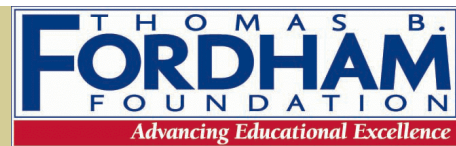


# The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation



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## Sponsorship News

### **NACSA Annual Leadership Conference**

The National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) held its annual leadership conference the week of October 18 in Scottsdale Arizona. This conference bring sponsors/authorizers from across the country together to provide a forum to learn about the latest trends in authorizing, explore best practices, and share insight with colleagues. Among the many speakers and panelists were Fordham's own Terry Ryan and Kathryn Mullen Upton.

Kathryn and Terry spent the week partaking in an array of panels, lectures, and learning labs that covered the gamete of sponsorship. Terry shared his expertise on two panels; *Invest in the Midwest: How Milwaukee and Ohio are embracing strategic and aggressive authorizing* and *If Only 'They' Would Just...* "What management organizations and authorizers wish the other would do. While Terry discussed new approaches and practices in sponsorship, Kathryn helped conference attendees consider issues associated with charter revocation and closure in *High Stakes Decision Making*.

To learn more about the NACSA or their annual conference visit their website

[www.qualitycharters.org/](http://www.qualitycharters.org/)

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### **December 3 Governance Event**

The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation and The Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO) are co-sponsoring a free workshop led by Dr. Brian Carpenter for governing authority members and executives of charter schools across Ohio. Dr. Carpenter is a nationally known and well respected expert on charter school governance and management issues, has authored two books (*Charter School Board University* and *The Seven Outs: Strategic Planning Made Easy for Charter Schools*), and is an adjunct author for the Mackinac Center for Public Policy and the Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions. Dr. Carpenter's experience also includes time as a school administrator and charter school board president, and he is a former active duty Marine.

The training will be held Friday December 3, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, 2080 Citygate Drive, Columbus. (Lunch will be provided at no cost to attendees.) If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Friday November 19, 2010 to Alyce Heminger (alyce.heminger@escoco.org). If you are registering several people please provide their names and contact information as well.

Note that this year there will be a special question/answer session with Dr. Carpenter from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to confer with Dr. Carpenter regarding issues specific to your school or other governance/management questions not addressed in the general session. If you plan to attend during this time, please so indicate in your RSVP (dinner will not be provided).

We believe this session will be beneficial for all charter school board members and executives, regardless of experience, and we hope you will join us on December 3.

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## **Policy News**

### **Education Imperatives for Ohio: K-12 Policy Priorities**

A special edition the Fordham Institute's Ohio Gadfly recently outlined seven education policy priorities for the next biennium (2012-2013).

1. Strengthen results-based accountability for schools and those who work in them.
2. Replace the so-called "Evidence-Based Model" of school funding with a rational allocation of available resources in ways that empower families, schools, and districts to get the most bang for these bucks.
3. Invest in high-yield programs and activities while pursuing smart savings.
4. Improve teacher quality, reform teacher compensation, and reduce barriers to entering the profession.
5. Expand access to quality schools of choice of every kind.
6. Turn around or close persistently low-performing schools.
7. Develop modern, versatile instructional-delivery systems that both improve and go beyond traditional schools.

Read the recommendations in detail [here](#).

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### **Ohioans learn about cost savings at *Stretching the School Dollar* event**

Spending on K-12 education has increased continuously over the last several decades, while achievement remains flat. What can districts and schools do, especially now that Ohio faces a \$6-8 billion budget cliff in the next biennium? District superintendents, treasurers, lawmakers, policymakers, and education reformers gathered September 27 in Columbus to find answers at Fordham's *Stretching the School Dollar* event (read about the book, published by Harvard Education Press, [here](#)). To discuss smart cost savings, we invited economist Marguerite Roza, Steven Wilson of the NYC-based charter management organization Ascend Learning, and Fordham's own Eric Osberg and Terry Ryan. The overwhelming consensus? The time is ripe for dramatic reforms, a complete overhaul of how we view teacher compensation/benefits as well as class-size reduction policies, a rethinking of

online learning and productivity in education, and more. You can view the panelists' Power Point presentation [here](#) and the video [here](#).

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## **Extras**

### **New Fordham report weighs options for governance of Common Core standards**

Now that Ohio and most other states have adopted Common Core's English Language Arts and math standards, big-picture questions loom: who will be in charge of governing and "owning" these standards ten years down the road? Who will be in charge of implementation? In an effort to get some answers to the overarching question, "now what?" Fordham sought input from two-dozen education leaders and emerged with three possible scenarios for governing the standards implementation process. Read more about the report, *Now What, Imperatives and Options for "Common Core" Implementation and Governance*, [here](#).

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## **Upcoming Deadlines, Trainings and Events,**

### **Deadlines**

**November 12:** AOIS Submissions (Public Records Policy, Special Education Services, Five Year Forecast, Annual Report)

**November 15:** Entry Year Teacher Registration Deadline to register an entry year teacher, with their assigned mentor. For more information visit [ODE's website](#). Dayton Leadership Academies Board Meeting; Columbus Collegiate Academy Board Meeting

**November 17:** Springfield Academy of Excellence Board Meeting

**November 18:** Phoenix Community Learning Center Board Meeting

**November 19;** KIPP: Journey Academy Board Meeting

**November 19:** AOIS Submissions (Veteran's Day Observance Lesson Plan, Vision & Hearing Screening, LPDC Approved Signature Form)

**November 22:** Race to the Top participating schools must have an ODE approved Scope of Work by November 12, 2010. Information and forms are available at [www.rttt.education.ohio.gov](http://www.rttt.education.ohio.gov). Schools with Scopes of Work in need of revision must be resubmitted by **Friday, November 12.**

**November 26:** AOIS Submissions (Final Approved Board Minutes October 2010, Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) Minutes November 2010, Monthly Financial Report October 2010, Fire Drill Log September 2010)

**December 3:** AOIS Submissions (Fall Site Visit Report, School Safety Lockdown Drill Certification Letter, School Safety Training)

**December 10:** AOIS Submissions (Special Education Expenditures Report, Resolution Describing College and Career Readiness and Financial Literacy)

**December 16:** Phoenix Community Learning Center Board Meeting

**December 17:** AOIS Submissions (Fire Drill Log November 2010, LPDC Meeting Minutes November 2010, Monthly Financial Report November 2010, Final Approved Board Minutes November 2010); KIPP Journey Academy Board Meeting

**December 20:** Columbus Collegiate Academy Board Meeting; Dayton Leadership Academies Board Meeting.

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## Trainings

**Community School Governing Authority Training** will be presented by the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation and the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio on December 3, 2010. For more information contact Alyce Heminger at [alyce.heminger@escoco.org](mailto:alyce.heminger@escoco.org).

**Mentor-Resident Educator Trainings** for mentors (one day and two day, depending on mentor experience) can be found by searching in the Event Name for "MENTOR" in [STARS](#).

**School Lunch Basic Training Workshops** are conducted monthly from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Basement Lecture Hall at ODE. Workshop dates and registration information are available at [ODE's website](#).

**OIP Trainings** are being held in November. To find a training search for "OIP" in the Event Name.

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## Events

**2010 Ohio School Improvement Institute** will be held November 18 -19 at The Columbus Renaissance Hotel. More information can be found at [www.ohioschoolimprovementinstitute.org/](http://www.ohioschoolimprovementinstitute.org/)

**The Ohio Leadership Advisory Council (OLAC) one-day Action Forum** will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on December 3, 2010 at the OCLC Headquarters in Dublin Ohio. For more information visit the [OCL website](#).

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For additional information on anything in this update, please contact Whitney Gilbert at [wgilbert@edexcellence.net](mailto:wgilbert@edexcellence.net)

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