



Featured Board Member

## Barb Hansen

*"FAO offers hope and encourages aspiration, essential ingredients for improving the overall quality of life."*

A Muskingum County native, Barbara Hansen has been dedicated to education in Appalachian Ohio with a teaching career that began at Maysville High School in Muskingum County. Barb has been a teacher, an elementary school principal, assistant superintendent, superintendent for East Muskingum Local Schools and a board of education member for the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center.

Barb's time in classrooms was an inspiration to her when she joined the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio's board and led the creation of the *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® Writing Contest. Designed to inspire students to value their Appalachian Ohio heritage, the Contest gave thousands of students a creative outlet and introduced the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio to another generation.

*"It is an honor to sit with individuals representing all facets of Appalachian life who collectively are making a difference in the quality of life for the region."*

Named to the Dave Longaberger Endowed Chair in the graduate education department at Muskingum University, Barb also serves as Senior Director to Battelle for Kids on their Appalachian Ohio Collaborative, an initiative to develop and implement a comprehensive approach for transformational change in rural education. She serves as Conference Director for the National Rural Education Conference.

Hansen is the recipient of the Golden Achievement Award from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) for producing and co-directing a district videotape on long-range planning, the NSPRA Crystal Award in 1996, and the YWCA Women of Achievement Award in 2000. She received the Buckeye Association of School Administrators Outstanding Administrator regional award in

2003. In 2012 she received the William Stafford Leadership Award, an international award in Invitational Education leadership. She serves as a board member for the Coalition of Rural Appalachian Schools, and is a member of the Board of Trustees for The John and Annie Glenn Museum.

Barb is a Cambridge High School graduate and a member of its Alumni Hall of Fame. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from The Ohio State University and a doctorate from Ohio University.

"FAO is raising regional awareness of the power of philanthropy and its persistent efforts in this regard will set the trajectory toward rural prosperity."

***Barb at a glance:***

- Joined FAO's Board in 2006
- Creator of the Foundation's widely-celebrated *I'm a Child of Appalachia* Writing Contest
- Dave Longaberger Endowed Chair in the graduate education department at Muskingum University
- Senior Director for Battelle for Kids on the Appalachian Ohio Collaborative and director of National Rural Education Conference
- Board member for the Coalition of Rural Appalachian Schools, The John and Annie Glenn Historic Site, East Muskingum Endowment Fund, Governing Board of Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center, President of the Ohio Council of Professors of Educational, Administration, National Trustee for the International Alliance for Invitational Education, Elder First Presbyterian Church Cambridge
- Graduate of Cambridge High School, Ohio State University (bachelor's and master's) and Ohio University (doctorate).
- Guernsey County native and Muskingum County resident