



**OAASFEP**

LEADERSHIP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

# The Informer

Summer 2009  
Volume 9 Issue 4

For members of the Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs

## VISION

The OAASFEP provides effective leadership, professional development and legislative information on state and federal educational programs to serve all Ohio's students.

## MISSION

In partnership with the Ohio Department of Education, legislators, and other organizations, OAASFEP will facilitate open communication, provide professional development opportunities, promote legislative inquiry, and support Ohio's school communities to foster optimal learning for all Ohio's students.



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## From the President

*Ken Ferlito*

Happy summer to all of our OAASFEP members, I am Ken Ferlito, the new President of OAASFEP, and it is my honor to serve as the President of this great organization. I would like to take this time to thank Carol Padden, our Immediate Past President, for all her hard work and strong leadership this past year. I look forward to continuing to work with Carol and the rest of our Board of Directors as we strive to offer you quality conferences and a support system to help you manage State and Federal Funding.

"Summer time and the livin' is easy" is the opening line from one of the most popular songs in the Musical/Opera "Porgy and Bess" and I hope your summer has started off just like the song – "livin' is easy". Those of us in education know how important this time of rest, rejuvenation, continuous learning and family time is to our mental and physical well being.

Please see *From the President* on page 4

## NAFEPA/OAASFEP Forge Ahead

*Dr. Everett Mann*

NAFEPA/OAASFEP are forging ahead on plans for improving and sustaining federal and state programs and their inter-relationships. This is coming about amidst our eighth full year of implementing NCLB, uncertain plans for ESEA reauthorization, and legislative gridlock in Ohio on the next two-year state budget. Hopefully the federal stimulus money we are now receiving will help to provide some stability until the economy improves.

In a historic first for the organization, representatives from NAFEPA met with U.S.D.O.E. Secretary Arne Duncan in his Washington, D.C. office May 15, 2009 to discuss with him implementation of ESEA and ARRA, the upcoming ESEA reauthorization, and the importance of the negotiated rule making process. They felt they were well received by Secretary Duncan and look forward to NAFEPA continuing to play a leadership role in federal education policy, implementation, and resources.

Please see *NAFEPA/OAASFEP* on page 3

## OAASFEP Fall Coordinators Conference

October 13-15, 2009

By Bill Bogner

### **Questions, questions, and questions on ARRA, NCLB, IDEA and CCIP?**

Come and get your answers at the 2009 OAASFEP Fall Coordinators Conference! This valuable continuous learning experience for coordinators of Title I and other federal programs will again be held at the Hyatt Regency Convention Center, Columbus on October 13-15, 2009. All coordinators, administrators, and treasurers who administer Title I, ARRA, IDEA-B or other federal programs included in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and IDEIA will find this conference to be very helpful and informative for them. **It is essential for the new coordinator!** A full two-day program will provide the vital information needed to organize and manage successful Title I and other federal programs that will impact student achievement for all students.

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*OAASFEP Fall  
Conference at the  
Columbus Hyatt Regency  
October 13-15, 2009*

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In addition to the 5 general sessions with outstanding keynote presenters, the conference format has over 30 breakout sessions for participants to select four specific sessions to meet their personal learning needs. **New this year will be a preconference “Homeless Education Workshop” along with the “The New Coordinators Academy” as pre-conference event on Tuesday afternoon. This academy begins the New Coordinators Strand with four follow-up breakout sessions on Wednesday and Thursday. These are critical for the brand new coordinator of Title I and other federal programs.**

There will again be pre-registration for all breakout or learning sessions using the “Conference Planner” that will be found on the OAASFEP website in late August. Conference registration packets are mailed to all superintendents, treasurers, CCIP contacts, and OAASFEP members. In addition, on-line registration can be done at our website: [www.oaasfep.net](http://www.oaasfep.net) in late August, as well. Hope you can join us at this important conference...learning is continuous for all leaders! ♦

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*Keynote Speakers  
for the  
2009 Fall Conference*

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Zollie Stevenson



Leigh Manasevit, Esq.



Dr. Brian McNulty

## Legislative Update

By Jeremy Marks

### State Activity in 2009

#### HB 1 (State Biennial Budget)

Unless you haven't read an Ohio newspaper the last few months, you probably are aware of the "horse trading" that took place during the biennial budget process. The budget was supposed to be approved by July 1, but due to disagreements between the Governor and the Senate on the revenue needed to fill a \$3.2 billion budget hole, the deadline passed and the Governor had to sign into law temporary budgets. The main disagreement had been over the process of putting video lottery terminals (VLTs) at Ohio's seven horse tracks in order to raise at least a portion of the revenue (projected at \$933 million per year) to fill the budget hole. Senate Republicans wanted the Governor to do it by Executive Order and the Governor wanted the legislature to approve it. Both sides had their reasons for the disagreement (the voters have rejected similar gambling proposals on four previous occasions) but, in the end, on July 13, 2009, the Governor and legislature reached an agreement on the VLT issue (the Governor issued an executive order and the legislature approved the VLT language) and ultimately approved the conference report for the FY10-11 budget.

Please see *Legislative Update* on page 5

#### NEFEPA/OAASFEP from page 1

NAFEPA is actively involved in following what is going on in states and districts with ARRA stimulus funds. For Ohio, I reported that the Ohio Department of Education is providing information to districts on allocations, uses, and accountability requirements for ARRA funds. This is particularly true for the Education Stabilization Fund which is projected at 6% of a district's general state allocation, IDEA Part B legal supplant district determinations, Title II D Education Technology competitive grants, and Title I, Part A linkages to the Ohio Improvement Process for education planning.

Finally, NAFEPA/OAASFEP are planning conferences to keep membership informed. The NAFEPA annual conference will be at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., March 28-31, 2010. The theme is *ESEA – Elementary and Secondary Education Act 1965 – 2010: Where is it Heading?*

OAASFEP is planning a fall and a spring conference. The information for these conferences will be on the OAASFEP website. These meetings are especially important because of new state leadership replacing Dr. Stephen Barr. He inspired as well as instructed us on federal programs work and we will miss him, especially his humorous, non-bureaucratic approach. ♦



Jeremy Marks  
Legislative Liaison

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*NAFEPA annual  
conference at the Omni  
Shoreham Hotel in  
Washington, D.C.,  
March 28-30, 2010*

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*From the President from page 1*

It is also a time to review how the last school year went and how can we improve how we teach and touch the lives of the youth in our Great State of Ohio. For many of us in a leadership role for state and federal funding this time of year is not so easy. The end of the school year is a time of to-do-lists that include deadlines, spending, planning, allocating, budgeting and closing out one year while starting a new year. It can be anything but easy. Please know that OAASFEP is here to help and is only a phone call or e-mail away. I do hope that during this summer time you are able to get some of that "livin' is easy" time. We all need it.

I would like to share a few updates about OAASFEP. We have gone completely paperless with this summer newsletter. Please make sure you have updated your membership and joined our list serve to receive this great source of information. We also welcome to the Board Jackie Blosser who is our new Northwest Regional Representative. Jackie is replacing Mason Bryan who is our new President-Elect. Congratulations to both of you.

The Board of OAASFEP met in June to get things ready for the 2009-2010 school year. We set the dates and outlined the Fall Coordinators Conference which is set for October 13- 15, 2009. Our 2010 Title I Federal Programs Spring Conference will be March 24- 26, 2010. Please plan now to attend at least one of these conferences or both. At our June meeting we also reviewed our constitution and started to discuss any changes that need to be made to our constitution. We received many positive comments from our evaluations about our Spring Conference. I would like to THANK Bill Bogner and Carl Evans for their hard work and leadership in making our conferences high quality and full of great information for all of us to engage in and then take back to our districts to help improve how we reach our students.

We are always looking for new members to take on leadership role in this organization, if you are interested please contact me and we will get you involved. This organization is here to help all those involved in education so please consider getting more involved and being a leader in OAASFEP.

Well it is July and it is finally warming up outside. So I will keep this short and hope you found us online. I look forward to seeing you in October at our Fall Coordinators Conference. We have a big year ahead of us and we need to help each other reach our fullest potential. Best wishes as the 2009 school year starts.♦



Ken Ferlito  
OAASFEP President

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*Welcome to our new  
Northwest Regional  
Representative,  
Jackie Blosser*

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*OAASFEP Fall Conference at the  
Columbus Hyatt Regency  
October 13-15, 2009*

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*Legislative Update* from page 3

At the time of writing this article, I do not have the details of the budget agreement and the Governor still has to sign it into law. What I do know is that to balance the budget and fill a \$3.2 billion budget hole (after earlier cuts this year), there were several state programs that were significantly reduced or even eliminated. As for K-12 education, the agreement provides Governor Strickland with some of his education reform initiatives and applies the Evidence Based Model (EBM) to school districts. The EBM will not apply to community schools, STEM schools, open enrollment students, and post secondary enrollment students; and it codifies a per pupil method for those students based on current law. The budget guarantees each district 99% of its previous year’s base for FY10 and 98% of its previous year’s base for FY11. For more information on the budget, go to ODE’s web site at [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us).

**Other State Bills Receiving Consideration**

- **SB 6:** provides for a special education scholarship program. Modeled after the Autism Scholarship Program and the Mackay scholarship program in Florida, SB 6 would permit any student with an IEP to apply for a scholarship to attend a public or private institution other than the district of residence. (The number of scholarships available is capped at 3% of students statewide with an IEP) *SB 6 has received several hearings in the Senate Education Committee. The language is included in the Senate-passed version of HB 1 (budget bill)*
- **SB 59:** requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt health education curriculum standards. *SB 59 is receiving hearings in the Senate Education Committee.*
- **SB 115:** ratifies the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and establishes the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and other offices to implement the state's participation in the compact. *SB 115 was included in the final version of HB 1.*
- **HB 4:** creates a distance learning pilot project whereby high school students could take AP courses or a foreign language through a video conferencing format. *HB 4 was reported by the House Education Committee and rolled into HB 1.*
- **HB 19:** requires the SBE and school districts to adopt standards and model curricula toward the prevention of teen dating violence. *HB 19 was passed by the House and is pending in the Senate Education Committee.*
- **HB 26:** prohibits the use of corporal punishment in all public and chartered nonpublic schools. *HB 26 was amended into HB 1.*

**Federal Activity in 2009**

**FY2010 Budget**

Since the last OAASFEP report, Congress approved, on a mostly party-line vote, the FY2010 Budget Resolution (BR), which sets the policy initiatives for spending and tax provisions. It also establishes the spending levels for the twelve appropriations committees. On the education side, the BR contains \$89.4 billion in discretionary funding for Function 500 (which includes education, health and human services (HHS) and related programs). Typically, education receives 2/3 of the spending once appropriators start work. On a related note, in May, the Obama Administration released details of the FY2010 budget. You may access the President’s FY10 budget at [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov). Some of the key details include:

Program	FY09 (W/O stimulus)	FY10 Proposed	Difference
Title I	\$14.5 Billion	\$13 Billion	(-1.5 B)
School Improvement	\$546 Million	\$1.546 Billion	+1 B
Title I early childhood	N/A	\$300 Million	+300M
Teacher Incentive Fund	\$97 Million	\$517 Million	+420M
Teacher Quality	\$2.95 Billion	\$2.95 Billion	0
Ed Tech Grants	\$270 Million	\$100 Million	(-170M)
Safe and Drug-Free	\$515 Million	\$283.6 Million	(-231M)
Career Tech	\$1.2 Billion	\$1.2 Billion	0
IDEA	\$12.6 Billion	\$12.6 Billion	0

*Legislative Update* from page 5

Meanwhile, on July 10, the House Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS) and Education Appropriations Subcommittee marked up their version of the FY10 appropriations bill. Details are not available at this point but the subcommittee restored the reductions to Title I, but did not fund the increases in school improvement. The next step is for the full House Appropriations Committee to approve the bill and for the House floor to approve it. The Senate has not begun work on the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill.

### **ODE Federal Stimulus Management Update**

**Redesigned ODE Federal Stimulus Website:** ODE redesigned its stimulus website to make it more user-friendly with specific federal stimulus program web links that contain consistent information for each program including description of fund, eligibility, application deadlines, application process, guidance and uses of funds, reporting requirements and frequently asked questions. On the main ODE stimulus page there is also latest news and updates, helpful talking points, implementation grids and other important information. ODE's stimulus web page may be accessed at:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=520> .

### ***Latest News on Ohio's Education-Related ARRA Implementation***

#### **State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Process**

On June 1, Governor Strickland submitted an application for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) on behalf of Ohio. The SFSF, which is administered by the U.S. Department of Education, consists of two parts 1) the Education Stabilization Fund and 2) the Government Services Fund. Ohio's SFSF allocation amount is \$1.79 billion, including \$1.46 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund. On June 10, U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, announced that Ohio's application (phase I) was approved which will provide over \$1 billion in SFSF. Ohio will apply for phase II in the fall of 2009. In anticipation of an approved SFSF application by the USDOE, on June 1, ODE also developed an application where superintendents and treasurers could apply by logging into the ODE SAFE account and clicking on the link to the stabilization application. At present, almost all of the 931 school districts and community schools have accepted the funds. Ohio's Education SFSF for primary and secondary education will be distributed to LEAs as part of the foundation payments each month. ODE estimates that LEAs will receive approximately 6% of total foundation support as SFSF. *The SFSF funds are in addition to the other federal stimulus education funds that LEAs may receive by direct federal formula, such as Title I and IDEA.*

### **OMB Recovery Act Reporting Guidance**

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released the long awaited guidance for the reporting required under section 1512 of ARRA. The guidance provides information on recipient reporting, clarifies some of the recipient reporting processes and provides key definitions and criteria for the data requirements. You may access this guidance on ODE's stimulus web site. It is important to note that all school districts receiving federal stimulus funds will need to create and/or validate existing Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and Central Contractor Registration (CCR) registration in order to be eligible for any ARRA funds. ODE will provide information to districts on the process for registering.

### **USDOE Issues Draft Guidance on ARRA Title I Part A Waivers**

The USDOE posted draft [guidance](#) for waivers of certain requirements including some recently passed as Title I Part A regulations and ARRA funds. To expedite the waiver process, states will be allowed to apply for waivers on behalf of local school districts. ODE will soon forward to LEAs a notice of the waivers for which it intends to apply. Districts will be asked to comment within a relatively short time frame. District comments must be included as part of the waiver requests to USDOE. Potential waiver items include: the 14-day notice requirement, prohibition on approving certain SES providers, ARRA set-aside calculations, exclusion of ARRA from the SES per-pupil amount, carryover limitation and lowering the threshold for school-wide to 25% poverty.

Please see *Legislative Update* on page 7

Legislative Update from page 6

**ARRA Fund and Special Cost Center Codes Posted**

ARRA has stringent accountability requirements attached to the funds and requires that these grants not be comingled with other funds. Thus three additional funds and more special cost center codes were created. To view the new fund and cost center codes, click [here](#), or visit the [ODE Stimulus page](#) and click on the “[New Fund & SCC codes table](#)” link in the new items section.


**ODE Recalculated LEA Determinations for IDEA**

The IDEA Part B stimulus guidance stated that IDEA allows LEAs to use up to 50% of special education IDEA Part B funds (the sum of IDEA Part B Funds and ARRA IDEA Part B Stimulus Funds) received in excess of the amount received for the prior year to replace local education funds. The guidance further detailed that an LEA must receive a determination of “Meets Requirements” from the state in order to take advantage of this flexibility. ODE last made LEA determinations in the fall of 2008. Rather than wait until fall 2009 to issue the next round of determinations to school districts, ODE chose to make determinations in the spring in conjunction with the allocation of ARRA funds from the federal government. Furthermore, in light of the emphasis on increasing flexibility in use of funds at the local level, ODE considered only the indicators required by OSEP in each LEA’s evaluation. By using only the indicators required by OSEP in the recalculation, over 885 school districts and community schools will meet the requirements and thus, be allowed to take advantage of the 50% flexibility in using the stimulus funds to reduce their local effort to support services to children with disabilities.

**Important ARRA Deadlines and Dates (Ohio Implementation)**

- **June and July 2009** – ARRA and regular federal FY10 grant allocations are available in ODE’s Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) for review and application purposes by LEAs. The date that funds become available to draw down is based on the date the LEA submits their application for approval.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 614.466.3125 or [Jeremy.marks@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:Jeremy.marks@ode.state.oh.us). ♦



<p><b>OAASFEP</b>                  P.O. Box 361314                  Columbus, OH 43236                  c/o Wanda Stearns</p> <p>Phone: 614.323.3326</p> <p>Fax: 614.863.8644</p> <p>E-mail: wanda.stearns@att.com</p>	<p><b>OAASFEP/NAFEPA</b>  <b>Membership</b>                  Ron English</p> <p>Phone: 216.321.4288</p> <p>E-mail: roneenglish@sbcglobal.net</p>
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**If you are interested in serving OAASFEP  
 in a leadership capacity,  
 please contact our current president,  
 Ken Ferlito at 216.732.2701**