Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ITEM NO.: **5.H.3** MEETING DATE: **Nov. 13, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report** SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Library Ballot Results
Election results for the 16 public library levies on the November 3 ballot were announced through a press release and published on the OLC website. The results were also featured in the November 4 issue of Access and in The Hannah Report.

Additional Media Coverage
In October, the Ohio Capital Journal reported on local library levies appearing on the November ballot and the funding challenges facing public libraries across Ohio.

> Ohio voters will decide future of libraries with local ballot proposals this November
> Oct. 12, 2026

Newly released data from the Institute of Museum and Library Services also attracted media attention. The data showed that Ohio residents checked out more than 13 library items per person in Fiscal Year 2024—more than twice the national average of 6.5.

> America's library borrowing hotspots
> Sept. 10, 2026
>
> Ohio leads the nation in library checkouts
> Sept. 18, 2026
>
> Why Ohio leads the nation in library borrowing
> Oct. 15, 2026

2026 Convention and Expo
The 2026 Convention and Expo was successfully held in October. In addition to the printed postcard, the Convention and Expo was promoted via Access, the OLC website, and social media. The on-site program booklet was produced, and the 2026 Convention and Expo mobile app was implemented (see app stats in table below). Evaluation results are being compiled through the app and will be shared with the Program Committee. Highlights from the event were shared in the October 28, 2026 issue of Access, social media and on the OLC website.

2026 Convention and Expo App Stats:

Active App Users	2026	2025	2023	2022
Attendees	480	642	515	468
Speakers	110	112	109	93
Exhibitors	53	56	45	44
Sponsors	10	13	15	7
Total App Users	549	823	684	612
Total C&E Attendance:	781	961	788	628

App Version	Percent of users
iOS	56%
Android	33%
Web browser	11%

Evaluation forms completed during the event: 81%
Evaluation forms completed after the event: 19%

The new concept for the OLC booth/Member Info Hub in the Exhibit Hall was successful. Attendees and volunteers responded positively to the Member Info Hub, which replaced the traditional Division and Committee tables.

Division Action Council and Committee members staffed the booth during Exclusive Viewing Times. Volunteers appreciated the opportunity to sign up for 30-minute shifts, allowing them more time to attend sessions and enjoy the conference.

To streamline materials and reduce printing costs, Division and Committee resources were made available electronically through the Member Info Hub. Attendees used QR codes to access the Hub and complete the Get Involved form.

The Convention and Expo also received coverage in the Sandusky Register, including front-page coverage and a feature on the newspaper's website, as well as in Hannah News.

> Ohio Library Council Convention/Expo Underway in Sandusky
> Oct. 21, 2026
>
> Library Convention Brings 750 to Area
> Oct. 22, 2026
>
> Library Convention Crowd Convenes in Downtown
> Nov.1, 2026

Planning and Leadership Conference
Leadership resources are being updated and posted to the OLC website and Member Info Hub. Division and Committee members will be able submit their meeting minutes, goals and objectives, and annual reports electronically through the OLC website. An evaluation form has been created to collect feedback about this year’s virtual event.

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Division/Committee Projects

- The Marketing and PR Division sent an e-newsletter to division members on September 29.
- The Technical Services Division sent an e-newsletter to division members on October 6.
- The New Member Appreciation Program was introduced in Access and on the OLC website.
- The Children's Services Division will meet on Nov. 10.

OLC Annual Membership Business Meeting

Information about the OLC's Annual Membership Business Meeting was included in Access and on the OLC website.

OLC Website

The top-performing pages on the OLC website over the past 60 days are:

1. Jobs
2. Convention and Expo
3. Calendar
4. Directory
5. Certification
6. Webinars & Online Reference Training
7. Library Funding/PLF
8. Committees
9. Libraries on November 3rd Ballot
10. Awards and Honors

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