

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.G**

MEETING DATE: **Nov. 7, 2025**

SUBJECT: **Executive Director's Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

2026 OLC Budget

The tentative timeline for the 2026 budget process is as follows:

- Dec. 5: Budget Worksheets Distributed to OLC Staff
- Dec. 12: Budgets Due from OLC Staff
- Dec. 15: Budgets Finalized for Committees and Divisions
- Jan. 5: Budget Revisions and Finalization
- Jan. 7: Budget Distributed to Finance Committee
- Jan. 8 (*tentative*): Finance Committee Zoom Meeting to Review Budget
- Jan. 12: Budget Included in Board Meeting Background Packet
- Jan. 16: Budget Approval at OLC Board Meeting

ALA Emerging Leaders Program

The American Library Association has paused the ALA Emerging Leaders Program due to recent changes in staffing. Historically, OLC has sponsored up to two individual members to participate in the program.

OLC Board Orientation

In-person Board orientation sessions were held with Susan Titkemeier and Cindy Lombardo on Oct. 30. They will be joining the OLC Board of Directors for three-year terms beginning in January 2026. The discussion covered a variety of topics, including their roles on the Board, fiduciary responsibilities, the Board Code of Conduct, conflict of interest, and Board meeting agendas procedures.

Ohioans Approved 18 of 20 Public Library Levies

On November 4, voters approved 18 of the 20 local library levies. The approved measures included one bond issue, 13 renewals, three replacements, and one additional levy. The 18 levies that passed did so by significant margins with an average voter approval rate of 63 percent.

Small Library Director Forums

The OLC Small Libraries Division held two of their discussion forums for directors of small libraries. The first session was held at the Tiffin-Seneca Public Library on Sept. 24 with 22

attendees. The second session was virtual on Oct. 23 with 32 attendees. The final session is scheduled for Dec. 2 and has 11 registrants. The forums are designed for directors of small libraries to discuss issues of common interest and to share ideas on how to deal with challenges unique to small libraries. The discussions also include an update on OLC activities, legislative issues, and library funding.

OLC 2026 Planning & Leadership Conference

This is an opportunity for OLC Committees and Division Action Councils to meet and plan for 2026. The conference is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025 at the Huntington Convention Center in downtown Cleveland (1 St. Clair Ave. NE, Cleveland, OH 44114). It will be held on the third floor of the Atrium Building in Room 307B.

The Planning and Leadership Conference is an annual tradition and opportunity for OLC's Committees and Division Action Councils to come together and begin planning for the following year.

During the conference, attendees will be asked:

- What are the top three things affecting your library and your work?
- What topics and trends do you want to learn more about?
- How can your Committee/Division Action Council play a role in these efforts?

In addition, members of the OLC's Committees and Division Action Councils will hear about the strategic direction of OLC in 2026. The conference will include time for networking, creativity, and conversation.

The work of OLC's Committees and Divisions is incredibly important as it helps to guide the organization and address the challenges and opportunities in the year ahead. Current and incoming members of OLC Committees and Division Action Councils are urged to attend.

2025 Invitations	170
2025 Registrants	68
2024 Registrants	83

OLC Staff Anniversaries

Recent OLC staff anniversaries include:

- Sherry Heffner: Oct. 14 – 1 year
- Jay Smith: Nov. 18 – 6 years

Activities

Activities since the Sept. 19 meeting include:

Sept. 19	CC w/Bill Seitz
Sept. 22	OLC Staff Meeting
Sept. 23	Meeting w/Fleeter & Associates Regional Library Director Meeting & Advocacy Training @ Findlay-Hancock County PL CC w/Randy Gardner
Sept. 24	Small Library Directors Forum @ Tiffin-Seneca PL
Sept. 25	GRC Meeting @ OLC Office
Sept. 26	Regional Library Director Meeting & Advocacy Training @ OLC Office Meeting w/Highlights & Google
Sept. 29	OLC Staff Meeting
Sept. 30	Joint Congressional Redistricting Committee Meeting w/Amazon Business CC w/Terrence O'Donnell
Oct. 1	House Local Government Committee (HB 137) House Ways & Means Committee (HB 335) Meeting w/Metro Library Directors Meeting w/Ohio 250 Planning on C&E Property Tax Coalition Meeting
Oct. 2	Meeting w/School Principals Association OLC IF Committee Meeting OLC Diversity Committee Meeting
Oct. 6	OLC Staff Meeting OLC Amazon Business Webinar
Oct. 7	Regional Library Director Meeting & Advocacy Training @ Heights PL
Oct. 8	OLC Highlights & Google Webinar Meeting w/Paul Werth House Ways & Means Committee (HB 309 and HB 335)
Oct. 9	Regional Library Director Meeting & Advocacy Training @ Puskarich PL
Oct. 10	ALA State of the Chapter

Oct. 13	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Alan Radnor
Oct. 14	Meeting w/Lesic & Camper Communications Meeting w/Rep. Dave Thomas Meeting w/Rep. Scott Oelslager Meeting w/Rep. Gayle Manning
Oct. 15	House Local Government Committee (HB 137) House Ways & Means Committee (HB 335) Property Tax Coalition Meeting
Oct. 21	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Rep. Veronica Sims Meeting w/Rep. Dan Troy House Ways & Means Committee
Oct. 22	Meeting w/Rep. Haraz Ghanbari Meeting w/Rep. Jack Daniels Meeting w/Rep. Matt Kishman Senate Local Government Committee (HB 309)
Oct. 23	Small Library Directors Forum @ Virtual
Oct. 24	ED Self Evaluation
Oct. 27	OLC Staff Meeting Regional Library Director Meeting @ Virtual
Oct. 28	Meeting w/House Caucus Staff House Government Oversight Comm. (HB 481) Meeting w/OTA Senate Local Gov Comm (HB 335)
Oct. 29	House Local Government Committee (HB 137) House Public Insurance & Pensions Comm (HB 473) Meeting w/Rep. Sharon Ray Meeting w/Rep. Jason Stephens Meeting w/Monica Blasdel Meeting w/Rep. Jim Hoops Property Tax Coalition Meeting
Oct. 30	OLC Board Orientation w/Cindy Lombardo & Susan Titkemeier Meeting w/AOS on Hinkle Transition
Oct. 31	OLC Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting
Nov. 3	OLC Staff Meeting
Nov. 4	Meeting w/OLC Legal Counsel Meeting w/OTA Meeting w/Northway Advisors
Nov. 5	Meeting w/Metro Chambers & Local Government Groups Meeting w/Metro Library Directors