

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.E.3**

MEETING DATE: **May 15, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Legislative Day

Legislative Day and the Preparing for Legislative Day webinar were promoted through *This Week* and *Access*. Advocacy resources and tools were added to the [OLC website](#) and Member Info Hub. On-site collateral materials were distributed to attendees, including a sample press release for use with local media. Participants were also encouraged to share event photos on social media using [#OhioLibraryDay](#).

Sample local news coverage:

- [Wayne County Public Library highlights value during Statehouse talks](#)
- [Library leaders attend event](#)

Library Levies

A press release was sent about Ohio voters approving 12 of the 14 public library levies on the May primary ballot. Press release and levy results:

<https://members.olc.org/news/Details/ohio-voters-show-strong-support-for-public-libraries-approving-12-of-14-levies-330118>

Sample media coverage:

- [Ohio voters approved most library levies on primary ballot](#)
- [Ohioans again demonstrate their support of public libraries at the ballot box](#)
- [Ohio voters show support for public library funding](#)

Statewide Coalition — Ohioans to Protect Public Services

Information was shared in *This Week*, *Access*, the [OLC website](#) about OLC serving on the Steering Committee of [Ohioans to Protect Public Services](#), a broad-based, statewide coalition working to raise awareness about what is at stake if property taxes are eliminated without a plan to replace the revenue. On April 16, the coalition launched its [website](#), along with a new [video](#) and [informational tools](#) designed to help explain the issue.

In addition, the [Public Libraries and Property Taxes fact sheet](#) and [FAQs about Library Funding](#) were updated and posted on the [OLC website](#).

Convention and Expo

Preliminary work has begun on the [2026 Convention and Expo website](#). A save-the-date postcard will be sent in June. The [Exhibitor Prospectus](#) was created and mailed in March. Sponsorship opportunities were updated on the [OLC website](#).

Division/Committee Projects

- The Library Trustee e-newsletter was distributed on April 3.
- Member Spotlight articles appeared in the April 1 and April 29 issues of *Access*.
- Customer Service and Support Staff Division sent an e-newsletter on March 27.
- Children's Services Division sent its quarterly e-newsletter on March 10.
- Technical Services Division sent an e-newsletter on March 9.
- Teen Services Division will host another virtual discussion (Teen Services Talk) on May 14.
- Nominations for the 2026 Awards and Honors were promoted in *This Week*, *Access*, OLC website and social media. The deadline was extended from April 30 to May 29.
- A call for committee members for the new Safety and Security Conference was promoted in *This Week* and *Access*. The conference is scheduled for September 11, 2026.
- A call for Board of Directors nominations was published in *This Week*, *Access* and the OLC website.

Strategic Planning

Information about the OLC's strategic planning process was shared in *This Week*, *Access* and [social media](#).

GZ Learn

Training has begun on the new GrowthZone (GZ) Learning module to support implementation. GZ Learn will be used to deliver the Ohio Reference Excellence (ORE) courses as well as other online professional development opportunities for members.

Website

The most popular pages on the OLC website over the past two months are:

1. Jobs
2. New Research Shows Ohioans Strongly Value Local Library Services
3. Event Calendar
4. Ohio Voters Show Strong Support for Public Libraries
5. Convention and Expo
6. Webinars & Online Reference Training
7. Certification
8. Library Funding/PLF
9. Awards and Honors
10. OLC News