

Thank you for joining the Ohio Association of Pupil Service Administrators! I am so excited that you have signed up to be an OAPSA member! OAPSA will keep you informed and connected with your colleagues and to get you started I provided some information below.

1. I am including a link that will take you directly to our [New Member Information](#) at our website. While on that same page, download our OAPSA flier which is called Benefits of OAPSA Membership. You can share that with a colleague who may not yet be an OAPSA member if you are trying to encourage them to be an OAPSA member.
2. Are you new to your position? OAPSA offers an awesome mentoring program to any new Special Education Administrator. (We let each member define “new”.) Meetings take place virtually on a monthly basis throughout the school year. The mentees drive the meeting agendas, and the virtual attendees discuss and share resources and experiences. The participants in previous years are finding these sessions to be excellent with a lot of ideas and support. I strongly recommend you participate in the mentoring program if you are new to this administrative field and it's ok to join at any point during this school year. For more information about our mentoring program, please contact the coordinator for that mentoring program, Kristina Hulse, Director of Special Education at Pickerington Local Schools, at Kristina.Hulse@plsd.us. To sign up for the Mentoring and Support Group here: [2023-2024 Mentoring and Support Group Form](#):
3. Your member account has either been created already or is in the process of being created on Club Runner, which is our website and membership service. Take a moment in the next few days to set up your new password for our website by clicking the link below: [OAPSA Website Login Information](#)
Once you've reset your password, you can then login and access the secure member's area of our website. We encourage you to explore the website because we have a lot of resources on there. Important: Please add a photo to your profile so we can all connect your name with your face!
4. If OAPSA emails haven't started arriving yet, be aware that your OAPSA emails from our Communications Coordinator, Stacey Spencer, should have started arriving at the email address where you received this message within a week after you register for membership in OAPSA. (See #5 if that didn't happen.)
5. If you have any problems with accessing the website or receiving emails messages, please contact OAPSA's Membership Coordinator, Paul M. Kidd at oapsamembership@gmail.com
6. OAPSA also has an app and it's awesome! To download our OAPSA app from the Apple App Store or from Google Play, simply type in “ClubRunner” in the search bar. Our mobile app is compatible with all versions of the iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch sets that have iOS 8.0 or later and with versions of Androids that are 4.0.3 or better. One of the things you can see immediately on your app upon login, is our most up to date directory where you can browse members' profiles. You can also view the latest feeds of home page stories.

7. I encourage you to follow OAPSA on Twitter @OAPSA1 & on [Linked in](#). These are both great additional ways to stay informed and connected!

8. OAPSA is in the process of creating a Special Education Handbook for our members. We are creating this resource for OAPSA members. We are partnering with Attorney Julia Bauer from Scott and Scriven LLP. We have four parts so far. They are: 1) Surrogate Parents, 2) Procedural Safeguards: Consent, 3) Extended School Year and the most recent: 4) Student Discipline. More chapters will be added on an ongoing basis. To access this wonderful resource, log onto the OAPSA website and click on "Members Only" tab on the blue bar at the top of the home page. Then on the left column, scroll all the way to the bottom for OAPSA Member Resource Library. We are preparing to add a new chapter shortly so watch for that announcement in an email from Stacey Spencer, our OAPSA Communications Coordinator.

9. Also, mark your calendar for our next conferences. Our biggest and best conference is the 2 day conference coming up on September 28-29 at the beautiful Nationwide Conference and Hotel. Registration for the conference is now open! Registration for the conference is available under events at www.oapsa.org. ODE's Office of Exception Children will be back once again and also have a table available that anyone can go up at any time and ask a question. Our other days for conferences are January 19, 2024 (Virtual) and March 8, 2024 (Virtual) so mark those on your calendar now and save those dates. Also, see images below my signature about the conference setting. Here is a link with even more detailed info about the conference and the ability to register for the Fall OAPSA conference. Register and Details about OAPSA Fall Conference

10.) Also, save the dates for the following 1 hour FREE Hot Topics Sessions. This is for OAPSA members only. Dates are Oct. 23, 2023, November 20, 2023, February 26, 2024, and May 13, 2024. All Hot topic sessions are from 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM. Our Communications Coordinator will send you the link prior to each Hot Topic session.

11.) I also want you to know that OAPSA is an Affiliate of NAPSA and OAPSA is also the state chapter for CASE. OAPSA Members are encouraged to join one or both of those organizations but OAPSA members are encouraged to join but not required to join. NAPSA has a wonderful liability insurance policy that is free for members. You can't get a Liability Policy on your own for the amount that a new member pays for NAPSA membership (which is \$85). NAPSA also has a great national conference with wonderful speakers coming to Ohio this October. (I know that because I was part of the team making decisions about presenters). NAPSA is offering a reduced rate for their conference for any Ohio educator right now. NAPSA has obtained funds to greatly lower the cost of the conference for any Ohio Educator (while funds last). To give you an idea of the cost of the NAPSA conference, the conference in Cleveland will only cost a NAPSA member who is an educator in Ohio \$50 while others are paying \$395-\$580. So that's quite a wonderful deal! The details and registration form for NAPSA Conference for Ohio Educators are in the packet which you can find at our OAPSA website under Link for NAPSA or

with the link below. Take a few minutes now to check out that link below! You will be very impressed with this agenda and the greatly reduced cost.

[NAPSA 2023 Conference Registration](#)

CASE also has a national conference coming up in November in Pittsburgh that will be wonderful also. We have information regarding the [CASE Conference](#) in November and the registration link on our OAPSA website.

For more information about CASE or NAPSA please go to our website www.OAPSA.org and look for the words in the blue box that you can click for info about CASE and there's a separate link there to click for NAPSA.

Again, welcome to our OAPSA family and feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Warm Regards,

Donna Stelzer

OAPSA Executive Director

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OAPSA is a proud CASE Chapter for Ohio and an affiliate of NAPSA. Visit us at www.OAPSA.org

Follow us on on Twitter [@OAPSA1](https://twitter.com/OAPSA1) & on Linked In at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/40742965>

Where Our Conference Attendees Learn & Interact at Nationwide Conference Center



OAPSA Fall Conference
September 28-29, 2023
Nationwide Hotel & Conference Ctr. near Columbus

Day 1 8 am-3:30 pm
Sept. 28, 2023



*Why Should I Content With You If You Won't Connect with Me ?

Join us for a training session led by Kevin Curtis where he will unveil simple tools, each taking no more than 2 minutes, designed to facilitate authentic connections with students. These transformative tools can profoundly impact the teaching experience and empower educators to make a difference in their student's lives. Let's equip our educators with the necessary tools to thrive in this modern educational landscape, uniting to embrace this transformative approach and empower our teachers to foster strong relationships and positive student behaviors.



Keynote:
Kevin Curtis
Visionary Founder
of NERPD

"Together, we can revolutionize education and create a future where every student feels seen, heard, and valued."

*NOTE: In case you are wondering, the title does not have a typo in it. Kevin will explain title during presentation

OAPSA's President's Reception Begins at 3:30 PM



**Education
& Wellness
for All:
Reimagining a
Culture in
Schools Where
We Can Have**

**Both
Friday Keynote Speaker:
Channele R Walker**

This keynote presentation will uplift, educate and inspire you through an empowering talk about prioritizing wellness in order to thrive personally and professionally.

OAPSA Fall
Conference
Day 2
Sept. 29
8 am - 3:00 pm



Plus Updates from ODE's
Office of Exceptional Children
Jo Hannah Ward
Director
Office for Exceptional
Children



Joseph Petrarch
Associate Director of Office
for Exceptional Children (OEC)

**Legal
Update**

Julia Bauer
Scott Scriven LLP





Where
OAPSA
Conference
Attendees
Relax and
Network
at
Nationwide



What do OAPSA members say about OAPSA conferences?



“I value each day that I spend with the professionals at OAPSA conferences. I always walk away with something new in my tool bag!”

Lori Faeth
Special Needs Coordinator
Findlay Digital Academy

