

Note to reporters/editors: More than 650 Ohio public school districts are participating in the upcoming OSBA Capital Conference. Admission is free to reporters; however, please check in at the registration desk, located in the Main Concourse at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, to receive a name badge. If you know you will attend, call Crystal Davis, deputy director of communication services, at (614) 540-4000 (or (614) 827-2871 from Nov. 8-11). Visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org> to find out what school districts from your area are participating.

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— — MEDIA ALERT — —

60th annual OSBA Capital Conference draws thousands of public education leaders

COLUMBUS — One of the nation's premier education conferences will host nearly 10,000 public school leaders in Ohio's capital next week.

The second-largest education conference in the country, the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Capital Conference and Trade Show, Nov. 8-11, attracts school board members, superintendents, treasurers and other education professionals from Ohio and beyond. The Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., in downtown Columbus, will host the 60th annual event. The conference is many things to many people: a celebration of student learning, a spotlight for educational technology, a chance for schools to share cost-cutting strategies and an opportunity to learn about all the latest issues in public education.

The conference will feature nationally known speakers, nearly 150 workshops and seminars, and the enormously successful Student Achievement Fair, which highlights the educational innovations of 100 public school programs from around the state.

Keynote presenters include respected broadcast journalist and author Jane Pauley, a longtime advocate for children's health and education; engineer, educator and two-time space shuttle astronaut Leland Melvin, who served as NASA's associate administrator for education; and author and educational media expert Dr. Milton Chen, who will share the most innovative models of K-12 teaching and learning in the digital age.

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Also speaking are Ohio football star Anthony Muñoz, who during his 13-year career with the Cincinnati Bengals played in two Super Bowls, and former state Sen. Nina Turner, a professor at Cuyahoga Community College who has made it her mission to empower individuals, institutions and communities.

One of the most popular events at the conference is the Student Achievement Fair, featuring 100 booths filled with outstanding student programs from across Ohio. During the fair, talented student performance groups will provide entertainment, and student artwork will be on display. Visit <http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org/2015/for-attendees/student-achievement-fair/> to see details on participating districts.

The conference also offers wall-to-wall workshops featuring hundreds of experts exploring scores of subjects in dozens of disciplines. Topics include school board development, career education, community relations, facilities, finance, school law, technology, human resources, social media, student achievement, 21st century education and more.

Another highlight, the conference Trade Show — the largest exhibition of educational goods and services in the U.S. — will be filled with vendors showcasing their products and services in nearly 600 booths.

Each General Session features prestigious statewide awards. They include the OSBA All-Ohio School Board and President's awards; Buckeye Association of School Administrators Superintendent of the Year Award; Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators Distinguished Principal awards; Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators Distinguished Principal awards; and Ohio Association of School Business Officials awards for treasurer, business manager, transportation director and food service directors of the year. OSBA also will recognize veteran school board members.

In its 60th year, OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions. For more information, contact OSBA or your local school board members.

For a complete list and descriptions of all Capital Conference events, please visit

<http://conference.ohioschoolboards.org>