

# BUILDING & Battling

A quarterly publication of the



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All dates are tentative and subject to cancellation or postponement.

**BCSO National Bible Quizzing**  
February 27  
Mansfield, OH

**BCSO Jr/Sr High Fine Arts Competition**  
March 2-3  
Brooklyn, OH

**BCSO All-Star Basketball Tournament**  
March 18  
TBD

**BCSO Principal's Mtg**  
March 30  
TBD

A full, downloadable 2-year calendar of events is available on our website.

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

## 2023 BCSO Educators' Convention in the works

PCC's President Shoemaker to be keynote speaker; seeking workshop presenters

by Jeremy Bickelhaupt  
Editor, *Building & Battling*

Cleveland Baptist Church in Brooklyn, Ohio will host the 2023 Buckeye State Christian Educators' Convention on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023. The theme is "*Approving Things that are Excellent*" based on Philippians 1:10. This event will be one day only from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Coffee and donuts will be provided beforehand from 9:00-9:45 a.m.

Last year, all BCSO were encouraged to attend the regional Great Lakes Christian Educators' Convention held in Kalamazoo, MI. Christian educators from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and

Minnesota gathered for two days of general sessions and workshops designed to equip and encourage teachers and administrators. In 2021, many BCSO schools met in Temperance, MI for a similar convention at State Line Christian School. Typically, every third year BCSO recommends its member schools to either attend another state's convention or host its own. Hosting our own convention has not happened over the last several cycles; however, Mr. Luke Brown and the folks at Cleveland Baptist Church have decided to spearhead this year's event.

See 'Convention' on pg 4

**"If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds and instill into them just principles, we are then engraving that upon tablets which no time will efface, but will brighten and brighten to all eternity."**

~ Daniel Webster

# Senate Bill attempts to transfer educational authority to Governor

Protections in place remain for 08 schools, but unintended consequences unknown

By Keith Hamblen, BCSO Executive Director

The first bills introduced into the new two-year sessions of Ohio's General Assembly reveal the priorities of the Senate and House leadership. The first bill (Senate Bill 1) introduced into the 135th General Assembly (which began this January) is a bill that was almost passed in the previous session; it is a bill that will transfer state authority over education from the Board of Education to the Governor's office. The conservative legislators behind this bill (the liberals are against it) say that this is the way to stop some of the bad educational leadership coming out of the Board and Department of Education. This bill (with a different number) was fast-tracked at the very end of the 134th Session of Ohio's General Assembly, passing the Senate but narrowly

defeated in the House. The current arrangement has worked well for non-chartered, non-tax supported schools since the 08 provision began in 1982. Knowing how best to respond is challenging.

The foremost purpose of BCSO and the reason for its (CSO and BCSEA) coming into existence was (and is) the preservation of the "non-chartered, non-tax supported" position, so this is a big deal for us. Much blood, sweat, and tears went into its (08) being given us, and we do not intend to let it go easily, in all of our busyness. The current bill (Senate Bill 1) has language that protects the non-chartered position, but one never knows about unintended consequences.

## BCSO encourages "College Credit Plus" participation among member schools

Students can receive college credit while attending high school

By Keith Hamblen, BCSO Executive Director

A benefit of being an "08" school is participation in Ohio's "college credit plus" (CCP) program in courses taught by BCSO teachers. It allows seventh-through twelfth-grade students—while still living at home and participating in their local churches—to get college credit while attending high school! The students are enrolled in a participating college and in their high school at the same time ("dual enrollment").

According to the BCSO Regulations Summary, "Students from non-chartered, non-taxed schools must submit to the Ohio Department of Education by April 1 a letter of intent to participate the next

school year. The student must then be accepted by the college and submit an application for funding."

The long-term dream is that we have different BCSO schools offering these classes so that families who want their children to get this kind of college credit can do so (and at no cost, if you sign up on time)!

Does your school offer any such classes taught by one of your teachers (online or otherwise)? Currently, Lima is offering English composition (freshman research paper), English literature, and music appreciation online this fall, and we are hoping that other BCSO schools will offer other CCP courses. For more information on course offerings, please contact Keith Hamblen.



An FCS Crusader fights for a clear shot against the Tigers during the BCSO championship game.

Jeremy Bickelhaupt,  
Editor, *Building & Battling*

DAYTON – The Fayette Christian School varsity boys’ basketball team relied on defense to repeat as champions of the annual Buckeye Christian School Organization Basketball Tournament by defeating the home team Temple Christian School 55-41 on Saturday, Feb. 18.

The Eagles took home the sportsmanship trophy, while Fayette’s Kaleb Bauman was named the tournament’s most valuable player for the second straight year.

### Varsity Boys Basketball

- 1st place - Fayette Christian School
- 2nd place - Temple Christian School (Dayton)
- 3rd place - High Street Christian Academy
- Sportsmanship - Licking County Christian Academy

### All-Tournament Team

- James Hughs (LCCA)
- Eshbin Inayat (HSCA)
- Donavan Battles (TCS-Dayton)
- Elijah Herdt (TCS- Dayton)
- Brady Bumpus (FCS)
- Justin Wines (FCS)

Tournament MVP: Kalab Bauman (FCS)

A special ‘thanks’ to Josh Blankenship and Temple Christian School (Dayton) for hosting this tournament.

The Crusaders of Fayette kicked off the tournament Friday afternoon with a 59-22 win over the Crusaders of High Street Christian Academy. Friday’s other contest saw the Tigers (TCS) fend off the Licking County Christian Academy Eagles 72-33. Saturday’s consolation game pitted HSCA and LCCA against one another. The Crusaders won that tilt 52-38 to secure a third-place finish.



The Fayette Christian School Crusaders clinched the 2023 BCSO Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 18 at Temple Christian School in Dayton, Ohio. Photos courtesy of FCS’s Facebook timeline.





Dr. Troy Shoemaker, President of Pensacola Christian College (PCC), is slated to be the keynote speaker. He will also teach a workshop for administrators. Kimberly Smith, who serves as an educational consultant with Abeka and represents Pensacola Christian Academy and PCC, will also be present and will conduct several workshops geared towards an elementary track.

There is a current need for other qualified individuals who can teach workshops, specifically speakers who

could present towards the secondary department. One request is for someone who could explain or promote the best way to utilize SAT testing for each student. Please email Mr. Brown ([lukebrown@clevelandbaptist.org](mailto:lukebrown@clevelandbaptist.org)) the contact information or a short biography for who you believe would be a great fit as workshop presenters.

The cost per attendee is \$40, which includes lunch, handouts and all sessions. The deadline to register for the convention is Sept. 15, 2023. Registration details will be released at a later date.

## The Importance of BCSO Board Meetings

By Jeremy Bickelhaupt, Editor *Building & Battling*

Have you attended a recent BCSO board meeting? We encourage all member schools to send at least one representative to each board meeting to hear, discuss, and act upon pertinent topics affecting our

organization. We desire as much involvement as possible, and we hope that includes your ministry. Our next Board of Directors' Meeting will be held in conjunction with the BCSO fine arts review meeting at 10 a.m. on May 11 at Temple Christian School in Mansfield.

The *Building & Battling* newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Buckeye Christian School Organization. Its purpose is to disseminate information pertinent to our member schools in efforts to "build" a good work, as well as to serve as a tool for "battling" to preserve and expand civil freedoms to worship God and to educate our children in the way of the Lord. Articles may be submitted for publication, but they will be subject to editing and approval. All submissions can be sent in MS Word (.doc) or PDF format to: [keithhamblen@gmail.com](mailto:keithhamblen@gmail.com)

Christian School Teachers | Administrators

# BUCKEYE STATE *Christian* EDUCATORS' CONVENTION

Thursday, September 28, 2023

*"Approving things that are excellent!"*  
Phil. 1:10

 **CLEVELAND**  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
Brooklyn, Ohio



Dr. Troy Shoemaker  
Pensacola Christian College



Kimberly Smith  
Educational Consultant, Abeka