

THE COUNSELING ADVOCATE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO COUNSELING ASSOCIATION'S
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE



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ALL OHIO COUNSELORS CONFERENCE

Hello OCA!

On October 17th through October 19th the Hyatt Regency Columbus will be hosting the All Ohio Counselors Conference co-sponsored by the Ohio School Counselor Association and the Ohio Counseling Association. The GRC will be there and we would love to see you!

To learn more please visit the [AOCC website](#). There will be more than 100 workshops and education sessions with continued education opportunities. Many of the OCA and OSCA subdivisions will be having meetings and tabling including the GRC. There will also be numerous networking opportunities for attendees.

Below you will find presentations that include legislation and how it applies to counselors, the GRC events, and information on the exciting fundraiser for our Political Action Committee.

Gene Dockery
Newsletter Editor and OCA Government Relations Liaison for
SAIGEO & SEOCA



HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? SHARE IT IN THE ADVOCATE!

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Legislative Themed Conference Presentations



School Safety Best Practices from the Ohio School Safety Center

Monday, October 17, 2022, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Nichole Miller - Ohio School Safety Center Depart. of Public Safety

Staff from the Ohio School Safety Center will share resources and information regarding comprehensive school safety. School counselors and other mental health support staff are integral to implementation of a program that focuses on both physical and emotional safety. Members of OSSC staff will provide an overview of our resources and services. Topics covered on this session will include: 1) an overview of the services, structure and training opportunities of the OSSC, 2) a review of HB 123 requirements and implementation, 3) tip line implementation, promotion, follow up and reporting, 4) overview of CIRT training created for schools through an all-hazards approach, 5) the purpose of the Incident Command System and the roles and responsibilities of the Incident commander and command staff, 6) the basics on school emergency management including emergency management plans and tests, 7) best practices in physical security basics & situational awareness and 8) learning about comprehensive school safety team elements which include a focus on students feeling welcome and emotionally safe in their buildings.

Location: Marion

Supporting Regular Student Attendance and Those with Mental Health Concerns

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Nicole Kahler - OH Department of Education

Schools continue to see a rise in absenteeism. It is important schools provide early interventions to overcome attendance barriers, especially to those who are the most vulnerable. This session will help identify attendance barriers before implementing HB 410. This session will discuss strategies schools can create using a multi-tiered system of support to help reduce chronic absenteeism. Participants will learn how to incorporate attendance data in school improvement. Participants will also learn about mental health conditions, how they impact regular attendance, and strategies for support.

Location: Union D & E

Supporting LGBTQ+ Students During Political Uncertainty

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Carrie Frederick - Springfield City School District

60-minute presentation, addressing the need for school counselors to understand the current political impact on themselves and LGBTQ+ students. There is proposed legislation currently at the state level in Ohio that, if passed, could drastically impact how school counselors are able to counsel this student population. School counselors need to be aware of their legal obligations, ethical obligations, and best practices to continue offering the most support possible to this already vulnerable population

Location: Franklin D

HB 123 and the Role of the School Counselor on the Multi-Disciplinary Team

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Nichole Miller - Ohio School Safety Center Depart. of Public Safety

Description

The session will cover all parts of HB 123 and how the school counselor should interact with this new legislation. As student advocates, School Counselors should be involved in the assessment team due to their unique perspective and relationship with students, parents and staff. School Counselors should take the lead in providing suicide prevention programs that are now required for students and staff. The presentation will discuss best practices for data collection and tracking, appropriate reporting including how and when to share with administration, while protecting student privacy. Any tip line reports should be reviewed by the multidisciplinary threat assessment team. Student led violence prevention programs encouraged by the legislation will be addressed and information to register with the tip line will also be shared. OSSC regional liaisons serve as resources for the schools in their area. Information will be shared regarding OSSC school safety grants, and how the prevention grants can be used for a variety of emotional safety programming, which also falls under school counselor scope of practice. Participants will leave with a better understanding of the legislation and their role on the multi-disciplinary team threat assessment team. Information on approved trainings and model policy will be shared in addition to best practices happening in schools throughout the state.

Location: Franklin B



GRC at AOCC



- GRC Committee Meeting - 10/18 at 1pm in the Champaign room
- **OCA's Government Relations Committee: A Legislation and Policy Update** - Educational Session in Champaign Room 10/18 at 2pm
 - Description: The Ohio Counseling Association's Government Relations Committee (GRC) is responsible for all matters of government activities at all levels and seeks opportunities to promote local, state, and national legislation that promotes the profession of counseling, the work of counselors, and the welfare of our clients and potential clients. This session will provide attendees an update of GRC activity, including an in-depth look at relevant legislation from the 134th General Assembly, OCSWMFT board activity, and an update on the interstate counseling compact championed by ACA.
- GRC will be tabling in the main hall all day on 10/18 where people are welcome to stop by and ask questions, get more information, or just chat with a member of GRC

PAC FUNDRAISER



Please join the Ohio Counseling Association and the Ohio School Counseling Association for their AOCC fundraiser! There will be special guests, music, and food in the Regency Ballroom Tuesday night. The money goes to the OCA's Political Action Committee which allows us to do professional advocacy for counselors.



Special Guest



Senator Kristina Roegner

Special Guest



Senator Bill Blessing

 \$5 a card (cash only)
Card sales begin at 6:45pm

7-8pm
Regency Ballroom

MULTIPLE CHANCES TO WIN PRIZES
LIGHT APPS & DRINKS
LIVE DJ

OCTOBER 18TH, 2022

MUSIC BINGO
OCA & OSCA PAC AOCC FUNDRAISER

