates that personnel evaluations of employees be confidential records which may be
1071 released only at the discretion of the board.

1072
1073 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- 1074 ● Requires evaluations of school personnel in a manner that hinders a board's ability to
1075 nonrenew an employee.

1076
1077 **Health care**

1078 Health care pooling may offer significant savings for districts.

1079
1080 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 1081 ● Supports the concept of expanding health care pooling, provided that school districts maintain
1082 local decision-making authority, that their employees maintain quality benefit levels and that
1083 significant cost savings or other efficiencies are created by the pooling.

1084
1085 **Professional development**

1086 Students must be prepared to compete in the global marketplace. Consequently, teachers must be
1087 prepared to provide modern methods and instructional strategies that meet the academic needs of
1088 students.

1089
1090 *OSBA supports legislation that*

- 1091 ● Requires institutions of higher education for teachers to include in their curriculum courses in
1092 technology, classroom management, trauma-informed training, crisis management and behavior
1093 management, including training in appropriate behavioral intervention techniques.

1094
1095 **Retirement systems**

1096 Ohio school employee retirement systems offer benefits to their members and may help attract
1097 and retain employees. OSBA supports the school employee retirement systems and has not
1098 opposed benefit enhancements in the past. However, when determining pension benefits and
1099 eligibility, the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) and State Employees Retirement
1100 System (SERS) should consider current demographic realities such as life expectancy and the
1101 number of years employees remain in the workforce.

1102

1103 *OSBA supports legislation that*

1104 ● Includes representation of locally elected boards of education on the STRS and SERS boards.

1105

1106 *OSBA opposes legislation that*

1107 ● Provides future benefit enhancements proposed by STRS and SERS unless the enhancement is
1108 accompanied with a reduction in the 14% employer's share and repeal of the SERS surcharge.

1109 ● Increases the employer's share to cover increases in costs.



REFERENCE MATERIALS

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE 67TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE OSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Greater Columbus Convention Center | Monday, Nov. 14, 2022

The 67th Annual Business Meeting of the OSBA Delegate Assembly convened in the Union Station Ballroom of the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio, on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022. OSBA President Robert M. Heard, Cleveland Municipal, presided.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Heard called the 67th Annual Business Meeting of the OSBA Delegate Assembly to order.

2. INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM GUESTS

President Heard introduced the following head table guests:

Nicole Piscitani, lobbyist; Jennifer Hogue, OSBA director of legislative services; Richard Lewis, OSBA chief executive officer; Christine Varwig, OSBA president-elect; Mary Remson, parliamentarian and Sara C. Clark, OSBA chief legal counsel.

3. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

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

President Heard acknowledged the dedication and commitment of the OSBA past presidents. President Heard introduced past presidents Mark D. Hutchinson; Paul D. Mock; Kathy Leavenworth; Linda R. Anderson; State Representative Catherine D. Ingram; Martha F. Rothey; Tawana Lynn Keels; Susie Lawson; Ed Penrod; Eric K. Germann; Randy Smith; John Halkias and Lee Schreiner.

4. CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER, OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

President Heard introduced and welcomed Chief Program Officer, Chris Woolard, with the Ohio Department of Education. Chris thanked President Heard for the introduction. He then addressed the delegates and introduced State Teacher of the Year, Melissa Kmetz. Ms. Kmetz addressed the delegates.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Doug Stewart, Rittman Exempted Village & Wayne County Schools Career Center, chair of the Credentials Committee, reported that the committee met to review the procedures for registration of delegates and to review the credentials presented by the delegates and named alternates. Mr. Stewart stated that Article 6, 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 338 delegates/alternates present and moved for adoption of the Credentials Committee report. **Motion carried.**

Christopher Widman, Vanguard-Sentinel CTC, chair of the Rules Committee, gave the report of the committee. Mr. Widman stated that the committee met on June 29 and September 26 for the purpose of reviewing the rules, and he moved to adopt the rules as printed in the delegate book for the 2022 Delegate Assembly. **Motion carried.**

Lee Schreiner, OSBA past president and board member from South-Western City and chair of the Nominating Committee, gave the report of the committee. Mr. Schreiner stated that the committee met on July 30 to consider four applicants for the position of president-elect for 2023. The members of the committee were Dr. Tina Pierce, Central Region; Al Haberstroh, Northeast Region; Christine Varwig, Northwest Region; Terry Halley, Southeast Region and Fred Hunt of the Southwest Region. As directed by the Nominating Committee, the committee nominated Sally S. Green, Tuscarawas Valley Local, for the office of 2023 president-elect of the Ohio School Boards Association.

6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT

President Heard moved to accept the Nominating Committee's report and the nomination of Sally S. Green as 2023 president-elect. Richard Gooding, Tuscarawas Valley Local (Tuscarawas) and Susie Lawson, Tri-County ESC and Wayne County Schools Career Center, provided honorary seconds to the motion. **Motion carried.**

7. INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT

President Heard congratulated Ms. Sally S. Green and presented her with a personalized copy of Robert's Rules of Order. Ms. Sally S. Green gave the following remarks:

President Heard, President-elect Varwig, delegates, OSBA staff and guests - Thank you! I am overwhelmed with gratitude to have been selected as the 2023 OSBA president-elect. Thank you so much for your vote of confidence and I look forward to your continued support as we work together in the years to come.

Local control of school boards is important. The delegate assembly is a wonderful way for local schools to ensure that OSBA advocacy reflects the interests of boards of education across the state. A place where members can share the thoughts and values of their local boards with OSBA. Thank you for being here today.

CEO Rick Lewis and OSBA staff - We appreciate your commitment to hearing our input. Thank you for offering outstanding opportunities for members to learn and grow. We all value education, but for me it is a passion- it is at my inner core. Education saved my life. There were educators who cared and fought for me. They helped me to see that if I wanted a better life...education provided the path.

I know what a lifeline education can bring to a person's life and as OSBA President-elect, I will continue to promote quality education for all students.

One of the ways we do this is that we must take full advantage of the wonderful opportunities that OSBA offers to support us to achieve quality education for our students and excellent board governance. It is so important as board members we understand how our decisions can influence the success of our students. In each school board decision, we must reflect on whether it will truly improve education and our students' lives!

We all know the time we sacrifice away from our families to do our jobs well. I would like to recognize my family. Thank you to my husband David, my daughter Claire and her family and my son Matthew and his family who was unable to be here today. I am so grateful for your support as I share my passion for education with others.

In closing, CEO Rick Lewis shared at fall conferences, "When we surround ourselves with excellence, we raise the bar for everyone, including ourselves". As I have traveled throughout this state, I have found excellence in each region; look at the excellence right here in this room, these distinguished members here on stage, the OSBA staff that surround you and YOU! I am surrounded daily by excellence in my Tuscarawas Valley School District. Our district has the 2021 Ohio Board of Distinction board members: Amy Burrier, Dick Gooding, Katy Johnson and Ben Overton, current Superintendent, Dr. Derek Varansky; 2020 BASA Superintendent of the Year, Mark Murphy; 2021 NE Region Treasurer of the Year, Mark Phillips and numerous accolades for my TV administration and former 20-year board president, Susan Kascheck and my mentor who first encouraged me to reach outside my local school district and work for the OSBA NE region. Thank you, Tusky Valley, for your belief in me and raising the bar every day to provide high caliber education.

Let each of us raise the bar to actively work together to help our students be all that they are and all that they can be. Thank you and have a great meeting!

8. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Richard Lewis, chief executive officer, gave the following remarks:

Three big game hunters named Robert, Lee and Chris fly to Alaska and charter a pontoon plane to visit a lake they enjoyed the previous year. They land, the pilot taxis to the point and lets them out where they unload their gear. The pilot announces he'll be back in three days.

Three days later, as promised, the pilot returns, the hunters load the gear and strap a moose onto the pontoons. The pilot then instructs, "That's it. Let's go." Robert objected, "What do you mean that's it? We have two more moose to load!" The hunters and the pilot then get into a debate about the power of the plane, the temperature, the length of the lake, and the weight of the hunting party, gear and the moose.

Lee retorts, "Look, last year we took off from this same lake with the same kind of aircraft, the same wind and weather conditions, the same three hunters, the same gear and three moose.

Chris adds, "The only difference between this year and last year is the pilot!"

They finally persuade the pilot to do take off. They strap the other two moose on the aircraft, taxi to the far end of the lake. The pilot revs it and the aircraft begins to go faster and faster across the lake until finally, it takes off. Unfortunately, the pontoons hit the top of the branches. The plane goes end over end. The hunters go flying. The gear goes flying. And the moose go flying. After a few moments, the hunters regain consciousness and one shouts, "Robert, where are we?"

Robert looked around and proudly proclaimed, "looks like about fifty feet farther than last year!"

Change and improvement are often about going fifty feet farther than last year. Progress is made slowly, one step at a time. Continuous improvement is just that – a process of unremitting development. The challenges that we face together as custodians of public education have never been greater. If public education is to thrive, it will be school boards who will lead the efforts to transform our education institutions. As you strive to provide a world-class education it remains OSBA's goal to be a source of assistance, guidance, unity, and support. The information you get from OSBA will help your management team make important, well-informed decisions.

Human though it may be, we cannot permit ourselves to become victims of habit or tradition. We must think constantly in terms of change. Every institution needs to think strategically about what its mission is now and should be in the future. These are the areas that your board of trustees and staff addressed this past year as we reauthorized our Visionary Initiatives for Strategic Action, OSBA's strategic plan. The pillars of the plan challenged the association's leaders and staff to think differently and confront our comfort and will also take the association to new heights.

Organizations become what they do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a practice. So, like the moose hunters, we must intentionally create time for improvement. Your Board of Trustees continually evaluates itself. Your association staff constantly explores new member services, internal programs and models of effectiveness and efficiency. These efforts go to the core of OSBA's commitment to be a sound steward of your districts' dues and confidence. All of you in this room have exhibited a willingness and desire for professional development by participating in this conference and joining over 6,000 fellow attendees to celebrate student success and learn how to elevate your schools.

This ballroom represents nearly 3,500 elected and appointed leaders of Ohio's public schools. OSBA is proud to support and represent you – the largest group of elected officials in the state, in your quest of creating a better tomorrow. Our standards are rising, students are learning more than ever, and teachers are more qualified than ever. These life-altering events go beyond educational excellence. Ohio's schools are changing the lives of those outside the school walls as well.

- Carpentry students at Goshen High School joined forces with a national organization to build and deliver beds to children and families in need.
- STEM and Engineering students at Warren Middle School are solving real-world problems. They were approached by Prairie Farms Dairy about an issue with a milk analyzer. The students were given a picture and an old part that needed to be replaced and within 48 hours, seventh graders had created the needed parts with a 3D printer.
- A group of Marysville High School students won an award given by Invent2Prevent, a program that empowers university and high school students to develop innovative projects that help prevent violence.

These are just three simple stories that illustrate how public schools are shaping the citizens of tomorrow. I know there are hundreds of stories just like these occurring every day. All of Ohio should celebrate these successes.

OSBA continues to strive to be the voice of public education. Through their unwavering advocacy, legislative liaisons and lobbyists had an enormous impact at the Statehouse. They were instrumental in enacting change to the new dyslexia requirements, extended flexibility to obtain substitute teachers in the classroom and stopped HB 117 which would have made changes to the territory transfer process. Your legislative team is poised to act on amendments during the lame duck session including raffles and storm shelter requirements for building projects. No matter the issue, the influence of your legislative team, along with hundreds of engaged school board members, was critical.

Any list of highlights tempts us to take for granted our day-to-day accomplishments. OSBA attorneys answered thousands of calls from members seeking legal information, saving districts tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees. Our staff continues to provide valuable services like strategic planning, board development, transportation consulting, policy development, executive searches, and communications programs. This is all in addition to the training that was provided to nearly 4,000 individuals in professional development sessions.

In 2022, OSBA sought out new partnerships and participation with individuals or organizations that shape the future of education. We are represented on scores of committees and task forces around the state, promoting the perspective of local school board members. OSBA was also very instrumental in the creation of the new Coalition of State School Boards Associations – clearly a reflection of Ohio’s commitment to public education at the highest levels.

OSBA and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials also partnered together to create Ohio SchoolComp. Administered by Sedgwick, SchoolComp is the largest and most stable workers’ compensation pool available in the state.

And OSBA, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, the Ohio Association of School Business Officials support the Ohio School Plan, one of the largest and most successful alternative insurance programs in the state of Ohio and are joined by the Ohio Schools Council in managing Power4Schools, our joint electricity aggregation program.

In closing, you should know that your officers – Robert Heard, Lee Schreiner and Christine Varwig – are doing an outstanding job leading OSBA and deserve a special thanks.

Your state level governance committees – the board of trustees, executive committee, legislative platform committee and the many others, work hard. You may not see the personal sacrifice of time, miles, loss of personal life that go along with the job. They have served public education and your school districts well and we should thank them for their service.

And I must again acknowledge my colleagues on the OSBA staff – the finest association staff in the nation. They travel throughout Ohio, devoting evenings and weekends on behalf of you and your schools. They are steadfast in serving the association with passion and teamwork. They believe in you and your mission, and they are proud to serve Ohio’s school board members.

Take pride in the collective accomplishments of school boards and OSBA. Together we are making a difference in millions of lives. We look forward to working with you in the coming year to make Ohio’s schools better than ever. Thank you for joining us this week. Thank you for everything you do every day, not just for your community, but for all of Ohio’s schoolchildren. And I challenge you to go moose hunting when you return home!

9. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM COMMITTEE

President Heard referred to the Legislative Platform Committee discussions, input and deliberations at the August meeting. Resolutions were discussed and voted on individually. President Heard called on Chair Christine Varwig, Toledo City, to present the proposed platform amendments as recommended by the Platform Committee. The following amendments were considered by the Delegate Assembly to modify OSBA’s legislative platform.

Proposed Amendment 1

Section: Students and learning

Plank: Drug addiction prevention

Drug addiction prevention

(123) Drug addiction is a national, state and local crisis. The rate and incidence of ~~heroin and other~~

(124) ~~opioid~~ **DRUG** abuse among Ohioans is staggering. Local school districts are called upon to

(125) educate students and families about the tragic consequences of drug addiction. It is essential that

(126) we provide students with information, skills and support to help them abstain from such harmful

(127) behaviors and their consequences.

(129) OSBA supports legislation that

- (130) Provides new and additional dedicated funds to assist schools in the battle against drug (131) addiction, heroin and other opioid **DRUG** abuse.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 2

Section: Students and learning

Plank: Drug addiction prevention

Drug addiction prevention

(129) OSBA supports legislation that

- (130) Provides new and additional dedicated funds to assist schools in the battle against drug (131) addiction, heroin and other opioid abuse.
- (132) Provides sufficient funding to implement trauma-informed training and school program (133) development.
- (134) **PREVENTS DRUG USE BY OHIO STUDENTS AND STAFF.**

(136) **OSBA OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT**

- (137) **LEGALIZES OR COMMERCIALIZES RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA IN THE STATE OF OHIO.**
- (138) **ALLOWS PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO USE MARIJUANA WHILE (140)EMPLOYED BY ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Several delegates offered comments on the topic at hand.

Jeremy Golub, Chippewa Local, moved to insert the words “but not decriminalizes” in between the words “commercializes” and “recreational.” The motion failed for lack of a second.

Terry Groden, North Olmsted City, moved to amend the language on line 134 to replace the word “use” with “abuse.” Robert Bara, Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical Schools seconded the motion. Several others offered comments.

President Heard called for a vote on the amended language change for the word “use” to “abuse”. **The change was adopted.** Amanda Karpus, Parma City, made a motion to postpone the amendment indefinitely. Motion was seconded. After the motion and second was heard to postpone indefinitely, President Heard asked if there was any debate on the motion. Several delegates spoke on the motion to postpone.

President Heard asked if there were any more comments or questions from the floor on the motion to postpone. Seeing none, a vote was taken on the motion to postpone. **Motion failed.**

Discussion continued on the proposed amendment.

President Heard then called for a vote on the amendment seeing no more comments or questions from the floor. A vote was taken on the amendment. **Amendment failed.**

Proposed Amendment 3
Section: Students and learning
Plank: State report card plank

State report card

(184) Reports of school district quality should provide accurate reflections of district, staff and student
(185) achievement. Publication of district and school report cards must be accurate, fair and credible.

(186) Reports should be communicated to the public in a clear and concise manner.

(188) OSBA supports legislation that

- (189) Makes the overall rating on the state report card a meaningful indicator of the quality of a
(190) school district.
- (191) Provides school districts with an appropriate amount of time to inform parents, students, staff
(192) and communities about changes to assessments and report card standards.
- (193) Includes cohort graduation rates of students four and six years after entering the ninth-grade
(194) cohort group.
- (195) Ensures the graduation rate as computed by the Ohio Department of Education does not
(196) penalize districts for allowing students with disabilities additional time to complete graduation
(197) requirements as stated in federal requirements.
- (198) **MOVES TOWARD A VARIED SYSTEM OF ASSESSMENTS THAT ALLOWS (199) STUDENTS TO
DEMONSTRATE ACADEMIC COMPETENCY AND MASTERY IN (200) WAYS BEYOND STATE
STANDARDIZED TESTS.**
- (201) **REPLACES THE CURRENT SYSTEM WITH AN ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM (202) THAT IS A
MEANINGFUL INDICATOR OF THE QUALITY OF A SCHOOL (203) DISTRICT, A HOLISTIC REPRESENTATION
OF THE EFFORTS WITHIN THE (204) DISTRICT TO DEVELOP THE WHOLE CHILD.**

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor and one delegate spoke in favor of the amendment.

President Heard asked if there were any more comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was called. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 4
Section: School governance
Plank: Academic distress commission

Academic distress commission

(253) State law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish an Academic Distress
(254) Commission for each school district that has been declared to be in academic emergency
(255) **RECEIVED AN OVERALL PERFORMANCE RATING OF LESS THAN TWO STARS (256) ON THE DISTRICT
REPORT CARD FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS.**

(258) OSBA supports legislation that

- (259) Fully includes locally elected boards of education and district administration in the decision-
(260) making process.
- (261) Provides for the composition of the commission and review team to reflect the demographics
(262) (geographic, economic and social) of the school district.
- (263) Provides transparency in the way district commissions are formed and chaired.
- (264) Provides a transparent understanding of the goals and purpose for the work of the distress
(265) commissions.

- (266) Provides clear accountability measures for the commissions, the districts and CEO's appointed (267) to the district in collaboration with the locally elected board of education.
- (268) Places a focus on student achievement.
- (269) Provides supplemental or additional funding for implementation of commission work.
- (270) Places an emphasis on identifying and seeking the input of community services agencies.
- (271) Repeals ~~Amended Substitute House Bill 70 (131 GA)~~ **THE ACADEMIC DISTRESS (272) COMMISSION PROVISIONS IN THE OHIO REVISED CODE.**

(274) OSBA opposes legislation that

- (275) Allows for the exclusion of the locally elected board members from the discussion and work of (276) the commission.
- (277) Establishes academic distress commissions, ~~as defined and implemented under Amended (278) Substitute House Bill 70 (131 GA)~~ or any similar creation that interferes with the governance of (279) public school districts by elected boards of education.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor.

Amanda Karpus, Parma City, moved to delete the words, "less than two stars" on line 255 and replace it with, "two stars or less." Anthony Gomez, Cuyahoga Falls City seconded the motion.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions on the proposed amendment. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

President Heard called for a vote on the amendment as amended. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 5
Section: School governance
Plank: Legislative process

Legislative process

(367) The Ohio School Boards Association believes that every piece of legislation introduced in the (368) Ohio General Assembly should follow a consistent and thorough deliberative process, allowing (369) ample opportunity for public review and comment, with the rules established by the Ohio (370) Constitution.

(372) OSBA opposes legislation that

- (373) Once having been introduced, is later attached to a different and/or larger piece of legislation (374) before it has been thoroughly and properly vetted and ~~heard by both chambers of the General (375) Assembly.~~

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was called. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 6
Section: School governance
Plank: Locally elected boards of education

Locally elected boards of education

(378) Control of the public school system by locally elected board members produces an educational (379) system designed to meet the needs of the community's children. The locally elected school board (380) provides citizens with a direct means to influence local education policies, programs, costs and (381) outcomes.

(383) OSBA supports legislation that

- (384) Maintains locally elected school boards, which exemplify representative government.
- (385) Amends Ohio Revised Code and increases the rate of maximum compensation for school (386) board members, and provides for inflationary growth, in order to better ensure that board (387) members are compensated more commensurately with the responsibilities of their position.

(389) OSBA opposes legislation that

- (390) Diminishes local control.
- (391) Mandates alternative governance structures, including mayoral takeover, without a public (392) referendum.
- (393) **REDUCES THE TERM LENGTH OF AN ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION (394) MEMBER TO ANYTHING LESS THAN FOUR YEARS.**
- (395) **IMPOSES LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF TERMS, CONSECUTIVE OR (396) OTHERWISE, THAT A LOCAL COMMUNITY CAN DECIDE WHO WILL SERVE ON (397) ITS BOARD OF EDUCATION.**
- (398) **MOVES ELECTION FOR LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS FROM (399) THE NON-PARTISAN BALLOT TO A PARTISAN ONE.**
- (400) **CREATES OR PROVIDES ANY NEED FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL (401) SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES.**

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was called. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 7

Section: School governance

Plank: Parental right to know

PARENTAL RIGHT TO KNOW

(413) THE PARENTAL RIGHT TO KNOW ALL ASPECTS OF STUDENTS AND (414) LEARNING, SCHOOL GOVERNANCE, FINANCE, AND PERSONNEL IS ESSENTIAL (415) TO A THOROUGH AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AS (416) GUARANTEED BY THE OHIO CONSTITUTION AND APPLICABLE LAWS. (418) PARENTS AND/OR GUARDIANS ARE THEIR CHILDREN'S FIRST TEACHERS AND (419) DECISION-MAKERS IN EDUCATION. STUDENT LEARNING IS MORE LIKELY TO (420) OCCUR WHEN THERE IS AN EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE (421) SCHOOL AND PARENTS AND/OR GUARDIANS. GREATER PARENTAL (422) INVOLVEMENT IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN GENERALLY (423) RESULTS IN HIGHER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, IMPROVED STUDENT (424) BEHAVIOR, AND REDUCED ABSENTEEISM. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, THE OSBA (425) CONTINUES TO SUPPORT STATE AND FEDERAL PARENTAL RIGHT TO KNOW (426) LAWS THAT CONTINUE TO FOSTER THE PRINCIPLES SET FORTH BY THE (427) OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(429) OSBA OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT

- (430) **RESTRICTS THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND/OR GUARDIANS.**

Amy Kissinger, Cambridge City, moved for a roll call vote on this amendment. Anthony Gomez, Cuyahoga Falls City, stated that he believed a roll call vote is out of order.

President Heard stated that it can be changed by amendment and would need a second. Luke Davis, Tri-Valley Local, seconded the motion. Several delegates had questions and requested clarification of the motion as well as how the vote would be verified.

President Heard asked if there were any more comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was called on taking a roll call vote on Item 7. **Motion failed.**

President Heard asked if there were any more comments or questions from the floor on the original amendment. Several delegates spoke to the amendment.

Bruce Alexander, Akron City, moved to postpone the amendment indefinitely. Beryl Piccolantonio, Gahanna-Jefferson City, seconded the motion. Several other delegates had comments and questions from the floor. President Heard call for a vote on the motion to postpone indefinitely.

Motion failed.

Al Haberstroh, Trumbull County ESC & Trumbull CTC, moved to strike lines 413 through 428. Christina Pickle, Mad River Local, seconded the motion. Several delegates commented on the pros and cons of the amendment. Following the discussion, President Heard called for a vote on the amendment to the amendment. **Motion carries.**

Dr. Tina Pierce, Columbus City, called the question. Nancy Benzel Brown, Stow-Monroe City, seconded the motion. President Heard called for a vote on calling the question. **Motion passed.**

A vote was called on the amendment as amended. **Amendment failed.**

Proposed Amendment 8

Section: Finance

Plank: Categorical parity

Categorical parity

(560) Children with unique educational needs place extraordinary demands on public school district (561) revenues. Because of the wide disparities in the capacity to generate local revenues that exist (562) across school districts, additional state revenues must be made available to ensure that children (563) with unique educational needs are served appropriately.

(565) OSBA supports legislation that

- (566) Establishes that the state, in addition to determining the cost of a high-quality educational (567) program, must determine the additional costs necessary to provide services to students with (568) unique educational needs, such as students who are economically disadvantaged, students with (569) disabilities and students participating in career-technical education or gifted educational services.
- (570) Indexes the cost of providing educational services to students with unique educational needs (571) against the cost of providing a high-quality educational program for ~~regular~~ **TYPICAL** students, (572) so that each component increases proportionately and in parity with those costs.
- (573) Fully funds at 100% of the cost, the services needed for every child with unique educational (574) needs.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 9

Section: Finance

Plank: Charter/Community School Funding

Charter/community school funding

(582) Full transparency of the costs of both public schools and charter/community schools dictates that (583) the flow of tax dollars be accurately reflected. Any transfer of state tax dollars to (584) charter/community schools must be based on accurate enrollment information. The public school (585) district of residence must be immediately notified when a student enrolls or withdraws from a (586) charter/community school. ~~The current practice of deducting funding for charter/~~ community (587) school children from the state funds provided to traditional public school districts ~~is unnecessary (588) and confusing.~~ State funding for charter/community schools must flow directly to the (589) charter/community school sponsor. All local dollars generated through local levies must remain (590) with the local taxing authority.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 10

Section: Finance

Plank: Earmarking/tax increases

Earmarking/tax increases

(655) An adequate level of support for every Ohio public school student requires additional state (656) revenues. Any additional revenues generated to support public education must be earmarked to (657) ensure that it is spent for the designated public education purpose. New or additional sources of (658) funding shall not be used to supplant general revenue funds or lottery profits funds currently (659) designated for public education support.

(661) *OSBA supports legislation that*

- (662) Provides the necessary revenues to support an adequate and equitable system of funding public (663) schools in Ohio and to permit them to offer a high-quality educational program to every student.
- (664) Provides an increase in state revenues either through the enactment of an increase in the state (665) sales tax and/or the state personal income tax and/or the commercial activities tax. (666) Separately appropriates all lottery, ~~and casino,~~ **AND SPORTS GAMING (BETTING)** profits (667) funding **REVENUE** to be allocated to districts on a per-pupil basis.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 11
Section: Finance
Plank: Election opportunities

Election opportunities

(688) Public education depends upon support from local communities through voter-approved tax (689) levies and bond issues. Because the cycle of elections and revenue collection requires sufficient (690) opportunity to place issues before the public for approval, the current practice of a primary (691) election and a general election, combined with the opportunity for ~~two~~ **A** special elections, is (692) necessary.

(694) *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- (695) Reduces the number and frequency of election opportunities available to school districts for (696) ballot issues.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 12
Section: Finance
Plank: Gambling

Gambling

(736) The Ohio Lottery Commission's advertisements and promotions frequently pair the lottery with (737) educational funding, which has generated misunderstanding among the general public. Such (738) advertisements give the general public the false impression that gambling and the lottery are a (739) major source of educational funds. While the lottery, by law, does direct lottery profits to (740) education, such revenues are not sufficient for educational funding and, over the years, have (741) been used to supplant other state funding. A portion of revenues derived from gambling (742) operations authorized by the state is also set aside for schools and other local government entities (743) and should not be used to supplant other state funding.

(745) *OSBA supports legislation that*

- (746) Prohibits advertising or campaigning by the Ohio Lottery Commission or agents of the state of (747) Ohio that implies directly or indirectly that the funding of public education is contingent upon (748) gambling.

(750) *OSBA opposes legislation that*

- (751) Uses profits from **THE LOTTERY**, casinos, **SPORTS GAMING (BETTING)** and video (752) lottery terminals to supplant other funding directed to public education.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 13
Section: Finance
Plank: Pupil transportation

Pupil transportation

(859) Pupil transportation presents a significant challenge for many districts. In many areas of the state, (860) students would face great challenges in getting to school were it not for the option to ride a (861) school bus. Rural districts often encompass a large geographic area but have low-density (862) populations. Funding for transportation services should incentivize efficiencies and account for (863) specific circumstances among districts.

(865) *OSBA supports legislation that*

- (866) Provides sufficient funding for every child who rides a school bus.
- (867) Rewards schools for efficiency.
- (868) Incentivizes school districts to transport students residing within one to two miles of their (869) school.
- (870) Incentivizes school districts to provide transportation for high school students.
- (871) Fully compensates districts for the transportation of students to schools which are not part of (872) the district.
- (873) Provides for better support of rural districts with low density and low wealth.
- (874) Operates separately from the education funding formula to ensure districts actually receive the (875) state transportation levels to which they are entitled.
- (876) Limits the requirement for public school districts to provide transportation to only those days (877) that are synchronous with the public school district adopted calendar.
- (878) Fully funds districts for the cost of transportation of special education students, foster children, (879) and homeless students who receive transportation accommodations.

(881) **OSBA OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT**

- (882) **PENALIZES DISTRICTS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH TRANSPORTATION (883) LAWS.**

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

Proposed Amendment 14
Section: Finance
Plank: School bus purchase and transportation

School bus purchase and transportation reimbursement

(895) Because safe and reliable pupil transportation depends on the availability of mechanically sound (896) vehicles, locally elected boards of education rely upon scheduled state reimbursement payments (897) to maintain their transportation fleets.

(899) *OSBA supports legislation that*

- (900) Provides for ~~the revision of state~~ standards for school bus purchase reimbursement to consider (901) the age and condition of the bus to be replaced, as well as the mileage.
- (902) Reinstates **PROVIDES** state funding for bus purchase reimbursements and operating (903) expenses. (904) Makes a state appropriation to replace all buses that are more than eight years old and do not (905) have the latest safety feature.

President Heard asked if there were any comments or questions from the floor. Seeing none, a vote was taken. **Amendment carries.**

10. PLATFORM AMENDMENTS INTRODUCED FROM THE FLOOR

President Heard thanked Chair Varwig, members of the Legislative Platform Committee and the OSBA Executive Committee for their work and their efforts. President Heard asked for new amendments from the floor. Seeing none, President Heard moved to item #11.

11. NEW BUSINESS

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

12. Kids PAC – YOUR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

President Heard encouraged members of the OSBA delegate assembly to support *Kids PAC*, the resource that supports OSBA’s lobbying efforts at the Statehouse.

The Golden Apple Award for their summa cum laude contributions to *Kids PAC* of \$250 was presented to Jennifer Hogue, Thomas C. Patterson, Lee Schreiner, Doug Stuart and Larry Walton.

President Heard presented the Valedictorian Award for contributions to *Kids PAC* of \$500 to Russell Garrison, Sally S. Green, Albert Haberstroh, Susie Lawson, Kathy Leavenworth and Rick Lewis.

13. ADJOURNMENT

President Heard declared the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

ACTION BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Approved by the OSBA Board of Trustees _____ .



**OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION**