



August 12, 2011

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Notes from the CEO Bill Sims

As summer timetables have accelerated to meet the demands of a new school year, so has the Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools picked up its pace. For starters, we hope you enjoy the livelier new look in this and future editions of Insight Online.

Over the past week, the Ohio Alliance hosted a meeting of member charter school leaders with Barb Mattei-Smith, assistant policy director from the Governor's office of 21st Century Education, to discuss a new funding model for charter schools.

At issue was how charter schools can achieve fair and adequate funding, funding that recognizes the gap between charter-school student funding and traditional district student funding, and the fact that charter schools pay for facilities and sometimes transportation out of their state per-student classroom apportionment.

How to achieve greater equity without having access to local tax dollars has always been a challenge for the state as the constitutional requirement for public education calls for: "The General Assembly (to) make such provisions, by taxation, or otherwise, as, with the income arising from the school trust fund, will secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state."

We welcome the administration's initiatives in these regards and look forward to providing further input and support for this work.

Additionally this past week the Alliance sponsored a working session for member dropout recovery schools to take the initiative in developing a framework for dropout recovery school performance standards, something that was recently mandated by the new budget bill, H.B.153. The bill requires the state board of education and the department of education to come up with recommendations for performance standards for these schools by July 1, 2012.

The all-day session began with opening remarks by Dr. Robert Sommers of the Governor's Office of 21st Century Education. It was attended by approximately 40 representatives from member dropout recovery schools. The group made significant progress in identifying standards and will reconvene soon to complete their work. The findings of this group will be presented to the

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Articles of Interest...

New NAPCS Issue Brief

New NAPCS Issue Brief: The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools yesterday released an issue brief, "**Assess, Coordinate, Execute: How to ACE an Executive Search**" that issues recommendations for charter school leaders to find the most effective executive leaders to nurture and develop high-quality charter school programs.

The paper represents the second installation of the human capital campaign, "Charter People" that seeks to identify and cultivate new leaders in the public charter school movement. There are ways to participate via your social media networks. [To learn more click here.](#)

ELLs

New NACSA Issue Brief to help authorizers understand the characteristics of English Language Learners (ELL), and the laws that affect them, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers has released an issue

ODE, the Governor's office, the State Board of Education and legislative leaders.

As you will see in an article below, the OAPCS has expanded its staff this summer to meet our expanded goals of providing performance management services to member schools. I'd like to personally welcome, Jesse Truett, to the OAPCS team as Senior Director of OAPCS's Performance Management Program and, Lindsey Blackburn, as Manager of the project's Curriculum and Assessment Program. Please read below about their remarkable backgrounds and join me in welcoming them to the Ohio Alliance.

Finally, I'd like to wish all our schools a smooth and buoyant beginning to the new school year. Over the course of the next three weeks many if not most of the charter schools in Ohio will commence with their 2011-2012 school year. Our collective focus will be on quality growth and continued leadership in what has become a never-ending challenge to prepare our students for the rapidly evolving career requirements of the 21st century.

Make sure you keep abreast of all our state, federal and legislative issues through our updates and by reading our OAPCS News and Updates and by following us regularly on our web site, Facebook, and through Twitter. It's need-to-know school-choice information.

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OAPCS Welcome New Staff Member - Jesse Truett



The Ohio Alliance is very pleased to announce the appointment of Jesse Truett to our senior staff. Jesse joins the OAPCS as Senior Director and Project Manager of the Alliance's Performance Management Program. Jesse received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Otterbein University and his Masters Degree in Education Policy and Leadership from Ohio State University.

As a former principal at Newark High School and Grandview Heights High School, Jesse is an experienced and proven academic and administrative leader who has demonstrated a significant commitment to both student performance and solid operational and financial management.

Jesse will lead in building the Alliance's new performance management initiatives, made possible by a generous grant from the Walton Family Foundation.

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OAPCS Welcome New Staff Member - Lindsey Blackburn

brief, "Charter Schools and ELLs: An Authorizer and School Leader Guide to Education ELLs" that illuminates the legal requirements and sound education practices for this unique student group. [To learn more click here.](#)

"I Can Do Anything" Curriculum
Youth Academic Curriculum The "I Can Do Anything" Curriculum enables youth to start exploring various career options by gaining critical skills in networking, self-image awareness, life skills and a discerning skill for several different career paths. To inquire more about the program, e-mail info@icandoanything.us.

Contact Us

Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools
33 N. Third Street,
Suite 600
Office: (614) 744-2266
Fax: (614) 744-2255
www.oapcs.org

Quick Links



[Advocacy](#)



The Ohio Alliance is equally pleased to announce another great addition to our staff, Lindsey Blackburn, Director of Curriculum and Assessment for our Performance Management Program. Lindsey earned her Bachelors' degrees from the University of California, Davis (Dean's List) in International Relations and Spanish. Her Master's degree is also from the University of California, Davis in Education with secondary social studies and bilingual credentials and certifications. She is currently working on her administrative and curriculum licensures at Ashland University. Lindsey has taught 11 different courses including Spanish, civics, economics, psychology, world history, English as a second language, U.S. history, U.S. history in Spanish, and humanities (history-English combined) in the Olentangy Local, Marion City, and Dixon Unified (CA) school districts. Lindsey's published M.A. thesis was: "Reaching Their Peak Performance: Portfolio Assessment and English Language Learners in a Social Studies Classroom."

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2011 State Conference Plans Underway



Planning for the 2011 State Conference began the day after the 2010 event. However, as registration sites have opened we are now in full swing.

We are thrilled to be moving to the Greater Columbus Convention Center this year, as the event has grown to almost 700 attendees in just three short years. We are expecting upwards of 1000 attendees in December. There are also 75 exhibit booth spaces, with almost one-third being sold within the first week of registration.

This year's keynote speakers include Bob Summers from the governor's office, Susan Patrick, president and CEO of iNACOL and Bill Sims, President and CEO of OAPCS. There will also be 70 breakout sessions where peers will share their expertise and experience.

We've provided several opportunities for discounts but you need to act quickly. The pre-registration rates for attendees (which does include a special "teacher only" rate) expires on September 6. Go to our website www.oapcs.org today and register to be a part of the largest Charter School Conference in Ohio! See you in December!

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2nd School Leader Consortium

Events

Quality Values and Principles



OAPCS School Leader Consortium was created to provide a forum for charter school operators to discuss common advocacy, operational, technical, and academic issues. It is also a forum for sharing best practices and school innovation.

OAPCS School Leader Consortium is an informal gathering of professionals. Its agenda is the product of its members. The OAPCS provides meeting facilities and a conference bridge for those interested in participating by phone. There are no costs associated with consortium membership other than membership in the OAPCS.

When: September 23rd, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

[Click here for the Registration Form](#)

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Charter School Law Workshop



Workshop for Community School Leaders and Board Members

Are you aware of all of the recent changes to education and charter school law? Do your policies and procedures comply with existing regulations? Are you looking for a handbook that makes Ohio's charter school law more accessible and easier to understand?

Gain a better understanding of some of the most complex legal issues facing Ohio Community Schools from some of Columbus's expert charter school attorneys.

Presenters will include:

Julia Bauer, *Scott, Scriven, and Wahoff, LLP*

Edmund Brown, *Ulmer and Byrne, LLP*

Jamie Callender and Diem Kaelber, *Buckley King, LPA*

Sandra McIntosh, *Freund, Freeze, and Arnold, LPA*

Adam Miller, *Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff, LLP*

Elizabeth Smith, *Vorys, Satyr, and Pease, LLP*

When:

Friday, September 16, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Location: Downtown Columbus (exact location TBD)

More details in our next Insight Online

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Status of Body Mass Index Scanning and Waivers

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has confirmed that the individual school waiver process is still available for the Body Mass Index Scanning. The waiver must be signed by the president of the governing board in order to be valid.

The deadline to have the waiver to the ODE is by the beginning of the school year.

To review a sample of a waiver, please [click here](#).

For more information, visit ODE's website or by [clicking here](#).

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Sexting 101 Training: State Attorney General's Office



Sexting is here to stay and we are seeing these types of cases with both children and adults in Ohio. Sexting 101 is a sexting education program which is meant to inform and guide law enforcement, victim advocates, educators, mental health and other professionals about the issues, policies and procedures we should be aware of when faced with sexting incidents of youth under the age of 18. Specifically, participants will learn:

- Facts, Stats and Definition of Sexting
- How to identify and respond to sexting incidents
- The crime (s) which a youth could be charged with in Ohio
- Alternative Interventions to Sexting Incidents
- Developing and implementing policies and procedures related to sexting
- Free resources and materials you can use to educate youth and adults

[Register by clicking here!](#)

This training will address best practices and issues relating to the identification, response, investigation, prosecution and resolution of sexting incidents. Speakers will include Kathy Nichols from the Attorney General's Crime Victims Section and OPOTA Legal Instructors Jessica Didion and John Green. This training is free.

OPOTA certificates will be issued to those who pre-register at the conclusion of the training sessions.

- August 12, 9 am – noon, ODOT Auditorium, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus
- August 26, 9 am – noon, OPOTA Richfield, 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield
- September 7, 9 am – noon, Owens CC, LE 145/147, 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg
- September 20, 9 am – noon, Cincinnati Police Academy, 800 Evans Street, Cincinnati
- September 20, 1 pm – 4 pm, Cincinnati Police Academy, 800 Evans Street, Cincinnati

Contact Information:



Kathleen Nichols, LSW, MA
Crime Victims Section
Ohio Cyber Safety Initiative
Office of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine
Office number: 614-995-5416
Fax number: 866-471-2611
Cell number: 614-743-0119

kathleen.nichols@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

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Ohio Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation and Anti-Bullying Initiative



ODE and several statewide agencies that have formed the Ohio Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation and Anti-Bullying Initiative (HIB) are sponsoring a series of 10 one-hour webinar sessions beginning Aug. 3. The webinars will be held at 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month through May and at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, during School Bus Safety Week.

School professionals, parents and community support personnel are encouraged to participate in each session, which will be presented by content experts from each sponsoring agency on topics including policy implementation and supports, cyber safety, legal ramifications, school wide interventions, teen dating violence prevention and girl aggression. Ohio's Anti-HIB Initiative speakers will represent ODE, the Attorney Generals' Office, eTech Ohio, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and the departments of Mental Health; Health; and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

Each webinar will accommodate the first 100 participants who register, beginning 30 minutes before each program. The webinars will be recorded and posted on this [Web page](#), where visitors may link to webinars the day of each event. Questions may be directed to Jill Jackson at jill.jackson@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 466-9540.

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Cash incentives of \$5,000 - \$12,000 are paid directly to school leaders in schools demonstrating the highest gains in the EPIC (Effective Practices Incentive Community) program



EPIC is inviting charter school leaders to ensure your educators are eligible for financial incentives for the great work they are doing with children. Eligible teachers in award winning schools receive \$3,000 - \$4,000 each. The early submission deadline to participate is Sept. 30, 2011. The final deadline is Oct. 31, 2011. There is a stipend of \$1,200 for standalone high schools and \$800 for other schools that submit data by the early deadline just for submitting your application! See the EPIC Website for more information at: <http://www.nlms.org/epic/charters>. EPIC is managed by New Leaders for New Schools. Contact Laina at 646-792-7868 or via email at CharterEPIC@nlms.org for more information.

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Federal Grant Opportunities



The U.S. Department of Education currently has four open grant competitions that we'd like to make sure you know about.

- The Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grants to Non-SEAs for Planning, Program Design, and Initial Implementation and for Dissemination are available to applicants who reside in states that do not have an approved CSP planning grant. The deadline is August 24, 2011. Visit the [competition notice](#) for information on eligible applicants and other details.
- The CSP Grants for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools awards grants to charter management organizations and other not-for-profit entities for the replication and expansion of high-quality charter schools with demonstrated records of success, including success in increasing student achievement. The application deadline is August 11, 2011. Check out the grant announcement for all the details.
- The Promise Neighborhoods program has two open grant competitions: Planning Grants and Implementation Grants. The purpose of the program is to significantly improve the educational and developmental outcomes of children and youth in our most distressed communities, and to transform those communities. The deadline for both competitions is September 6, 2011. Visit the Promise Neighborhoods website for more information.

The following communiqué was sent out by ODE's Office of Community Schools to notify Ohio schools about these opportunities.

As you know, OCS was unsuccessful in receiving a new PCSP Grant award from USDOE for this year; however the Federal Government has Non-SEA grant opportunities now available for developers and new community schools through a direct application to USDOE. In addition, schools that have been in operation for three or more years are eligible to apply for a dissemination grant.

The grant application period opened on July 25, 2011 and closes August 24, 2011. This is an unusually short application period, so interested community school should act quickly. The grant opportunities can be found on [Grants.Gov](#) by clicking on the following links:

[Click Here](#) or [Click Here](#)

Or if the link doesn't work, follow these directions: Go to Grants.Gov, then select on the left side Find Grant Opportunities, then Basic Search. At the Basic Search page, search by CFDA and enter Number 84.282. The first link includes Planning, Program Design and Initial Implementation Grants; the second link includes Dissemination Grants. Please review the Full Announcement and the Application for instructions and contact information.

Additionally, because Ohio has a PCSP grant, any school or developer applying directly to U.S. Dept. of Education must request a waiver from the Federal government in the application. For those seeking planning and/or implementation grants, the waiver request is for P.L. Section 5202 D(1).

For any schools wishing to apply for a dissemination grant, the waiver request is for P.L. Section 5202 D(2).

If you have questions, please contact the U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Innovation, LaShawndra Thorton at lashawndra.thorton@ed.gov or call toll free 1-800-877-8339.

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Associate Members Circular: Hertz Furniture Drawing



Hertz Furniture is proud to be a Vendor Member of OAPCS. With products from over 125 vendors, we have what Ohio schools need to furnish every room from classroom to library to lab, and more. We offer free design and planning services from needs assessments to product specification assistance to layouts and 3D renderings. Delivery and installation options and supervision are also available. And we're proud to back our great pricing up with a 25-Year Warranty. Ask about buying on KPN, our national purchasing co-op contract. Call David Nezri at (800)526-4677.

At Hertz, we're always looking for ways to better serve you, the members of

OAPCS. Follow the link and complete our short survey and you'll be entered in a drawing for a nice executive chair as our way of saying thank you.

[Please click here to take the survey.](#)

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Associate Members Circular: Strategy One Inc.

a positive experience with



As a charter school administrator...

- You've hired the best teachers
- Worked to create a positive learning environment
- Spent the time and energy to ensure legal and financial compliance

But....

None of this matters without students and the support of your community. This is what we do. We are StrategyONE and we offer:

- Student Recruiting and Retention Strategies
- Public Image and Reputation Management
- Meaningful Connections with Parents and Students

Throughout the years we have helped charter, parochial and public schools, large and small, across the country. All of these schools have one thing in common...

A positive and successful experience with StrategyONE

330-438-0100 / StrategyONEInc.com

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