

NEOEADAY2025



Join us for
NEOEADay on
Friday,
October 10, 2025!



NEOEADay: Tailor-made for You

By Sue Messinger, NEOEA President

I know where I go for outstanding professional development tailor-made for educators – and it's NEOEA Day! There are a multitude of programs for educators available through NEOEA Day, held this year on Friday, October 10, 2025. There are online options available and in-person workshops are scheduled at a variety of locations across northeast Ohio. As it does year after year, our NEOEA Day Committee is committed to providing you with the most up-to-date opportunities for professional and personal development. NEOEA Day is a great way to focus on yourself and your learning as another year of educating students continues.



Using This Catalog

NEOEa Day represents your dues dollars at work: those dollars pay for the preparation, production, and distribution of this catalog, and some programs receive grants paid from your dues dollars. Attending NEOEA Day programs, most of which provide growth opportunities at lower-than-usual prices, is an excellent way to get some of your NEOEA dues dollars back!

Organization. This catalog is divided into two main sections:

- professional development (pages 1-4);
- personal development (pages 4-6).

“Professional development” refers to things that make us more effective on the job. This was one of the original purposes of our organization when it was founded as NEOTA back in 1869, and it still comprises the largest portion of our NEOEA Day offerings. **“Personal development”** refers to items intended to enrich the lives of members both on and off the job.

Registration. Each program description identifies a chairperson, along with a phone number for contacting that chairperson and an address for sending in registration forms and payment. A few programs are independently funded so that they have no registration fee; however, **almost all programs require registration.** You register for NEOEA Day programs by using the registration form below. **Do not send registration forms or fees to NEOEA; send them to the address listed in the program description.**

Lunch. Please note luncheon arrangements which will be indicated in the program description. Some programs include lunch; some provide a lunch break during which you can eat a “bag lunch” or purchase lunch onsite; others provide a lunch period in which you eat offsite.

Children. We asked chairpersons to identify “family-friendly” programs that would be appropriate for children 12 and above accompanied by parents or guardians. Most programs are designed for an adult audience, but some programs are thoroughly appropriate for and enjoyable by children. By NEOEA policy, “the presence or absence of children at any NEOEA Day program will be at the discretion of the person or persons planning the program.” **Children are not permitted at NEOEA Day programs unless the program description uses the family-friendly logo or otherwise states that children are permitted to attend;** if you have any questions about bringing children to the program you plan to attend, please contact the chairperson.

Professional Development Credit. Since implementing local professional development committees (LPDCs), Ohio no longer certifies CEU (continuing education unit) providers. Your LPDC determines whether it will recognize a particular activity for professional development credit on your own individual professional development plan (IPDP). To facilitate that process, NEOEA provides presenters with certificates of participation. Presenters distribute those certificates at the end of the program; please don’t ask for them earlier. You will need to work with your own LPDC to determine whether a program is appropriate for your IPDP, and you will need to comply with any deadlines that your LPDC may require.

Virtual Sessions. Sessions marked with a “V” may/will be held virtually. Please contact the chairperson if you have any questions.

Graduate Credit. For NEOEA members who participate in any NEOEA Day workshop, two semester hours graduate credit (\$380) is available through Ashland College. Registration information and course assignment is available at neoea.org/files/GraduateCredit.pdf.

NEOEa Day Committee

NEOEa Day is a project of the Board of Directors’ NEOEA Day Subcommittee. Members in 2024-25 included Chairperson Barbara Martini, Champion EA; Checole Andrews, Painesville City TA; Crystal Boyd Funderburk, Hudson EA; Sharron Callahan, Cardinal EA; Karen Carney, Campbell EA-R; Carol Correthers, Lorain EA; Trish Duncan, Bedford EA; Amanda Fehlbaum, YSU-OEA; Julie Garcia, Lorain EA;

Bridget Heiss, Mentor Class. Emp.; Marchell Josie, East Cleveland EA; Sherri Koncilja, Painesville City TA-R; Dennis Lewis, Parma EA-R; Jasmine Monacelli, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA; Laura Ponsart, Fairview Park EA; Angela Savinda, Liberty ASE; Jason Scherer, Field Local TA; Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R; and Jerry Turillo, Boardman EA.

NEOEa DAY REGISTRATION FORM

You must register by mail, email, or weblink. This reservation form must be used for registration for your NEOEA Day selection. Please note the deadline for each program. Please note if your chosen program requires additional information to be noted on this reservation form.

Name _____

Home address _____

Cell phone _____

Non-work email address _____

Name of local association _____

COST: Cost of each program is listed in the reservation information. All must pay. \$ _____
Additional fee for non-NEOEa members. \$10.00
Make payment for non-member fee on a separate check payable to NEOEA.

Make reservation fee payable to the person indicated in the workshop reservation information. Send both checks (if you are a non-member) to the address indicated in the reservation information in the program of your choice.

Name and code number of the session you will attend _____

**Mail or email this form to the address listed in the reservation information of the workshop you have chosen.
DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS TO NEOEA.**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE ARTS

Program #1 *Central*

Making the Most with Films in the Classroom (Grades 5-12)

Place: Cleveland State University School of Film and Media Arts, Idea Center Building, 1375 Euclid Avenue, 6th Floor, Cleveland 44115

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Presenter: Eric Siler

AGENDA

FilmSlam® Streams is a free, media literacy educational program that aims to educate students in grades 5-12 about evaluating and critiquing the messages they perceive while viewing films. Films provide students with learning opportunities, including fostering thought-provoking discussion, analysis, cultural awareness, critical thinking, and social-emotional growth. Each film included in FilmSlam® Streams has an accompanying study guide that includes curriculum links and goals, vocabulary, discussion questions, and writing, learning, and research project ideas to incorporate as further study.

In this NEOEA Day workshop session, learn how to access and incorporate this free resource into your classroom as we review examples of short films, study guides, discussion topics, and sample activities.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration form to Tiffany Alexander at filmslam@clevelandfilm.org. For further information, contact Tiffany Alexander at filmslam@clevelandfilm.org. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. **(Limited to 75 participants.)**

Program #2 *Virtual*

Sustained Student Engagement the CMA Way! (Grades 2-12)

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Angela Steve, Manager of School Partnerships at the Cleveland Museum of Art

AGENDA

Join the Cleveland Museum of Art this NEOEA Day from anywhere!

During this virtual professional development experience, LANGUAGE ARTS and SOCIAL STUDIES educators will discover interactive strategies for using artwork to capture student attention and strengthen comprehension skills in Language Arts and Social Studies, whether as individual content areas or as integrated endeavors.

Combine visual and written expression to

enhance lessons you are already teaching, using the CMA's collection as a primary source and a source of inspiration.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://forms.gle/4zGcPkExNMKXVKGBA>. For further information, contact Angela Steve at asteve@clevelandart.org or 216.707.2494. **Deadline:** Sept. 25, 2025. **(Unlimited number of participants.)**

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

See also

Out-of-the-Box Emotional Regulation for Autistic Students in Special Education, Program #17, Page 4.

ENVIRONMENTAL/ OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Program #3 *East*

OSU Extension—Growing Teachers throughout the Seasons

Place: OSU Extension Mahoning County, 490 S. Broad St., Canfield 44406

Time: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Kristen Eisenhauer

AGENDA

Growing Teachers throughout the Seasons (GTS) is all about empowering K-12 educators to bring STEM-based agricultural production and workforce skills into the classroom all year long—using the innovative GTS Curriculum.

With GTS, students get hands-on experience growing food in a full school-year cycle, harvesting something fresh every month from September through May. The easy-to-follow planting chart shows when to plant, care for, and harvest crops using three proven methods: indoor seed starting under LEDs, raised beds with season extension, and hydroponic systems in controlled environments. Best of all? No watering or maintenance is needed during school breaks—winter, spring, or summer!

During this session, teachers will receive a copy of the GTS Book, plus links and resources to help their classroom gardens thrive.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$8 (no lunch break). Register at <https://go.osu.edu/gtsneoea>. For further information, contact Kristen Eisenhauer at eisenhauer.30@osu.edu or 330.533.5538. **Deadline:** Sept. 26, 2025. **(Limited to 40 participants.)**

Program #4

East

Purposeful Planting: Native Landscapes for Wildlife, Water, and Beauty

Place: Boardman Library, 7680 Glenwood Avenue, Youngstown 44512

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Zack Felger



AGENDA

This program will help participants select, plant, and maintain native species that support local wildlife, improve water management, and enhance outdoor spaces. Learn how native plants reduce runoff, prevent erosion, and provide essential habitat for pollinators and other beneficial species. Discover how intentional design and plant selection can create sustainable, visually appealing landscapes while promoting biodiversity and ecological resilience.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/s54ku7t>. For further information, contact Zack Felger at zachary.felger@mahoningcountyoh.gov or 330.740.7995. **Deadline:** Oct. 8, 2025. **(Limited to 25 participants.)**

Program #5

Central

Rust Belt Riders: Large and Small Composting

Place: Rust Belt Riders, 2701 St. Clair Ave., NE, Cleveland 44114

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Benjamin Beukeman, NEOEA Environmental Concerns Committee Chairperson

AGENDA

We will get the opportunity to tour the Rust Belt Riders facility, learn about school food recycling programs and Individual food recycling, and composting. We will learn how composting benefits the community and individuals alike.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Send registration form to Benjamin Beukeman at bbeukeman@gmail.com. For further information, contact Benjamin Beukeman at bbeukeman@gmail.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 26, 2025. **(Limited to 30 participants.)**

Program #6

Central/East

Unwind and Explore: Celebrate NEOEA Day at Holden Forests & Gardens!

Place: Cleveland Botanical Garden, 11030 East Blvd., Cleveland 44106 OR Holden

Continued on page 2

Arboretum, 9550 Sperry Road, Kirtland 44094

Time: Cleveland Botanical Garden from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. OR Holden Arboretum from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Rebecca Thompson



AGENDA

Treat yourself to a day of relaxation and inspiration at Holden Forests & Gardens on Friday, October 10, with free admission exclusively for teachers in celebration of NEOEA Day.

At Holden Arboretum, you can climb the Emergent Tower for breathtaking views of Lake Erie, enjoy the Canopy Walk, collect colorful leaves on the Leaf Trail, and stroll through serene Woodland Walks.

At Cleveland Botanical Garden, marvel at vibrant butterflies in the Costa Rica Glasshouse, explore the unique spiny desert in the Madagascar Glasshouse, delight in interactive activities at Hershey Children's Garden, and find peace in the Japanese Garden.

Teachers will receive a 20% discount on membership purchases as a token of appreciation. Don't miss this opportunity to relax, recharge, and explore the beauty of Holden Forests & Gardens!

RESERVATIONS

Cost: Teachers must present a school ID or other proof of eligibility for **free** entry. Non-teachers and family members are required to pay regular admission. Visit www.holdenfg.org for more information about our campuses and directions.

See also

Guided Naturalist Hike at George Jones Farm and Nature Preserve in Personal Development, Program #23, Page 5.

FOREIGN/WORLD LANGUAGES

See also

Making the Most with Films in the Classroom in The Arts, Program #1, Page 1.

GENERAL

Program #7

Virtual

Art and Science of Student Travel

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Presenter: Brian Nowak of Nowak Tour and Travel



AGENDA

Student travel is a powerful tool for personal and academic growth. It exposes students to new cultures, ideas, and perspectives, fostering open-mindedness and global awareness. Through travel, students gain real-world experiences that enhance

classroom learning, improve communication skills, and boost confidence. It also encourages independence, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities. Educational trips often deepen understanding of history, geography, and languages, making learning more engaging and meaningful. Additionally, student travel promotes empathy and cultural appreciation, preparing young people to thrive in a connected world. This program features educators and regional student travel representatives who will showcase the art and science to student travel through one-day or multi-day field trip experiences.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration form to Brian Nowak at b.nowak@nowaktours.com. For further information, contact Brian Nowak at b.nowak@nowaktours.com or 330.483.4900. **Deadline:** Oct. 6, 2025. (Unlimited number of participants.)

Program #8

Virtual

Fill Your Cup:

A Wellness Workshop for Educators

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Angela Wojtecki, NEOEA Professional Development Chairperson



AGENDA

Led by Jacklyn Czekaj, Nordonias High School language arts teacher, certified yoga instructor, and mindfulness and SEL facilitator, this workshop will invite participants to explore ways to restore educator well-being through breathwork, gentle chair yoga movement, and mindfulness practices. No experience necessary and all "empty cups" are welcome! Attendees will benefit from having a writing utensil, paper, and a favorite piece of fruit handy to share a nourishing mindful eating experience.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/ND-Fill-Your-Cup>. For further information, contact Angela Wojtecki at angela.wojtecki@nordoniaschools.org or 330.908.6030. **Deadline:** Oct. 8, 2025. (Unlimited number of participants.)

GUIDANCE/PSYCHOLOGY/ PUPIL SERVICES

Program #9

Virtual

Behavior Support Acronyms Unpacked: Making Sense of FBAs and BIPs

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Presenter: Sarah McFarland, Scho Behavior Academy



AGENDA

Have you ever felt like behavior support tools are full of confusing acronyms? Have you ever wondered what FBA and BIP really mean? This session is for you! We'll unpack these common behavior support tools in a simple, easy-to-understand way. You'll learn what goes into a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP), why they matter, and how you can use them to better support all students. You'll also review and gain understanding of the FBA and BIP supplement forms for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://forms.gle/vz29rzWA8hDrJMnT8>. For further information, contact Sarah McFarland at schobehavioracademy@gmail.com. **Deadline:** Oct. 1, 2025. (Limited to 500 participants.)

See also

NAMI Ending the Silence in Health and Physical Education, Program #10, Page 2.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Program #10

Virtual

NAMI Ending the Silence

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Presenter: Lexi Vince, NAMI



AGENDA

NAMI Ending the Silence for School Staff is an engaging, evidence-based presentation designed to equip educators and school staff with the tools they need to better support students experiencing mental health challenges. This session includes critical information on the warning signs of mental health conditions, facts and statistics, strategies for approaching students in distress, and how to effectively engage with families.

Each presentation is led by two trained individuals: a presenter who provides an informative overview, and a young adult with lived experience who shares their personal journey with mental illness and recovery. This combination fosters understanding, empathy, and meaningful dialogue.

Through open conversation and shared experiences, participants will gain practical insight into how they can help end the stigma surrounding mental health in schools and create a more supportive environment for all students.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Register at <https://forms.gle/2D5dwcPeyw2dk8Mb9>. For further information, contact Lexi Vance at lexi@namilake.org or 440.639.1200. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. (Limited to 80 participants.)

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LANGUAGE ARTS

See also

Sustained Student Engagement the CMA Way! (Grades 2-12) in *The Arts*, Program #2, Page 1.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

Program #11

Central

A Day at Cleveland State: Brains, Breaks, and Broadway

Place: Cleveland State Univ., Julka Hall, 2485 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115

Time: 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Kara Keating-Copeland

AGENDA

Spend your NEOEA Day at Cleveland State University for a unique blend of professional learning and wellness! Choose from expert-led sessions on AI in education, reflective teaching practices, and inclusive strategies for multilingual and twice-exceptional learners. Between sessions, recharge with calming wellness breaks—puppy therapy, yoga, art, and more. Enjoy lunch on campus, network with fellow educators, and wrap up the day with an optional evening of Broadway magic at Playhouse Square. Whether you're looking to grow your practice, learn something new, or simply restore your energy, this experience offers the perfect mix of brains, balance, and inspiration. Only \$25 per participant, with discounted theater tickets available for an additional fee. Choose this full-day CSU experience to refresh your perspective and return to your classroom energized! CEUs available.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$25 (lunch included). Make check payable to Cleveland State University. Send check and registration form to Kara Keating-Copeland, School of Public Affairs and Education, 1717 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115. For further information, contact Kara Keating-Copeland at k.keatingcopeland@csuohio.edu or 216.687.6889. **Deadline:** Sept. 15, 2025. **(Limited to 100 participants.)**

Program #12

East

From Chaos to Confidence

Place: Mahoning Co. Board of DD, 4791 Woodridge Dr., Austintown 44515

Time: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Lynn Seekford, SSA Supervisor, Mahoning County Board of DD

AGENDA

The morning session will involve exploring trauma and its impact on those we provide services for, co-workers and ourselves. We will also discover the mitigating effects of resiliency on trauma and how we can use positive experiences to affect trauma responses.

The afternoon session will lead us to setting up for success at work, helping others help others and building confidence in your work environment. We will practice "checking in" as well as "being heard and understood." We will identify barriers to confidence, enhanced decision-making and improved communication. Confidence benefits everyone!

Bonus Topics: Sources of strength and setting boundaries at work!!

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (lunch is available on your own with many options nearby). Send registration form to Lynn Seekford at lseekford@mahoningcountyoh.gov. For further information, contact Lynn Seekford at lseekford@mahoningcountyoh.gov or 330.799.2671. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. **(Limited to 50 participants.)**

See also

Fill Your Cup: A Wellness Workshop for Educators in General, Program #8, Page 2.

MUSIC

Program #13

Central

Dance On! Folk Dancing to Enhance Your Teaching and Your School Climate

Place: Cleveland State University, Music and Communication Bldg., 2001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland 44115

Time: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Angela Perrine

AGENDA

Through folk dancing, we will explore ways that dance can be used to teach general music standards, to enhance social and emotional learning, and to build community. Session will include traditional American set dances and a toolkit of tips and tricks, all aimed at getting students up and dancing—quickly, easily, and joyfully.

Our instructor, Sue Hulsether, is a dance caller, teaching artist, and music educator from Wisconsin. In her 20 year of school residencies, she has danced with tens of thousands of school children. Before her time as a full-time caller, she spent 13 years teaching elementary music. Fueled by these years of music and dance in the schools, Sue now travels to present workshops and clinics for teachers—teaching teachers how to teach dance.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$25 (lunch included). Make check payable to AOSA Chapter 1. Send check and registration form to Katie Woodring, 354 Westgrove Court, Medina, OH 44256. For further information, contact Angie Perrine at clevelandorff@gmail.com or 216.255.4434. **Deadline:** Oct. 1, 2025. **(Limited to 60 participants.)**

Program #14

Central

Giant Steps: Strategies for Teaching Jazz Improvisation (Grades 6-12)

Place: Cuyahoga Community College, Metropolitan Campus, 2900 Community College Avenue, Cleveland 44115

Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Santina Protopapa, Executive Director, Creative Arts at Tri-C

AGENDA

This dynamic workshop is designed specifically for middle and high school band teachers seeking effective strategies to engage students in developing their skills in improvisation. The workshop will be led by noted musicians Dominick Farinacci and Steve Kortyka. Workshop participants will explore practical methods for introducing improvisation, including scale-based exercises, chord progressions, and suggested songs to use at each stage of development. The workshop leaders will demonstrate how to create a supportive classroom environment that develops students' unique voice and confidence. Teachers will gain hands-on experience with techniques that can be adapted for students at multiple skill levels. Attendees can expect to receive resource materials and learn effective ways to coach students on how to develop a practice routine.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$25 (lunch included). Register online at <https://www.tri-c.edu/neoea>. For further information, contact Karah Vance at karah.vance@tri-c.edu or 216.987.4574. **Deadline:** Sept. 19, 2025. **(Limited to 50 participants.)**

SCIENCE

Program #15

East

Launch into Learning: Mastering the Science of Catapults (Grades 3-8)

Place: Williamson Innovation Park, 8399 Tippecanoe Road, Canfield 44406

Time: 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Michelle Channing, YSU

AGENDA

Students love seeing science come to life through hands-on activities, especially when they are allowed to launch items across the classroom or outside. Through this PD, participants will use the engineer design process to build and test a simple catapult and/or trebuchet that can launch a pumpkin. The morning will conclude with a live trebuchet demonstration.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$10 (no lunch break). Make check payable to Youngstown State University (add STEM Professional SVCS on the memo line). Send check and registration form to YSU,

Continued on page 4

1 Tressel Way, Silvestri Hall 219, Youngstown, OH 44555. For further information, contact Michelle Channing at mlchanning@ysu.edu or 330.941.2132. **Deadline:** Sept. 24, 2025. **(Limited to 30 participants.)**

See also

Taking Up Space (Grades 4-12) in **STEAM**, Program #18, Page 4.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Program #16

Central

The Ethiopian Table: A Culinary Tradition

Place: Zoma Ethiopian Restaurant, 2240 Lee Road, Cleveland Hts. 44118

Time: 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Karen Winston-Carpenter, NEOEA Minority Organizing Chairperson



AGENDA

Step into the rich and flavorful world of Ethiopian culture through a hands-on dining experience that goes beyond the plate. This immersive experience provides insight into the country's culinary traditions, social values, and vibrant heritage; offering a unique opportunity to connect with global culture through taste and tradition.

Our presenter is Zeleke Belted who will share insights into Ethiopian culture while guiding participants through an authentic traditional Ethiopian coffee ceremony and cuisine experience.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$15 for lunch, payable at event. Send registration form to Karen Winston-Carpenter at kwsweets78@yahoo.com. For further information, contact Karen Winston-Carpenter at kwsweets78@yahoo.com. **Deadline:** Sept. 26, 2025. **(Limited to 20 participants.)**

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Program #17

Virtual

Out-of-the-Box Emotional Regulation for Autistic Students

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Presenter: Abbey Rich, Monarch Center for Autism



AGENDA

Throughout the webinar, participants will be immersed in concepts, tools and techniques that successfully teach emotional regulation to autistic students. Attendees will walk away with a thorough understanding and toolkit of methods that can be applied in both school and home settings. Agenda items will include:

- Review traditional methods of teaching emotions and why they tend to be ineffective for autistic students.
- Define key terms (e.g., sensory processing, sensory integration, regulation, interoceptive awareness).
- Learn how to utilize two approaches that effectively teach autistic students how to identify emotions during times of distress and apply related coping strategies.
- Evaluate numerous case studies that demonstrate the success of these approaches.
- Time will be provided for questions and answers.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration form to Lauren DeMinico at Monarch School, 22001 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Hts., OH 44118. For further information, contact Lauren DeMinico at DeminicoL@bellefairejcb.org. **Deadline:** Oct. 6, 2025. **(Limited to 500 participants.)**

See also

Behavior Support Acronyms Unpacked: Making Sense of FBAs and BIPs in Guidance/Psychology/Pupil Services, Program #9, Page 2.

From Chaos to Confidence in Multi-Disciplinary, Program #12, Page 3.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)

Program #18

Central

Taking Up Space (Grades 4-12)

Place: Ohio Aerospace Institute, 22800 Cedar Point Road, Cleveland, 44142

Time: 8:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Jill Marconi

AGENDA

Join the Ohio Space Grant Consortium, OSGC, wholly affiliated with Parallax Advanced Research, as we imagine life on Mars and provide the tools necessary to design your own Martian habitat considering the unique environmental challenges and needs of living on another planet. This activity incorporates simple 3D design, using Tinkercad, and printing to create models of selected objects for the habitat. Please bring your own device. A mouse will be helpful for designing in Tinkercad. Participants will also be given a tour of NASA Glenn Research Center which is located next door to our offices. **Tour participants will need to have a Real ID to go on the tour.** During the workshop, we will provide information about completing an OSGC Mini-Grant application to get a 3D printer for your classroom (or other needed supplies). Lunch will be provided.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (lunch included). Register at <https://forms.gle/MPmXozuWnaZcXMkY9>. For further information, contact Jill Marconi at Jill.Marconi@ParallaxResearch.org or 330.717.6191. **Deadline:** Sept. 19, 2025. **(Limited to 25 participants.)**

See also

A Day at Cleveland State: Brains, Breaks, and Broadway in **Multi-Disciplinary**, Program #11, Page 3.

Launch into Learning: Mastering the Science of Catapults (Grades 3-8) in **Science**, Program #15, Page 3.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Program #19

Virtual

A Goal Without a Plan is Just a Wish: Planning for a Secure Retirement for Early and Mid-Career Education Employees

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Guy Kendall-Freas, NEA Member Benefits



AGENDA

The importance of planning for retirement AND starting early cannot be understated. Many people freeze up and do nothing when they don't know how to begin or what to do next. Understanding how to start, what your options are, how they work, and when to

make changes is crucial. This session will provide you with the knowledge to avoid inaction and feel confident about your financial future. As the old saying goes, those who fail to plan, plan to fail. Using the learnings of this session will ensure that you will not fail.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Log on at <https://neamb.zoom.us/j/86545813397?pwd=X43t9aHRQekNBXDem49bNKDgJDSrfm.1> (Meeting ID: 865 4581 3397, Passcode: 301158). For further information, contact Guy Kendall-Freas at gkendall-freas@neamb.com or 419.610.3211. **Deadline:** Oct. 10, 2025. **(Limited to 100 participants.)**

Program #20

Virtual

Beyond the Bell... Money Planning for Life

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Dennis Lewis, NEOEA Personal Welfare & Financial Planning Chairperson



AGENDA

This presentation will address the broad general topic of financial planning, supplemental retirement funds, investment plans and how these items can help

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education employees — from an educational perspective — not marketing perspective — provide for a better financial life.

State pensions deliver a basic income at retirement. But these benefits only provide 60-70% of active workplace compensation. Advance planning will enable educators to maintain or enhance their standard of living in retirement. And we also like to live comfortably during our careers as just about every financial event in life can be accommodated through proper planning.

The program is appropriate for educators of all levels of experience including newer colleagues as everyone should start thinking about retirement as soon as they set foot in a school. Attend this program and learn:

- Why financial planning is so important
- Basic steps in the financial planning process
- How to use the power of compounding to work to your best advantage
- What benefits you will be expected to provide on your own in retirement

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Register online at <https://neoea.condohome.net/> or send registration form to Dennis Lewis, PO Box 360426, Strongsville, OH 44136. For further information, contact Dennis Lewis at utp@condohome.net or 440.572.3472. **Deadline:** Oct. 8, 2025. (Unlimited number of participants.)

Program #21 *Central*

Family Fun on the Farm: Explore, Learn, Discover at Your Own Pace—Self-Guided Tours at Majestic Meadows Alpacas

Place: Majestic Meadows Alpaca Farm and Boutique, 4195 Abbeyville Road, Medina, 44256

Time: opens at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Suzie Neff



AGENDA

Step into a world of wonder where learning happens naturally! Take a self-guided tour at Majestic Meadows Alpacas and enjoy an enriching outdoor experience. Set on a peaceful farm surrounded by nature, the farm invites guests to explore at their own pace, engaging with over 70 alpacas and a wide variety of fascinating animals. Along the way, you'll encounter and learn about:

- Miniature donkeys, miniature horses, goats, sheep, llamas, and miniature cows
- Unique and exotic species like kangaroos, wallabies, rabbits, potbellied pigs, tortoises, camels, and turkeys.
- Tours are self-guided; farm staff can answer questions or direct you to the next location/activity.

Educational signs throughout the farm provide fun facts, habitat info, and insights into animal care, encouraging curiosity and inde-

pendent discovery. This is outdoor learning at its best. This is a rain or shine activity.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: Adults: \$12.50, children 3-18: \$12.50, children 2 & under: free, grain (to feed the animals): \$3.50/bag (optional). All reservations (<https://forms.gle/X2oyQ3ftAf6NUz1x9>) and payments must be received by Sept. 23, 2025. Payment can be sent via Venmo to Suzie-Neff-16 or mailed to Suzie Neff, 945 Hickory Grove Ave., Medina, OH 44256. **Deadline:** Sept. 23, 2025.

Program #22 *Virtual*

Good-bye Tension, Hello Pension! But Are You Really Ready for Retirement?

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Guy Kendall-Freas, NEA Member Benefits



AGENDA

This session will provide you with the tools to help you navigate the necessary steps to prepare for retirement. Understanding STRS/SERS/PERS, managing your current investments, understanding strategies to maximize your severance and ensuring you are as effective and efficient as possible are crucial components. This guidance will help you understand what your retirement could potentially look like and assist in deciding what changes, if any, need to be made. Retirement is about time and money. Use the time between now and your retirement to maximize money and your retirement security.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Log on at <https://neamb.zoom.us/j/85702539328?pwd=Xp83JE2lvGjXijQCUHfEB39ET9cYqX.1> (Meeting ID: 857 0253 9328, Passcode: 968072). For further information, contact Guy Kendall-Freas at gkendall-freas@neamb.com or 419.610.3211. **Deadline:** Oct. 10, 2025. (Limited to 100 participants.)

Program #23 *West*

Guided Naturalist Hike at George Jones Farm and Nature Preserve

Place: George Jones Farm, 44333 St. Rt. 511, Oberlin 44074

Time: 12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Anna Kiss Mauser-Martinez



AGENDA

Join the farmers and naturalists who work at the farm on a guided hike through the GJF property. We are home to many biomes, landscapes, flora, fungi, and fauna. Prepare to hike at a moderately brisk pace, venture off trail, and discuss environmental topics impacting our farm, watershed, and local communities.

Materials: Participants should come prepared to hike, in appropriate layers and footwear.

Prep: Participants can expect to walk up to 3 miles. Hikes will continue on as scheduled, rain or shine, and will only be canceled for severe weather.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$10 (pack your lunch). Make check payable to City Fresh. Send check and registration form to City Fresh, PO Box 357, Oberlin, OH 44074. For further information, contact Emma Miner at emma@cityfresh.org or 720.320.6367. **Deadline:** Oct. 6, 2025. (Limited to 25 participants.)

Program #24 *Virtual*

How Money Works — Stop Being a Sucker!

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Tim Polak



AGENDA

Financial illiteracy is the #1 economic crisis in the world. We know the word 'sucker' sounds insulting. Unfortunately, that's the best way to describe someone who can be taken advantage of because they don't know how things work. And not knowing how money works does suck.

It can suck up your time, suck up your freedom, and even suck up your income. Now that sucks!

Over 5 billion people in the world are considered financially illiterate. That references the shocking results of a recent global study. In the study, only 30% of people in the world are considered financially literate. The study used a quiz to reveal that the vast majority of people from countries all over the world were unable to correctly answer a few simple questions about money. This class will teach you the answers to those questions—and many more. It's the reason we teach this course and hopefully it's why you're here.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: \$25 (no lunch break). Make check payable to Tim Polak. Send check and registration form to Tim Polak, 9328 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland OH 44094. For further information, contact Tim Polak at tim.polak@wealthwave.com or 440.223.1852. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. (Limited to 100 participants.)

Program #25 *Virtual*

Keeping Current with STRS Ohio

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.

Presenter: Christina Elliott, STRS Ohio



AGENDA

Join Christina Elliott, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Benefits Officer, for an update on STRS Ohio. Attendees will hear a brief presentation on the general status of the system followed by a question-and-answer period.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Registration at https://strsoh.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EgSaWo_OwViWd70g. For further information, contact Tamla Cole at colet@strsoh.org or 614.227.8661. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. (Limited to 100 participants.)

Program #26

Central

Lakeview Cemetery Tour

Place: Lakeview Cemetery, 12316 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 44106

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Chairperson: Becky Higgins

AGENDA

What do President James A. Garfield, radio disc jockey Alan Freed, Cleveland Browns owner Al Lerner, Elliot Ness (a member of The Untouchables), and John D. Rockefeller (the founder of the Standard Oil Company) have in common? They are all buried in Lakeview Cemetery located in Cleveland, Ohio. There are so many other famous historical figures located in the cemetery—each with their own stories. Join us on October 10 as we take a guided tour of this beautiful resting place while learning about many of the movers and shakers of Cleveland's past. Two sights we will for sure see and hear about are the James A. Garfield Memorial and the Jephtha Wade Memorial Chapel. The Tiffany window in the chapel is a true work of art.

There are some paths for wheelchairs but some areas will be on grass.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Send registration form to Becky Higgins at 2639 Fairland St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221. For further information, contact Becky Higgins at iunut2002@yahoo.com or 330.703.0306. **Deadline:** Oct. 8, 2025. (Limited to 30 participants.)

Program #27

Virtual

The NEA College Benefit—Making College Affordable for NEOEA Members and their Families

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. OR 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Guy Kendall-Freas, NEA Member Benefits

AGENDA

With the cost of higher education continuing to increase, getting an education with little or debt seems so elusive. NEA Member Benefits has partnered with Edvance to break down the barriers to an education. We work with mission-aligned academic

partners to provide members in-demand education programs and pathways delivered 100% online. We combine exclusive member discounts, available financial aid, and cost-conscious program design to minimize—and in many cases eliminate—student out-of-pocket costs and debt.

We guide students through the program selection, application and enrollment process and provide ongoing support throughout each student's education and career journey:

- Professionally-vetted, regionally-

North Eastern Ohio Education Association
6001 Landerhaven Drive, Suite D
Mayfield Heights, OH 44124-4190

accredited institutions

- Exclusive member discounts — up to 50% off tuition
- Transfer-friendly regionally accredited schools
- 100% online career-focused Associate, Bachelor's and Graduate degrees

If you or a member of your family is looking for an affordable, flexible, and convenient way to go to college, you'll want to be sure to attend this session.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Log on at <https://edvance-online.zoom.us/j/82239908317> (Meeting ID: 822 3990 8317; Passcode: 042911). For further information, contact Guy Kendall-Freas at gkendall-freas@neamb.com or 419.610.3211. **Deadline:** Oct. 10, 2025. (Limited to 100 participants.)

Program #28

Virtual

STRS Ohio: Getting Down to Benefits

Place: Will be held by videoconference

Time: 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m.

Presenter: Tamla Cole, STRS Ohio

AGENDA

It's never too soon (or late) to plan for retirement! Join this virtual session to learn about retirement eligibility, benefit payment

options, and health care considerations. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and access key resources.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None. Registration at https://strsoh.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xYl8OeLRfiYOf0K-V4FQ. For further information, contact Tamla Cole at colet@strsoh.org or 614.227.8661. **Deadline:** Oct. 3, 2025. (Limited to 65 participants.)

Program #29

Central

Wellness and Crafting

Place: Beachwood Branch Library, 25501 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood, 44122

Time: 9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Tammy LaPlante



AGENDA

This session will show you everything you need to get started with the basics of knitting or crocheting. We'll also cover common beginner mistakes and how to fix them. Finally, we'll introduce beginner patterns and a roadmap for what to create next along with helpful hints and videos. Knitting and crocheting engages various brain functions, potentially boosting mental well-being by reducing stress, enhancing memory, and stimulating creativity. The repetitive, rhythmic movements of knitting and crocheting can induce a relaxation response, while the focus required for intricate patterns helps sharpen cognitive functions. So why not join us as you learn a new skill with so many positive outcomes to show for it.

RESERVATIONS

Cost: None (no lunch break). Send registration form to Tammy LaPlante at laplante.aacse@gmail.com. For further information, contact Tammy LaPlante at laplante.aacse@gmail.com or 440.563.6229. **Deadline:** Oct. 1, 2025. (Limited to 12 participants.)