Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ITEM NO.: **5.G** MEETING DATE: **Nov. 13, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Executive Director's Report** SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

2027 OLC Budget

The tentative timeline for the 2027 budget process is as follows:

Dec. 4:	Budget Worksheets Distributed to OLC Staff
Dec. 11:	Budgets Due from OLC Staff
Dec. 14:	Budgets Finalized for Committees and Divisions
Jan. 5:	Budget Revisions and Finalization
Jan. 6:	Budget Distributed to Finance Committee
Jan. 8 (*tentative*):	Finance Committee Zoom Meeting to Review Budget
Jan. 11:	Budget Included in Board Meeting Background Packet
Jan. 15:	Budget Approval at OLC Board Meeting

ALA Emerging Leaders Program

The American Library Association is continuing to pause the ALA Emerging Leaders Program due to changes in staffing. Going forward, the program will be managed by CORE under the ALA umbrella. However, there will be no session in 2027. Historically, OLC has sponsored up to two individual members to participate in the program.

OLC Board Orientation

In-person Board orientation sessions will be held with Beth Steiner (Nov. 17) and Ben Heckman (Nov. 23). They will be joining the OLC Board of Directors for three-year terms beginning in January 2027. The discussions will cover 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 13 of 16 (81%) Public Library Levies

Ohio voters once again demonstrated their support for public libraries on November 3, approving 13 of the 16 local library levies on ballot. The successful measures included 11 renewals and two new levies, with an average approval rate of 63%. The three levies that did not pass were decided by close margins. OLC has reached out to those library directors and offered assistance. The unofficial results and OLC's press release are available on the OLC website.

Impact Ohio Post Election Conference

OLC staff attended the Impact Ohio Post-Election Conference on Nov. 5 in Columbus. More will be shared at the OLC Board Meeting.

2027 Planning & Leadership Kickoff

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. The Kickoff Event is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 3, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

During the Kickoff, 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?

Attendees will also hear about OLC's Strategic Planning Process and plans for 2027. A final agenda will be shared soon.

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.

2026 Invitations Sent	149
2026 Registration (Virtual)	83
2025 Invitations Sent	170
2025 Registration (In-Person)	122
2024 Registration (In-Person)	90

Strategic Planning

The OLC Board has approved the Vision and Mission statements; and Goal areas. The OLC staff will work over the next 2-3 months to develop strategies and tactics based on the Retreat Summary and the Board's feedback.

Special Survey for Library Directors & Fiscal Officers

Thank you to the public library systems that responded to our special survey for library directors and fiscal officers. The survey will help OLC staff to have a better statewide picture of the financial challenges facing Ohio's public libraries.

The survey focused on the Public Library Fund (PLF), county budget commissions, the impact of PLF estimates on budgeting, and future priorities. OLC staff is continuing to review the responses and data as they will help to shape OLC's advocacy in the next state budget.

OLC Staff Anniversaries

Recent OLC staff anniversaries include:

- Sherry Heffner: Oct. 14 – 2 years
- Jay Smith: Nov. 18 – 7 years

Activities

Activities since the Sept. 25 meeting include:

Sept. 28	OLC Staff Meeting OLC Diversity Comm. Meeting
Sept. 29	Senate General Gov. Comm. Meeting
Oct. 2	OPLIN Board Meeting
Oct. 5	OLC Staff Meeting OLC Media Panel Planning Meeting
Oct. 6	Spectrum Media Interview ED Self Evaluation Meeting on Governor DeWine Video
Oct. 7	Meeting w/OLC Legal Counsel (Vorys) Media Interview w/Ohio Cap. Journal CMC Luncheon w/CML Meeting w/Metro Library Directors
Oct. 12	OLC Staff Meeting
Oct. 13	C&E Trucks ICLAE Meeting
Oct. 14	CMC Luncheon w/Vivek Ramaswamy
Oct. 15	Meeting w/Amazon Business
Oct. 19	OLC Staff Meeting
Oct. 20	C&E On-Site Pre-Con Meeting w/OLC Staff C&E On-Site Pre-Con Meeting w/Kalahari C&E On-Site Pre-Con Meeting w/Chairs C&E Set-up
Oct. 21-23	C&E at Kalahari
Oct. 26	C&E Trucks
Oct. 27	OLC Staff C&E Debrief
Oct. 28	C&E Follow-up Meetings
Nov. 2	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/School Principals Assoc. Meeting w/Changing Spaces Ohio
Nov. 3	Leadership Planning Meeting Election Day Returns
Nov. 4	CMC Luncheon w/Reporters Meeting w/Metro Library Directors Road Ahead Tour – OLC Office

Nov. 5	Impact Ohio Post Election Conference
Nov. 6	OLC BoD Appointments Committee Meeting Meeting w/Commercial Real Estate Agent/OLC Lease
Nov. 8	Bexley Public Library Ribbon Cutting
Nov. 9	OLC Staff Meeting OLC BoD Executive Committee Meeting