



Y Buckeye Bulletin

A Newsletter for the Ohio Alliance of YMCAs

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ENGAGING YOUR STAFF

STAFF RETREATS CAN BE MORE THAN TRUST FALLS

As we look forward to re-engaging our staff teams and returning to in-person gatherings, staff retreats are emerging as an effective tool for Ys. The retreat should be something that staff looks forward to, not dreaded and perceived as a wasted day out of the office. Four things to help maximize your retreat experience:

1. Determine the objective of the retreat. Is it team bonding or team development? Team bonding focuses on members getting to know one another personally and creating authentic connections. Team development focuses on stronger and unified teams and can improve collaborations and overcome team dysfunction.
2. Get everyone bought in ahead of time. Be clear on your objectives and provide detailed logistics with no surprises. In addition, providing some "pre-read" materials helps set the tone and shape the experience.
3. Location, location, location! Pick a place that people will love. A neutral site that is new to all or most of the team adds an element of excitement to the retreat.
4. Don't go it alone. Having a person from outside your organization facilitate the retreat brings expertise to the experience and allows you and the rest of the staff team to participate fully.

If you are interested in planning a staff retreat, do not overlook our eight Ohio Y resident camps and many other outdoor centers.

Thank you - retreat guide. WinShape Teams. (2021, May 26). Retrieved March 8, 2022, from <https://teams.winshape.org/thank-you-retreat-guide/>

BOARD GOVERNANCE TIPS

THE BOARD'S ROLE IN ADVOCACY

The highest performing nonprofit boards understand that public policy affects the work of their organization. They continuously leverage advocacy as a way to stand up for the mission and people they serve.

But what does the board's role in advocacy look like? And how does it relate to the work of staff members in advocacy?

There are three main ways that board members engage in advocacy, all of which should be supported by a fundamental understanding of how the public policy environment is affecting — or could affect — the organization's work and the people and communities it serves.

Three Critical Board Roles



Strategy

- Understand how the policy environment could impact the organization's work.
- Build strategies that seize public policy opportunities and address public policy threats.
- Leverage advocacy as a way to "get things done."



Budget and Resources

- Understand your organization's budget and any public funds that may be vulnerable if public policy shifts.

BOARD GOVERNANCE TIPS



Personal Engagement

- Leverage your influence and networks in support of the organization's advocacy efforts by making calls, setting up meetings, etc.
- Attend meetings with decision makers and law makers together with organization staff.
- Participate in group advocacy efforts, such as lobby days or congressional hearings.

Source: BoardSource ®

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

EVERY KID SPORTS

In case you missed the webinar and introduction to Every Kids Sports, here's a link to the recording, slide deck, and flyers. Every Kids Sports is an organization that will pay \$150 per quarter for kids ages 4-18 to participate in youth sports. To download the flyers click [here](#). To access the recording click [here](#) and enter the passcode +A.W.T.

 every kid sports:

www.everykidsports.org



Do you need help paying youth sports registration fees?

The Every Kid Sports Pass can help.

Receive up to \$150, four times per year, per child.

Do you qualify?

- ☐ Is your child enrolled in Medicaid, SNAP, or WIC?
- ☐ Is the sport recreational (not elite or travel team)?
- ☐ Does the sport season last at least 4 weeks?
- ☐ Is the child ages 4-18?

If your child meets these qualifications, apply today!

For more information about the Pass, email: Pass@everykidsports.org

For more information about ChelSpend, email: support@chelspend.com

PRO Tip: Apply using your smartphone! www.everykidsports.org



CAPITOL BRIEF

ANOTHER ROUND OF REDISTRICTING MAPS

The Ohio Redistricting Commission last week passed a new congressional redistricting plan along party lines, making a couple of small changes to the plan first introduced by Senate President Matt Huffman (R-Lima) while rejecting two Democratic proposals.

The Republican map would favor Republicans in 10 districts, Democrats in three, and has two toss-up districts that lean slightly Democratic.

The issue is headed back to the Ohio Supreme Court, which rejected the first map that was passed as a part of SB 258 (McColley). Republicans said they remedied the concerns of the Court in that map, particularly splits of Cuyahoga, Hamilton and Summit counties. What happens next will be up to the Court, which will likely receive a challenge to the new map.

Huffman said the new proposal was basically the same as the map the House introduced but made changes to the Central Ohio-based 15th and 3rd districts to make sure incumbents Mike Carey and Joyce Beatty live in their districts in the newly drawn map, as well as places Beatty's main district office within the district boundaries. In Hamilton County, small changes were made to the 1st and 8th districts to eliminate subdivisions splits. It still contains the city of Cincinnati as well as all of Warren County.

Democrats introduced two proposed maps of their own, both of which were voted down on party lines. Those would have favored Republicans in eight seats and Democrats in seven seats. The first was the latest version of the Senate Democratic plan in SB237 (Sykes-Yuko), which Huffman called a "step backwards" from discussions between the two sides.

The second proposal made changes to Huffman's plan and addressed items brought up by House Minority Leader Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) in that meeting. Huffman, opposing the amendments to his plan, suggested that language in the Ohio Constitution against a map unduly favoring a particular party, which was cited by the Court in striking down SB258, does not apply at this stage because the Constitution does not specifically state it does.

Russo called Huffman's conclusions "certainly interesting," and said Huffman was arguing there is no reason to follow anti-gerrymandering language in the Constitution.

CAPITOL BRIEF CONTINUED

"That is essentially me robbing a bank and saying that's my money. That's frankly absurd," Russo said, adding that if the majority is buying into that argument, "we will be back here in a few weeks."

She asked the majority to work with Democrats to come up with a bipartisan plan and suggested that Republicans don't want to pass constitutional maps.

House Speaker Bob Cupp (R-Lima) took issue with that assertion, saying it is still a new process and there are conflicts on how to go about it.

"I do not agree that members of this commission have not tried to do this in good faith," he said. "With all this rhetoric and disagreement, it is important to not attribute bad faith to either side."

Passage of the new map comes as elections officials scramble to prepare for the May 3 primary because of the delay in maps. Huffman and Cupp have indicated there is not enough support in their chambers for moving the primary back. Friday is the primary filing deadline for congressional candidates.

Secretary of State Frank LaRose said he will be issuing a directive to county boards to begin implementing the congressional district lines passed last week similar to the directive he issued over the weekend to implement the new General Assembly lines.

"To be clear, we're operating on a really, really challenging timeline here. We have the best elections officials in the country. If anybody can pull this off, it's them. But a lot of things have to fall into place for that to happen on time for May 3, and that's what we're going to give them a fighting chance of doing by getting that directive to them as soon as we can," LaRose said after the meeting. He said it will be up to the Ohio Supreme Court whether the primary can happen on May 3. If it again rejects the new maps, "it's just not possible that those contests would end up on the ballot."

"As long as there aren't successful court challenges, then these maps, these races can be on the May 3 ballot. That's the directive that I was given by the General Assembly and again, to be clear, I follow the law as it's written. And what the law says is that I am to conduct a May 3 primary election to include all of these races," he said.

Hannah

CAPITOL BRIEF CONTINUED

OHIO TAX REVENUE MUCH HIGHER THAN ESTIMATES

Lower than expected income tax refunds drove tax collections a quarter billion dollars over estimates in February, according to preliminary figures from the Office of Budget and Management (OBM).

Income tax collections of \$301.9 million were more than 150 percent above estimates because of the fluctuation in refunds. For the fiscal year so far, income tax collections are 11.7 percent or \$669.1 million above estimates, reaching more than \$6.3 billion total.

Sales taxes also beat estimates, bringing in \$20.2 million or 2.5 percent more, with roughly equal contributions from the non-auto sales tax (\$11.1 million or 1.6 percent above estimates) and auto sales tax (up \$9.1 million or 7.9 percent). Sales taxes so far this fiscal year are ahead of estimates 3.8 percent or almost \$308 million.

The Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) was up 12.1 percent or \$45.8 million, bringing in almost \$426 million total.

Total tax revenues of \$1.9 billion in February were \$264.2 million or 16.1 percent ahead of estimates.

For the fiscal year so far, total tax collections of almost \$17.7 billion are ahead by just over \$1 billion or 6.5 percent.

Compared to last year, tax collections this February were about on par with February 2021, up 0.2 percent, but for the first eight months of FY22 are up \$765.5 million or 4.5 percent from the comparable period in FY21.

In a phone interview, OBM Director Kim Murnieks told *Hannah News* the refund picture might change in later months of the filing season, but generally the state expected to pay out higher refunds because of tax cuts enacted last year. Overall income tax collections are doing well, with strong withholding throughout this fiscal year, she said.

On sales taxes, Murnieks said the budget was designed to anticipate a reversion to more normal spending patterns after federal fiscal stimulus worked its way through the economy, but she said it's too early to know if February's relatively smaller overage is the start of that trend.

CAPITOL BRIEF CONTINUED

"I think we are in a very strong position going into these last four months of the current fiscal year, and you know, we're a third through the fiscal biennium and everything is going very well," she said.

Asked about the potential effects of the Russia-Ukraine War, Murnieks said she always notes in budget testimony the potential of geopolitical events to affect forecasts.

"The global situation and any negative outcomes there can be a risk to any economic forecast. Now, Ohio, our economy is not overly dependent on economic activity with either of those countries directly, but obviously energy prices are something that every Ohio family will feel the impact of," she said.

Hannah

OHIO YMCAS UPCOMING MEETINGS

Virtual & In-Person CEO Neighborhood Meetings Northeast & Northwest

In-Person (Location TBD):

NE - April 19 - 10 am -12 pm

NW - April 20 - 10 am -12 pm

Virtual (Click to join Zoom):

[NE - August 9 - 10 -11 am](#)

[NW - August 9 - 11:30 am -12:30 pm](#)

Virtual (Click to join Zoom):

[NE - December 6 - 10 -11 am](#)

[NW - December 7 - 11:30 am -12:30 pm](#)

OHIO YMCAS UPCOMING MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

Virtual & In Person CEO Neighborhood Meetings Southeast & Southwest

In Person (Location TBD):

- SE - April 26 10 am -12 pm
- SW - April 27 11 am -12 pm

Virtual (Click to join Zoom):

- [SE - December 7 10 -11 am](#)
- [SW - December 7 11:30 am -12:30 pm](#)

Virtual (Click to join Zoom):

- [SE - August 10 10 -11 am](#)
- [SW - August 10 11:30 am -12:30 pm](#)

Statewide CEO Meetings

In Person Meeting

June 17 - 10 am - 2 pm
(Location TBD)

Annual CEO Conference

September 29 - 30 (Tentative dates)
In Person (Location TBD)

CEO/CVO Meetings

In Person Meetings (Location TBD)

Northern Ohio

November 10 - 10 am - 2 pm

Central/Southern Ohio

November 17 - 10 am - 2 pm

Leadership Conference

March 30-31, 2022
Renaissance Hotel, Downtown Columbus

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

<http://www.ohioyleaders.org/>

2022 National Meetings

NAYDO

April 6-9 (Tampa)

OHIO YMCAS UPCOMING MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

Quarterly/Monthly Statewide Peer Community Virtual Meetings (Click to join Zoom meetings. Schedule subject to change.)

March 16

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

May 17

[Aquatics/Swim Team 10-11 am](#)

[Resident Camp 11 am-12 pm](#)

[Membership 1-2 pm](#)

[DEI 2-3 pm](#)

[Caregiver Network 3-4 pm](#)

[HR 4-5 pm](#)

June 15

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

July 20

[COOs 10-11 am](#)

[Property/Facility 11 am - 12 pm](#)

[Child Care 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

April 20

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

May 18

[COOs 10-11 am](#)

[Property/Facility 11 am - 12 pm](#)

[Child Care 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

[Branch Executives 3-4 pm](#)

July 19

[Aquatics/Swim Team 10-11 am](#)

[Resident Camp 11 am-12 pm](#)

[Membership 1-2 pm](#)

[DEI 2-3 pm](#)

[Caregiver Network 3-4 pm](#)

[HR 4-5 pm](#)

August 17

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

OHIO YMCAS UPCOMING MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

Quarterly/Monthly Statewide Peer Community Virtual Meetings (Click to join Zoom meetings. Schedule subject to change.)

September 21

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

October 18

[Aquatics/Swim Team 10-11 am](#)

[Resident Camp 11 am-12 pm](#)

[Membership 1-2 pm](#)

[DEI 2-3 pm](#)

[Caregiver Network 3-4 pm](#)

[HR 4-5 pm](#)

October 19

[COOs 10-11 am](#)

[Property/Facility 11 am - 12 pm](#)

[Child Care 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

[Branch Executives 3-4 pm](#)

November 16

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)

December 21

[Childcare 1-2 pm](#)

[Financial Development 2-3 pm](#)