



OAASFEP

LEADERSHIP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

The Informer

Fall 2009
Volume 10 Issue 1

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 Fall to all our OAASFEP Members,

Well, I am home in Euclid, Ohio after spending 3 great days in Columbus at the OAASFEP Fall Conference. I now have some answers to State and Federal Funding questions that I didn't have when I left Euclid to attend the conference. I am grateful that the ODE staff is willing to come and share their knowledge with us first hand and in person at the convention. Thank you, ODE, for all you do! I would also like to thank the keynote speakers and all presenters for sharing their knowledge and experience with us. OAASFEP Conferences are a great way to gain new knowledge and to stay up to date on the ever changing State and Federal Programs.

If you attended the Fall Conference please take the time to fill out the on-line "Monkey Survey". It only takes a few minutes to complete, but it gives your association information in order to improve our conferences. Your feedback is appreciated and will be used to make our conferences meet your needs.

Please see *From the President* on page 4

NAFEPA ESEA Update

Dr. Everett Mann

The OAASFEP 2009 Fall Conference had an emphasis on ARRA goals, programs, funding, and compliance; ESEA reauthorization; and how these initiatives fit with the Ohio Improvement Process. The OIP, using the decision framework, is Ohio's answer in part to required school reform and compliance with NCLB. Did these topics meet the needs of over 760 Ohio coordinators and administrators who were yearning for state and federal programs assistance? Especially, did they meet the needs of the 45% of the participants who were new or had less than two years experience with federal programs? I was not one of the new administrators in years of experience but had my needs met by these topics and became new again in what I took away from the conference.

I strongly believe that Ohio needs a greater presence at the NAFEPA Conference in Washington, D. C. March 28-31, 2010. The conference is titled ESEA REAUTHORIZATION and poses questions of Where are we heading? How will we get there? and looks at the Race to the Future ARRA grant program.

Please see *NAFEPA ESEA Update* on page 3

OAASFEP Fall Coordinators Conference ...The Largest Fall Conference!



Bill Bogner
Conference Facilitator

Over 760 coordinators and administrators attended the October 13-15, 2009 OAASFEP Fall Coordinators Conference. For the new or veteran coordinator of federal programs and the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, the continued learning from the annual Fall to Spring Conferences is critical due to the depth of information to learn and the continued guidance documents published from either the Ohio Department of Education or from the US Office of Education. In addition, the high turnover of coordinator positions in many school districts intensifies the extent of training needed for the new coordinator for Title I or other programs. Of the 760 participants who attended, the registration data revealed that 49% were brand new coordinators or had less than 2 years experience in federal programs.

Five general sessions with four keynote presenters provided stimulating, informative and challenging statements related to quality leadership to impact student learning. The opening general session keynote presenters on Tuesday evening were a panel of leaders from the Center for School Improvement, Ohio Department of Education: Stephanie Gerber, Dr. Janet Schilk, and Dr. Cynthia Lemmerman. Stephanie introduced the staff from the Office of Federal Programs, and provided data and funding amounts allocated to school districts for the FY 10 formula and stimulus (ARRA) grants. Janet reminded the participants that her office has turned their compliance role into a more supportive role for school districts, and also discussed the new diagnostic assessments. Cynthia, recently appointed as the new Associate Superintendent for the Center for School Improvement, expressed her excitement with the new appointment and the opportunities we can provide for students across Ohio. She challenged all to be courageous leaders, to embrace change, and not accept poor performance.

At the second general session on Wednesday morning, returning for an encore keynote address was Dr. Brian McNulty, Englewood, Colorado, who discussed *Leading School and District Improvement: Guidance From Research to Practice* or how to think about changing the “whole system”? Dr. McNulty has done extensive work in many school districts in Ohio and reminded the participants that there are 9 on-line modules available for leadership teams along with other helpful links at: www.ohioleadership.org How to develop a continuous improvement learning cycle is the big question posed by Dr. McNulty. He said it is not just about compliance, but all about improvement and changing teaching practices. He reviewed the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) along with the 4 stages: identify needs, develop focused plan, implement focused plan, and evaluate/monitor the improvement process. Dr. McNulty cited research that a “...few behaviors can drive a lot of change...enormous influence comes from focusing on just a few vital behaviors.” And, “....that you should pay special attention to a handful of high-leverage behaviors (Patterson, 2008)”.

Leigh Manasevit, Esq., Washington D.C., returned as the keynoter at the Wednesday noon General Session III stating the NCLB label for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) will soon be eliminated by the Obama Administration when it is reauthorized. The process of reauthorization (expected to be about one year) along with the national debate will probably begin once health care is completed. Leigh gave a brief historical perspective on ESEA from the early beginnings of President Johnson’s *The War on Poverty* and how the concept of federal involvement in education has shifted through the years.

Please see *Conference Update* on page 8

Legislative Update

By Jeremy Marks

State Activity 2009 Third Quarter

At the time of writing this article, the main focus for Ohio's General Assembly has been on dealing with the latest budgetary shortfall. As you probably have heard, Ohio is facing another budget hole after the Ohio Supreme Court decided that the installation of Video Lottery Terminals (VLTs) at Ohio's horse-race tracks is subject to referendum. Such a referendum cannot appear on the ballot until November 2010. The Court's decision means that the General Assembly needs to address the shortfall from the anticipated revenue gained from the VLTs (approximately \$851 million) which was dedicated under HB 1 (the state's biennial budget) for education and to fund the Evidence Based Model (EBM) to schools. The lack of state revenue also means potential loss of federal stimulus funds. In order to receive certain federal stimulus funds such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF), states had to assure that they would maintain their level of spending for education to at least the 2006 level (without a waiver from the US Department of Education). Ohio's application for SFSF was approved in June 2009 and the state is expected to get \$1.8 billion in SFSF, including \$1.4 billion for K-16 education. Without addressing the state budget hole, Ohio may have to forfeit its federal SFSF funds.

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NEFEPA ESEA Update from page 1

On the NAFEPA website <http://www.nafepa.org/> there are twenty reasons titled "Why you need to attend the 2010 NAFEPA Conference". Three that have particular meaning for me are; #10) I am our district's single contact for federal programs and need to find people who can answer my questions, #5) I need our urban district to be ready for federal audits and compliance reviews that come up yearly and #2) I need to stay on top of what is happening with federal programs, particularly with reauthorization of ESEA and with funding. Wait, I have a fourth #20) I want all of our students to academically achieve each year and receive a high school diploma and be prepared for college, careers, and work. Hopefully, you share these reasons with me as well as others and will attend the annual conference.

Lastly, I am excited that Dr. Cynthia Lemmerman, one of our former OAASFEP Presidents and most recently a school superintendent, will be the new Associate Superintendent for the Center of School Improvement, Ohio Department of Education. I look forward to her leadership in state and federal programs as we in the field make these work and plan for ESEA reauthorization. ♦



Jeremy Marks
Legislative Liaison



Dr. Everett Mann
NAFEPA

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

From the President from page 1

If you have any ideas or thoughts how to make the conferences better, please let one of our Board Members know. You can find the Board Members contact information at our website at www.aaasfep.net.

We had the largest attendance for a Fall Conference ever this October. We had 760 members in attendance. Educators from all over Ohio came together to network, learn, and keep up to date with all the changes that take place with the State and Federal Programming. Many came to learn about ARRA and how best to use these added funds to help students do better in school. We had over 200 in attendance at our New Coordinators Academy Pre-Conference Event and I would like to thank Diane Schneider-Farmer for Facilitating the Academy. We welcomed the Homeless Education Academy this year as a Pre-Conference Event and we hope to continue the partnership with them. Thank you to Dr. Cathy Hamilton for presenting at the Homeless Education Academy.

We welcomed Dr. Cynthia Lemmerman as the new Associate Superintendent for School Improvement with the Ohio Department of Education. It was wonderful to have Dr. Lemmerman back at the head table for this conference. Dr. Lemmerman is a past-president for OAASFEP. It was great to get to know Dr. Lemmerman and I look forward to working with and supporting her in her new job. I know the Board of OAASFEP was excited to have her at the conference and look forward to a strong relationship in helping Ohio Schools improve. From OAASFEP we congratulate and Welcome Dr. Cynthia Lemmerman as the new Associate Superintendent for School Improvement for the Ohio Department of Education. She will take on her new job on Monday, November 16, 2009.

I would like to thank Bill Bogner and Carl Evans for their continued hard work by making the OAASFEP's conferences so organized and so informative. Thank you both for all you do.

OAASFEP Title I Federal Programs Spring Conference "2010 An Education Odyssey...A Journey of What Could BE, Where All Children Learn." is March 24-26, 2010. Please mark the dates now and plan to attend. We have many exciting and current presenters coming who will inspire you to make education all it can be. If you or someone you know would like to be a presenter, please go to the OAASFEP webpage. Go to the conference link and near the bottom of the page you can click on the link and fill out a Call for Presenters Form. The Call for Presenter Form is due back by December 1, 2009.

We are also looking for Classroom Ideas That Work presenters for Wednesday, March 24th of the Spring Conference from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. We are seeking teachers to set up a display/table to share best practices. If you are willing to display your classroom, instructional or building ideas that work so that other Ohio educators may learn from and use in their teaching assignment, please contact Bill Bogner at 440-324-3175 or bill.bogner@ode.state.oh.us. Thanking you in advance for all who are willing to present and to all who are willing to display your best practices.

Well wishes are sent out to Ron English, OAASFEP Membership Chair, as he recovers from surgery. We hope he continues to have a speedy recovery.

Well, as the cold weather moves into Ohio, The Ohio State Buckeyes are hopefully winning a game against the team up north, and as we prepare for the approaching holidays, I wish all of our members the courage to engage those around you and to inspire those whom you teach. This time in education is very exciting and yet very challenging. Let's support each other and work together to offer every child a chance at a great future and a journey where all can learn. Have a great holiday season, take time to relax, rejuvenate and enjoy your personal journey. ♦



*Ken Ferlito
OAASFEP President*

Legislative Update from page 3

To address the issue and generate the necessary revenue from the loss of VLTs, the Governor recommended postponing for two years the last of five scheduled income tax reductions. The Ohio House of Representatives introduced a bill (HB 318) with the Governor's recommendation and approved it, by a vote of 55-44, on October 21. The Senate has begun hearings on HB 318 and is also exploring other options.

Other State Bills Receiving Consideration

- SB 59 (Fedor, D-Toledo): requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt health education curriculum standards. *SB 59 is receiving hearings in the Senate Education Committee.*
- SB 167 (Cates, R-West Chester): revises performance ratings for school districts and buildings. *SB 167 has had three hearings in the Senate Education Committee.*
- SB 173 (Cates): delays by one year the effective date of rules regarding school district expenditures of funds for core teachers and the requirement for districts to provide all-day kindergarten for all kindergartners. *SB 173 has had three hearings in the Senate Education Committee.*
- SB 180 (Husted, R-Kettering)/HB 312 (Morgan, R-Huber Heights): companion bills that allow new internet- or computer- based community schools to open under certain conditions, require the use of student performance data in evaluating teachers and principals for licensure and qualify Teach for America participants for a professional educator license. *SB 180 has had two hearings in Senate Education Committee.*
- HB 19 (Harwood, D-Niles): 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 has had two hearings in the Senate Education Committee.*
- HB 60 (Pillich, D-Montgomery): establishes nutritional standards for food and beverages sold in vending machines in public schools. *HB 60 was approved by the House Health Committee. The committee accepted a substitute version of the bill that establishes tiered calorie limits for grade levels, limit snacks to having 230 mg of sodium, increase the timeline for standards in flavored milk to September 2011, and specify that the bill does not apply to booster sales and other events at which adults would be present.*
- HB 318 (Sykes, D-Akron): delays for two years the last of five scheduled income tax reductions and reduces salaries of General Assembly members by five percent. *HB 318 passed the House by a vote of 55-44. The Senate is holding hearings on HB 318 in the Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee.*

Please see *Legislative Update* on page 6

*Join us for the 2010 Spring Conference
at the
Hyatt Regency in Columbus, Ohio
March 24-36, 2010*

Legislative Update from page 5

Federal Activity 2009 Third Quarter FY2010 Appropriations

President Obama signed HR 2918, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Continuing Appropriations Resolution. The continuing resolution funds the federal programs at the FY09 levels through the end of October. The start of the federal fiscal year began October 1. While the House has passed all 12 of their spending bills and the Senate has only approved 4 of their spending bills. One of the spending bills yet to be completed is the FY10 Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education spending bill. The main education funding differences between the two chambers are the amounts of funding for Title I, school renovation, and the teacher incentive fund. A breakdown of funding for the key education programs is below. The differences are in bold and italicized.

Program	FY10 President Obama Proposed	House Approved	Senate Committee Approved
Title I	<i>\$13 billion</i>	<i>\$14.5 billion</i>	<i>\$13.8 billion</i>
School Improvement	<i>\$1.546 billion</i>	<i>\$546 million</i>	<i>\$546 million</i>
School Renovation	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$700 million</i>
Title I early childhood	<i>\$500 million</i>	\$0	\$0
Early Learning Fund	<i>\$300 million</i>	\$0	\$0
IDEA, Part B	\$11.5 billion	\$11.5 billion	\$11.5 billion
IDEA, Part B (Preschool)	\$374 million	\$374 million	\$374 million
Teacher Quality	\$2.95 billion	\$2.95 billion	\$2.95 billion
Teacher Incentive Fund	<i>\$517 million</i>	<i>\$446 million</i>	<i>\$300 million</i>
Ed Tech Grants	\$100 million	\$100 million	\$100 million
Striving Readers	<i>\$374 million</i>	<i>\$146 million</i>	<i>\$262.9 million</i>
Early Reading First	<i>\$162.5 million</i>	<i>\$127.5 million</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Even Start	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$66.5 million</i>	<i>\$0</i>
21 st Century (after school)	<i>\$1.13 billion</i>	<i>\$1.18 billion</i>	<i>\$1.13 billion</i>
Career Tech	\$1.3 billion	\$1.3 billion	\$1.3 billion
Head Start	\$7.2 billion	\$7.2 billion	\$7.2 billion

Legislative Activity

Student Loan Bill: On September 17, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives approved, by a vote of 253-171, HR 3221, the *Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act* of 2009. The Senate has yet to take up the measure but Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), the new Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, praised the House's passage of HR 3221. Overall, the bill aims to overhaul the federal student loan program by ending the Family Federal Education Loan Program (FFELP) and originates all new student loans through the USDOE's Direct Loan Program by July 1, 2010. The change is estimated to save \$87 billion which would be used to fund a number of existing and new education programs proposed by President Obama. HR 3221 makes significant investments including:

- \$8 billion (\$1 billion over 8 years) for early education grants (Early Learning Challenge Fund program). The early education grant program is a competitive process and awards grants to states that have made strong investments in early childhood education. Among other issues, in order for states to receive early education grants, states would have to demonstrate quality early childhood standards, professional development, screening of students for disabilities and health needs, program monitoring, parent support, a process to assess a child's school readiness, and the use of data to improve student outcomes.

Please see *Legislative Update* on page 7

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- \$7.3 billion for new Green Schools Construction, Modernization and Renovation Grants
 - \$4.1 billion in mandatory funds for K-12 schools for two years
 - \$2.5 billion for community colleges for one year
 - \$70 million for schools affected by Hurricane Katrina for two years
- \$40 billion increase in Pell Grants
- Authorization (no funding specified) for a new five-year discretionary program to provide grants to school districts to promote “teacher excellence”
 - The grants would help establish, expand or improve professional development activities, mentoring and induction programs for new teachers and principals, and career ladders to assume new professional roles for teachers.

Upcoming Reauthorizations

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization: Recently, Secretary Duncan urged Congress to begin working on the ESEA reauthorization (last reauthorized as NCLB in 2002) and announced a series of stakeholder meetings that the Department will be engaging in later in the fall. Secretary Duncan has said that he believes NCLB puts too much emphasis on standardized tests, unfairly labels many schools as failures, doesn’t account for students’ academic growth in its accountability system, and inadvertently encourages states to lower standards. The House Education and Labor Committee has begun hearings on teacher quality, as Chairman Miller wants to make teacher quality and equity a priority in the next reauthorization. Many believe that the proposals and ultimate awards for the Race to the Top (RTTT) fund will serve as the reforms for the ESEA reauthorization.
- Child Nutrition Act: Congress approved the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations Bill, which includes a one-year extension of the Child Nutrition Act. The Child Nutrition Act expired September 30. Both the House and Senate committees have been holding hearings on child nutrition. Several bills dealing with child nutrition have been introduced but no bills have passed either chamber. ♦

Classroom Ideas That Work

OAASFEP would like to add your “ideas that work” to the 2010 Spring Conference, March 24 – 26. “Great discoveries and achievements invariably involve the cooperation of many minds.” Table displays will be available at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom foyer for all conferees to view on Wednesday evening, March 24th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Would you be willing to display your classroom, instructional or building ideas that work so that other Ohio educators may learn from and use in their teaching assignment?

Set-up:	Wednesday, March 24 th 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Viewing:	5:00 – 7:00 p.m. (removed by 8:00 p.m.)
Space:	½ to full table, depending on need; electrical hookup available upon request.

To show its’ appreciation, **OAASFEP will provide a \$75 deduction on the conference registration fee for one educator per display.** Interested? Space can be reserved by contacting Bill Bogner at 440.324.3175 or bill.bogner@ode.state.oh.us. Thank you.


Conference Update from page 2

Leigh spent a considerable amount of time discussing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), and its' latest developments, purposes, funding principles, reporting requirements, etc. Leigh anticipates that the reauthorized ESEA will include more provisions on school districts achieving equity in teacher distribution, and on teacher and principal effectiveness. He also outlined the initial priorities, requirements and criteria relative to the new Race to the Top funds that will become competitive to the states, then allocated to the school districts in late 2009. Ohio is expected to apply for these funds. Leigh ended his presentation with an update on the various School Improvement Grants (NCLB, Section 1003(g)) made available to Ohio and the qualifying school districts.

The final keynoter, Dr. Zollie Stevenson, was from the US Office of Education. Dr. Stevenson reminded the audience of why we all need to be concerned about educational reform: high school dropouts earn far less; college graduates earn 60% more; and that 1 in 10 high schools lose more than 40% of their students. He briefly outlined President Obama's education reform agenda which included a pre-kindergarten focus on early learning; more reading initiatives; increased focus on high schools with less dropouts, and using strategies that work; school turnaround with an increased focus on the lowest performing Title I schools; improved pre-school to age 20 longitudinal data systems; support for common learning standards and assessments; and improved training, incentive pay and performance pay for teachers. Dr. Stevenson also outlined more federal initiatives including the Race to the Top funds with the ultimate goal to support innovation and reform for key priorities in American education.

This annual Fall Coordinators Conference also included 27 learning sessions that centered on the improvement process, the CCIP application, serving students with disabilities, the LEP student, financial management, serving nonpublic students, and other critical sessions that impact student learning. The expert and very knowledgeable presenters from the Ohio Department of Education, school districts, and other educational agencies provided the required legal requirements pertaining to a wide range of topics as well as the research based practices and practical tips to implement at the school building or district level.

The OAASFEP Board extends a special thank-you and appreciation to all of the keynote and learning session presenters! Sincere appreciation is given to Stephanie Gerber, Center for School Improvement, and other ODE educators for their continued support in the planning and delivery of these critical training events for coordinators of federal programs. ♦



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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**