



Spring Quarter Newsletter

Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Board Members:

Chairperson:

Helene Levenfus, Au.D.

Vice Chairperson:

Loretta T. Embry, M.A., SLP

Jane M. Kukula, Au.D.

Patricia L. Leppla, M.A., CCC-SLP

Karen K. Mitchell, Au.D.

Malcolm J. Porter, Public Member

Amy K. Thorpe, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

Message from the Board Chairperson, Dr. Helene Levenfus

I would like to extend to each of you a warm welcome to this edition of our eNewsletter. It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of one of our board members, Mr. Paul Good, on February 28, 2011. You will find a tribute to Mr. Good recognizing his public service to both the Board and the citizens of Ohio in this edition. We are awaiting word from the Governor’s Office on the appointment of a public member, at least sixty years of age, who will complete Mr. Good’s remaining term on the board.

through on the initiatives and priorities discussed at its strategic planning meeting on January 31, 2011. Be sure to check out the exciting information and updates in this edition about the issues various board committees are currently addressing. We also completed a successful license renewal campaign thanks to the hard work and dedication of our board staff. We look forward to keeping you updated and informed throughout 2011 with our quarterly eNewsletter.

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Since the beginning of this year, the Board has been very busy following

Message from the Executive Director, Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.

Welcome to the spring issue of the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology eNewsletter. This edition contains important updates and new information related to your license and the regulated professions. The Board has been very busy since the

beginning of this year. In this edition, you will find updates on the work being completed by various board committees.

We always invite you to provide feedback. If there is a topic or question you would like the Board to address in the eNewsletter, (Continued on Page 4)

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Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

The Mission of the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology is to regulate the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology by establishing, promoting, and enforcing practice standards and professional competency among licensees pursuant to Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.

A Tribute to Mr. J. Paul Good, Public Board Member



Paul Good was born February 24, 1930 in Poland, Ohio to Levi and Pauline Good. He passed away on February 28, 2011 at Hospice of the Valley. He was 81. He was a graduate of Poland Seminary High School and Juniata College. He was employed as the County Executive Director for Agricultural Conservation and Service, USDA Mahoning-Columbiana Counties, retiring in 1991. Along with his father Levi, he ran the Good Equipment Company.

He was also president and director of the Springfield Township Mutual Insurance Association. He was elected to the Mahoning County Educational Service Board serving 34 years and also was appointed to the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center governing board serving 34 years. He has served in various elected positions of the Northeast Ohio School Board Association, including President. Paul served on various positions for the

National School Boards Association as well.

Mr. Good was a member of Kiwanis Club of Boardman for 50 years - served as President and was elected Lt. Gov. of Division 21 of the Ohio District of Kiwanis International. He was a member of the Curbstone Coaches and has organized their Hall of Fame Dinner for the past 10 years. He also was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels for many years.

He was a member of Faith Community Covenant Church. He loved spending time with his family and friends, watching the Ohio State Buckeyes, and the YSU Penguins. Recently, he was honored to be the recipient of the 2010 Poland Education Foundation Alumni of the Year.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Jean and wife Patricia (Kohn) Good

Mr. Good is survived by his daughter Charlotte Good of Austintown, and son Jeff (Laura) Good of Salem, and beloved grandchildren Dan and Megan, his special friend Margaret Grace of Boardman, sister Helen Ebersole of Lakewood N.Y. and various nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Youngstown State University Foundation for a scholarship in the name of J. Paul Good.

Mr. Good was appointed to two terms on the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. He was first appointed to the Board in 1996 by then Governor George V. Voinovich. Governor Bob Taft



Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

A Tribute to Mr. J. Paul Good, Public Board Member (cont.)



re-appointed Mr. Good to serve a second term on the Board in 2001. In 2007, Governor Ted Strickland appointed Mr. Good to serve two consecutive terms. His first term commenced on October 30, 2007 and ended on September 26, 2010, with the second term beginning on September 27, 2010 and ending on September 26, 2013. Mr. Good served on the Board as a public member. His appointment also satisfied the requirement under state law that one of the two public members be at least sixty years of age. During his tenure on the Board, he served on the Professional Competency Committee and Policies and Procedures Committee. He drove himself between Youngstown and Columbus for every board meeting. He had nearly perfect attendance until the time of his decline in health.

During the March 17, 2011 board meeting, Dr. Levenfus asked the Board to take a moment of silence to reflect about Mr. Good. After the moment of silence, the Board made the following remarks about him. Dr. Kukula stated that she served with Mr. Good for two terms previously. Mr. Good took great pride in serving on the Board and in his community. Dr. Kukula stated that Mr. Good was uniquely connected as a public board member because he was the recipient of audiology services for his hearing impairment. She stated that he brought an important and valuable perspective few bring as a consumer. She concluded that it was a privilege and honor to serve with him. Dr. Ward-Gravely stated that she enjoyed working with Mr. Good during the time she served on the Board. She recalled Mr. Good's astute knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order, which helped the Board maintain proper decorum and focus during discussion of board business. Dr. Ward-Gravely concluded that she will treasure the special relationship she had with Mr. Good. Dr. Levenfus and Mr. Thornton represented the Board and staff at Mr. Good's repose. Dr. Levenfus presented Mr. Good's family with a Board resolution in recognition of his public service.

It was a privilege and honor to serve with Mr. Good on the board....

Dr. Helene Levenfus, Board Chairperson

Mr. Good was uniquely connected as a public board member because he was the recipient of audiology services for his hearing impairment. He brought an important and valuable perspective few bring as a consumer....

Dr. Jane M. Kukula, Audiology Board Member

Mr. Good had an astute knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order, which helped the Board maintain proper decorum and focus during discussion of board business....

Dr. Valenta Ward-Gravely, former Board Chairperson



Message from the Board Chairperson

(continued from page 1)

As always, if you are experiencing any issues or concerns in the regulated professions, please let us know by contacting the board’s Executive Director, Mr. Gregg B. Thornton.

Thank you,
Helene Levenfus, Au.D.

Board Notifies Employers of Licensees Who Practiced Under an Expired License

All licenses to practice speech-language pathology and audiology, including the licenses for aides, expired at midnight on December 31, 2010. It is unlawful to practice under an expired license. Anyone found guilty of unauthorized practice is subject to criminal prosecution by a local prosecutor, which carries a criminal penalty of a minor misdemeanor, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 4753.99.

In addition, pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-3-10 (B), the Board must report any practice after expiration of the license to the employer. Providing services under an expired license could have serious consequences if an employer submitted a request for reimbursement to an *(Article continues on page 5)*

Message from the Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

please let us know. I personally invite you to contact me directly at gregg.thornton@slpauld.ohio.gov if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.
Gregg B. Thornton
Executive Director

Licensure Renewal — Update

We would like to thank everyone who renewed their license on time for the 2011-2012 biennium. As of May 28, 2011, the following is a breakdown of the number of licenses:

Licensure Statistics	
As of May 28, 2011	
Speech-Language Pathologists:	5899
Audiologists:	905
Conditional Licenses:	295
Student Permits:	41
SLP Aides:	10
AUD Aides:	62
Inactive SLP:	108
Inactive AUD:	25
Total Licenses:	7345

The Board is in the process of reviewing the new data that was collected when practitioners renewed

Has your contact information changed?

You may submit a written request to update your contact information at board@slpauld.ohio.gov. Please include your license number. You may also update your information at any time using your assigned User ID/Password.

All licensees are required to notify the Board in writing of any change of name, place of business, or mailing address within thirty days of said change per OAC section 4753-3-03.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Reminder: Board and Committee meetings are open to the public.
- Public comment is welcome at all Board meetings.
- Please visit our website at www.slpauld.ohio.gov for the latest updates and information.

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Licensure Renewal Update - Continued from page 4

their license. You may recall questions related to your practice setting, employment status, and whether you had supervisory experience. The Board will utilize this information to assess, track, and address the shortages in specific practice settings among the professions in Ohio. We look forward to reporting these results in the summer or fall newsletter. We will also share this information with other stakeholders such as the Ohio Academy of Audiology, Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Ohio School Speech Language Pathology Educational Audiology Coalition, Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition, and the Ohio Department of Education, to name just a few.

Finally, please ensure that your contact information is current and updated. If you change your mailing address, e-mail address, or name, you are required to submit your updated information in writing to board@slpaud.ohio.gov within thirty days of any change. You may also update your contact information using your user ID/password at any time at

the following link on our website: <http://www.slpaud.ohio.gov/changes.stm>. If you do not have your assigned user ID/password, please submit a written request to the Board office via mail, fax or e-mail. Updating your contact information will ensure that you receive important information and notifications from the Board in a timely manner.

Board Notifies Employers of Licensees Who Practiced Under an Expired License (Continued from page 4)

insurance provider, such as Medicare or Medicaid. Receiving reimbursement for services provided under an expired license can result in the reimbursement being forfeited, including the possibility of facing fines or being excluded from participating in the reimbursement program altogether.

The Board recently notified affected employers of those individuals whose license expired and were practicing under an expired license. If your license expired, you should cease practice immediately and contact the Board's Executive Director for further assistance to resolve this situation.

OBSLPA Staff:

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**Office Hours:
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Monday through Friday**

**Board office is closed during
observance of state holidays**



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Update on Continuing Education Audits

Between February and March, the Board notified licensees who were randomly selected for the 2009-2010 continuing education audit. For those licensees who received an audit letter and submitted their continuing education hours, you will be notified upon completion of the review and evaluation of the documentation. The Board would like to remind practitioners that pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-4-01(C) (5) all licensees who were required to complete continuing education during the 2009-2010 practice biennium shall retain documentation of their continuing education hours for inspection by the board for four years after the date of renewal.

Although a licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for the first renewal, the Board highly recommends that licensees, who will be renewing their license for the very first time by December 31, 2012, maintain their competency and proficiency by earning continuing education hours in various continuing education experiences.

Please refer to continuing education requirements under Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-4-01 for more information.

Did you know?

Did you know that per Board policy, the three speech-language pathology and three audiology board members are required to be audited for continuing education compliance after each biennial renewal? In addition, all board members and staff are required to complete ethics training every year.

Board Announces Board Member Vacancy for 2011

The Board would like to announce that it anticipates having one board member vacancy in September 2011, for the audiology position. Qualifications to serve as an audiology board member can be found under Ohio Revised Code section 4753.03. Candidates must be a licensed audiologist, who have been licensed and engaged in the practice, teaching, administration, or research in the area of appointment for at least five years prior to the dates of their appointment. At all times one of the audiologists serving on the board must be an audiologist engaged in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

Board appointments are made by the Governor John R. Kasich, with the advice and consent of the Ohio Senate. Board members are considered public officials and are subject to other duties and responsibilities, including filing an ethics disclosure statement each year with the Ohio Ethics Commission.

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Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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Upcoming Conferences

The Ohio School Speech Pathology Educational Audiology Coalition (OSSPEAC) announces:

OSSPEAC will hold its Annual Fall Conference in Columbus at the Polaris Hilton Hotel, Columbus, Ohio beginning October 23 through 25, 2011. The theme will be *"Focus on Communication."* For more information about conference sessions and registration, please visit OSSPEAC's website at <http://www.osspeac.org/site.cfm/conference.cfm>

Conferences offer excellent opportunities to earn continuing education hours.

Special Note

The Board has been invited to present at the OSSPEAC conference - date and time TBA. We are anticipating the presentation will occur during the Chat Room format. The presentation will cover the role of the licensure board and include updates on issues affecting your license. There will also be time for open discussion regarding issues that affect school-based practitioners.

- **Learn about issues affecting your license**
- **Learn about new changes/updates to laws and rules**
- **Opportunity for discussion of issues in a group setting**
- **Opportunity to ask questions**
- **Direct access to Board members and staff**

Professional Events in Columbus During March Offered Opportunity for Direct Access to Board

The Board is strongly committed to being accessible and approachable among the professions, consumers, and other interested parties. During the month of March, several events occurred in Columbus that gave the Board the opportunity to interact directly with licensees and consumers.

Legislative Event – March 16

Several board members, along with the Board's Executive Director, registered to attend the Legislative Event, sponsored by the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition. The event was held on March 16, 2011, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the State House, located in the heart of downtown Columbus. This forum was a comfortable setting in which to meet and talk with legislators to help them understand professional issues and the services that are provided for consumers by speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

Professional Competency Committee Meeting – March 16

The Board scheduled its Professional Competency Committee meeting immediately following the Legislative Event, across the street in the Vern Riffe Building for Government and the Arts, at 7:30 p.m. All board and committee meetings are open to the public. Several individuals were invited to this particular committee meeting to discuss an issue related to the scope of duties for aides. More



Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

information about this issue will be reported in a future eNewsletter edition. The committee was well attended by other licensees in the professions who were in Columbus for the Legislative Event and OSLHA Annual Conference. The Board would like to express its appreciation to everyone who attended the committee meeting.

OSLHA's Annual Conference – March 17 – 19

The Board was invited to present at the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Annual Conference, held in Columbus from March 17 through March 19, 2011. Board members, Dr. Helene Levenfus and Ms. Loretta Embry, along with the Executive Director, updated attendees about issues currently under review by the Board. The presentation also included information about the role of the licensure board. Attendees also had the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

In addition, the Board held its March board meeting at the conference hotel, which gave licensees and interested parties the opportunity to observe how the board conducts its business in public. The Board formally recognized the service of former board member, Dr. Valenta Ward-Gravelly, and presented her with a plaque.



Dr. Valenta Ward-Gravelly (center) was recognized for her service on the Board. A plaque and gavel were presented by Board Chairperson Dr. Helene Levenfus and Executive Director Gregg Thornton.

The Board's Executive Director also received an award of appreciation at the OSLHA Awards Luncheon on March 18.



OSLHA Vice-President/President Elect Ms. Janice Wright, M.A. with Mr. Thornton, who accepted the Award of Appreciation on behalf of the entire Board and staff.

March is a very important time of year for professional activities, offering excellent opportunities for licensees to network, earn continuing education hours, and learn more about the licensure board.

Board Member Vacancy Announced for 2011

(Continued from page 6)

Individuals interested in serving on the board may submit their application directly to the Governor's Office at:

<http://governor.ohio.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=9tvNIAwc0NI%3d&tabid=60>

In addition to the online application, interested individuals must also submit a resume or short biography to the Governor's Office. All instructions

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ODE Caseload Ratio—Update

Board Continues Collaboration With ODE on Addressing Caseload Ratio Issue In School Settings

At the January board meeting, Bernadette Laughlin with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) updated the Board on the status of the request for proposal (RFP) ODE announced in the fall of 2010 to address caseload ratios for speech-language pathologists and audiologists working in school settings.

Ms. Laughlin is the liaison for the ODE's Office for Exceptional Children by overseeing the Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) and Audiologist programs. She interprets and implements policy related to SLP and Audiologists; consults with school administration and special education personnel regarding the development and management of effective services for audiology, speech and language; determines district compliance with regulations and policies; develops complaint procedures; responds to complaints from parents and organizations; resolves violations in a timely manner; and makes decisions on divisions' interpretation of standards, regulations, rules and policies.

Ms. Laughlin indicated that ODE received proposals from school districts and will spend this year assisting selected districts to develop plans to address the caseload issue. The focus will be to develop workload formulas in order to provide

better services. Ms. Laughlin also reported that ODE will spend this year evaluating the proposals and target next school year to implement finalized plans contingent upon successful completion of the year one project and available IDEA Part-B funds

In May 2011, the Office for Exceptional Children at ODE announced that Charles Carlin, Ph.D. assistant professor in the school of speech-language pathology at the University of Akron, has joined with the Office for Exceptional Children as the researcher on the Caseload Ratio Project. Dr. Carlin has 15 years experience working in the public school setting as a special education supervisor, professional presenter, researcher, speech-language supervisor and speech-language pathologist. In addition, Dr. Carlin has conducted several collaborative caseload studies for special education and related service providers.

You may recall from the summer eNewsletter edition (Vol. 2/Issue 2) that at its May 2010 board meeting, the Board voted to support legislation drafted by the Occupational Therapy Association and Physical Therapy Association which requires ODE to conduct a time study on caseload ratios for related services providers. The proposed legislation covers the following groups: occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists working in school settings. While this option is still on the table, the Board is not aware that it is being actively pursued by other groups who initially expressed interest in supporting this initiative. The Board believes that, for the present time, ODE's RFP is the most viable option on the table to address the caseload ratio issue.



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Medicaid Billing by Conditional Licensees— Update

Board seeks Formal Opinion from the Ohio Attorney General

The Board continues to work with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Medicaid Schools Program (MSP) coordinator, Mark Smith and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to clarify questions about the conditional license, which is issued by the Board pursuant to section 4753.071 of the Ohio Revised Code. Please refer to the winter 2011 edition of our eNewsletter for more information about this issue.

During the first quarter of 2011, the Board requested a formal opinion from the Ohio Attorney General's Office regarding the status of the conditional license. On March 17, 2011, the Board also submitted a position statement to ODE and ODJFS clarifying the status of the conditional license.

In the three page letter, the Board reiterated its position that the requirements for conditional licensure under Ohio Revised and Administrative Code Chapters 4753 are more stringent than ASHA's requirements for their certification. The Board believes that when the appropriate legal analysis is done by the Ohio Attorney General's Office, the status of this license will be clarified. Updates will appear in future editions of the eNewsletter.

Board Reviewing Options to Address Sale of Hearing Aids via the Internet in Ohio

Online survey distributed to Audiologists Survey responses due by June 30

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration both cite that more than 35 million children and adults suffer from some degree of hearing loss. Audiologists know, all too well, that hearing loss can have a negative effect on communication, relationships, school/work performance, and emotional well-being. According to the FTC, buying a hearing aid online or through the mail is risky. In fact, some states do not allow hearing aids to be sold through the mail at all.

In May 2010, the Board was contacted by the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition about serving in a workgroup to review and address this issue. Other parties in the workgroup included the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensure Board. The Board voted to be part of the workgroup, and several meetings have been held during the past year to review various research.

On May 9, 2011, the Board distributed an online survey to audiologists seeking input on the impact Internet sales of hearing aids may have on consumers. The survey will be available until June 30, 2011. The workgroup will continue to review how other states have addressed this issue, such as Florida, Missouri, Maryland, and Connecticut.

The Board will review and consider final recommendations, in consultation with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, later this year.



Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Business Filing Requirement Offers Opportunities to Inform and Educate Employers About Scope of Practice

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 4753.12(A), an entity may provide speech-language pathology or audiology services without licensure if it employs or contracts individuals in the direct practice of speech-language pathology or audiology, in accordance with Chapter 4753. Such entity is required to submit a business filing on a prescribed form with the Board no later than March first of each even numbered year.

After the Board completed its evaluation of statements submitted by March 1, 2010, notification letters were sent to these employers regarding the completion of their business filing statements. The notice advised employers about the deadline for submitting the next business filing statement, i.e., March 1, 2012, and when to expect communication from the Board about this requirement.

Additionally, the Board used this opportunity to inform and educate employers about its licensure requirements, including scope of practice. We included other resources such as a link to our listserv so employers can receive our eNewsletter. The Board will continue to reach out to entities that employ or contract with speech-language pathologists and audiologists for the purpose of ensuring that employers appropriately utilize the professional services of individuals licensed under Chapter 4753. Finally, the Board is committed to ensuring that employers understand the licensure requirements that govern the manner in which speech and hearing services are provided to Ohio consumers in accordance with the Board's statutes and rules under Ohio Revised and Administrative Code Chapters 4753.

Board Committees Meeting and Working to Address Issues

The following board committees will be meeting throughout the year to address various issues. A few committees are meeting on a regular basis. The Board would like to remind licensees and interested parties that committee agendas are posted to our website prior to the scheduled committee meeting. All committee meetings are open to the public and committee minutes are available upon request. Requests for committee minutes may be submitted to board@slpaud.ohio.gov.

Rules Committee, Ms. Loretta Embry, Chair

Board members serving on committee: Dr. Helene Levenfus, Ms. Amy Thorpe

The Rules Committee has met two times this year and will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the year. This committee is responsible for recommending new or changes to existing rules as necessary.

The Rules Committee is currently reviewing 15 rules up for five year rule review in 2011. The committee is also finalizing proposed changes to the existing rule allowing for a university verification letter to expedite licensure. The committee will be reviewing proposed changes to rules specifying the duties for aides. The committee also plans to review current supervision requirements for the student clinical experience, professional experience year, and student permit. The committee is in the process of reviewing its educational requirements and requirements for the professional experience year to ensure they are equivalent with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association guidelines.

Before rules are formally adopted through the state of Ohio's rule-making process, proposed rules are sent to the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition and posted to the Board's website for a



Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

period of public comment. Prior to rules being adopted, the Board is required to hold a public rules hearing affording all interested parties and individuals with the opportunity to provide oral and/or written testimony in support or opposition to the proposed rule. Information concerning rule changes, including notices of any rules hearing, may be obtained from the Ohio Register's website at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>.

Professional Competency Committee, Dr. Jane Kukula, Chair

Board members serving on committee: Dr. Helene Levenfus, Ms. Patricia Leppla

The Professional Competency Committee has met three times this year and will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the year. This committee is responsible for reviewing the requirements licensees must demonstrate to ensure continued competency in the area of their licensure.

The Professional Competency Committee is currently reviewing the continuing education requirements and will soon be submitting final recommendations to the full Board and Rules Committee.

Policy and Procedures Committee, Mr. Malcolm Porter and Ms. Patricia Leppla, Co-Chairs

Board members serving on committee: Dr. Helene Levenfus

The Policy and Procedures Committee has not met formally this year. The committee is responsible for reviewing all policies and procedures related to board operations, board member and staff conduct, executive orders issued by the Governor, and other state-wide policies and procedures that impact the Board. The committee is also responsible for overseeing the implementation of any

recommendations made by the State Auditor's Office following regular state agency audits.

The Policy and Procedures Committee is in the process of reviewing all board policies and procedures. The committee will meet later this year to submit final recommendations to the full Board. Policies and procedures are generally voted upon by the full Board at board meetings.

Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, Dr. Helene Levenfus, Chair

Board members serving on committee: Dr. Helene Levenfus, Dr. Jane Kukula, Mr. Malcolm Porter

The primary purpose of the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee is to prepare the agenda for the strategic planning meeting, which is held in January. This ad hoc committee generally conducts its business informally as a working group during the month of December. The committee may also meet, as necessary, during the year to review the status of initiatives and priorities.

Ad Hoc Committee on Equivalent Qualifications for SLP Licensure, Ms. Amy Thorpe, Chair

Board members serving on committee: Dr. Helene Levenfus, Ms. Loretta Embry, Ms. Patricia Leppla

Created in June 2010, the primary purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee on Equivalent Qualifications for SLP Licensure is to review equivalent qualifications for non-traditional SLP applicants. This ad hoc committee has not met and is currently researching this issue with the assistance of the Assistant Attorney General assigned to represent the Board.



Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

OMNIE has announced that funding for its initiatives will completely discontinue after 2013. The Board will continue to work collaboratively with the other OMNIE Project sponsors and supporters to address any impact this may have in the future.



OMNIE Highlights

The Ohio Master's Network Initiatives in Education-Speech Language Pathology (OMNIE Project) is the collaborative endeavor of dedicated individuals who have undertaken a leadership role in identifying issues necessary to ensure the education, recruitment, and retention of qualified speech-language pathologists in Ohio schools. The OMNIE Project is sponsored and supported by the [Ohio Department of Education](#) (ODE) and collaborates with the [Ohio Board of Speech Pathology & Audiology](#) (OBSLPA), the [Ohio Speech Language and Hearing Association](#) (OSLHA), the [Ohio School Speech Pathology Educational Audiology Coalition](#) (OSSPEAC).

Many of you already know that Nada Allender, M.A., CCC-SLP, has been the Project Coordinator of OMNIE since the project initiatives first began rolling out in September 1998. The Board invites all licensees and interested parties to visit OMNIE's homepage at <http://www.omnie.org/index.htm> to learn more about the status of new and ongoing initiatives that have contributed to the enrichment of the professions and Ohio consumers.

Be sure to check out the news flash for OBSLPA licensed speech-language pathologists seeking ODE licensure. ODE continues to welcome requests from OBSLPA licensed speech-language pathologists for a review of their

credentials by ODE's Ohio Credential Review Board in order to determine if licensees applying for review qualify for the Pupil Services license required for Ohio school-based employment. Additional information may be found at http://www.omnie.org/Whats%20New/supervisors_wantedWEB1.htm. Specific questions regarding ODE licensure in speech-language pathology may be directed to: Jennifer Kangas, at (614-387-7717) or Jennifer.Kangas@ode.state.oh.us



You will also find information and resources for school based practitioners, including guidelines for Ohio school-based SLPs at:

<http://www.omnie.org/guidelines/speech%20language%20guidelines.html> and <http://www.omnie.org/Whats%20New/SLP%20Resources%20from%20Network.pdf>

Board Member Vacancy Announced for 2011

(Continued from pages 6 and 8)

and contact information can be found on the application. You may also contact the Boards and Commissions Office directly at:

Boards and Commissions
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-3555
Fax: (614) 644-0951

If you have specific questions about the unique experience of serving on the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, please feel free to contact the Executive Director. Please note that the Board does not review board member applications and is not involved in the decision-making process for board member appointments.



OBSLPA LATE SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR

	May 25 June 1	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	June 8 June 15	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	June 21	Rules Committee
	June 22	Board Meeting
	June 22 June 24 July 1	Professional Competency Committee Meeting Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	July 8 July 15	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	July 25 August 1	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	August 11	Professional Competency Committee Meeting
	August 12	Board Meeting
	August 12	Rules Committee Meeting
	August 8 August 15	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval
	August 25 September 1	Documents Received Deadline for Next Review Application Review and Approval

Please visit the Board’s website at www.slpaud.ohio.gov for the specific time and location of the Board and committee meetings. In addition, you may also download the Board’s agenda and meeting minutes.

Please note that this calendar is subject to change without notice.



Ask the Board:

Regular Feature

Frequently asked questions will appear in each quarterly newsletter.



How long should continuing education records be kept?

Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section [4753-4-01\(C\)\(5\)](#), licensees shall retain documentation of continuing education hours for inspection by the Board for four years after the date of renewal. This requirement applies to all SLP and AUD licensees who must complete continuing education hours, even if you did not receive an audit letter.

What happens if the continuing education provider does not provide a certificate of completion?

Documentation for continuing education hours are set forth under [OAC 4753-4-01\(C\)\(1\)](#) and shall be written verification of successful completion by the licensee from the provider. If a certificate is not provided, the Board has the discretion to approve the hours with other appropriate supporting documentation from the licensee.