

# Ty Ankrom's Here's What I Think ...

**P**atty Rothe is busy. She is co-owner of Four J Properties, a Realtor for ERA Martin & Associates, is a member of Circleville Rotary and is in her second term on the Circleville City Schools Board of Education.



But she makes time to attend board trainings that are offered by the ESC in partnership with the Ohio School Boards Association.

The OSBA/Pickaway County ESC Board Leadership Academy provides opportunities each year for county board members to learn about important topics facing school districts and boards of education. OSBA expert presenters and facilitators lead the sessions.

Last month, Patty attended the session on Career & College Readiness.

"It was a plus to hear about different strategies the state has implemented," Patty said.

"It was a positive way to look at not just college readiness but career readiness."

Patty said the community learned how important it is to have a skilled work force that can pass a drug test when Sofidel built its plant in Circleville and needed to hire more than 500 employees.

Other sessions that Patty has attended included Interpretation of the School Report Card, Understanding a School Financial Report and Negotiations 101.

Patty said that having a background in the private sector, some things in education are different, such as finances.



"Every session you go to, you will learn something."  
~Patty Rothe  
Circleville City Schools  
board member

March 8, 2019



School district board members listen to the presenter at the Career & College Readiness session last month at the ESC.

"Every session you go to, you will learn something. You are adding another tool to your belt" as a board member, she said.

Patty's favorite aspect of the board training is that the sessions are free to board members.

"I was willing to pay to attend this," she said. "This would have been so helpful in my first term. There is so much information and so many things I don't know that attending these sessions gives me background."

Participating districts — Circleville City Schools, Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center and Teays Valley and Westfall local schools and the ESC — each contribute \$540 to cover the cost of the board trainings. That amount permits each district to send as many people as they choose to any or all sessions.

While it's not "free," it is an extremely cost-effective training opportunity for board members. Board members from other districts can pay \$50 to attend a session.

The next session, Building a Workplace Free of Harassment, is at 6 p.m. March 27 at the ESC, 2050 Stoneridge Drive. Board members interested in attending should call the ESC, (740) 474-7529.

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