

2018 OSBA Annual Convention  
Dale Freeman notes

#### Advancing Student Achievement through Farm to School and School Gardens

Rick Sherman, ODE, farm to school specialist did a good job of explaining how engaging students in this type of hands-on learning about science, social studies, engineering and math have proven to increase math scores. Most studies saw a major improvement in classroom behavior in the elementary grades. I know we don't need to put another activity on a teacher's plate, but if there is a community group that is willing to take this on Rick Sherman will give us all the help we need.

#### Student Mental Health: Shattering Stigmas

A Tara Rolstad from the Lakeridge School district was the main speaker in this very informative topic. The presentation was structured to help board members have an open conversations about addressing community needs. They are willing to share the program with any school district.

#### K-12 Strategy for Social and Emotional Needs

North Marion School District, with support from the school improvement team at Willamette ESD has implemented a strategy to address students' social and emotional needs. They have seen improvements in chronic absenteeism and graduation rate.