

Public Relations and Advocacy Committee
Annual Board Report for the Ohio Foreign Language Association
May 2020

The Public Relations and Advocacy Committee has...

- Regularly shared JNCL-NCLIS NewsBriefs and updates with the OFLA Google Group
- Attended the 2020 JNCL-NCLIS Advocacy Days in Washington, DC
 - Compiled stories and data from Ohio to compel representatives to vote in favor of legislation that supports language learning in Volume 2 of “America’s Languages: Ohio Speaks!”
- Contacted leadership at Wittenburg University to advocate for the retention of their language programs (programs were retained)
- Attended Ohio Education Committee hearings on HB 166 to advocate for languages not to be exchanged for credit for coding
 - Provided a written statement for this hearing
 - Maintained contact with national advocates for support
 - Written numerous emails and letters to representatives on this matter
 - Held meetings with staffers from the office of Governor Mike Dewine to share data on this issue; as well as held meetings with Representative William Coley to share data on this issue
- Written and published an OFLA position statement on the merit of language learning and computer coding
- Established relationships with Ohio Business Roundtable Leadership to advocate for language learning
- Prepared articles for *The Cardinal*

Respectfully submitted,

Angela N. Gardner
Public Relations and Advocacy Committee Chair 2020