



NEOEA - Retired

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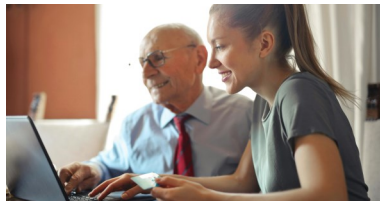
Tom Moscovic, Willoughby-Eastlake TA-R

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NEOEA-R/KSEA Mentoring

The Mentoring Program has been very successful for 15 years with the Kent Student Education Association (KSEA). We will gather Mentors and Mentees in September of 2024. If you are a Mentor you become the students professional friend. You are matched with students that are studying what you taught before retirement. The last two years we have gone virtually by phone, email, and facetime. This year campus visits can also be arranged. Working virtually has been successful because of students' busy schedules and some Mentors located some distances from Kent.



Please let us know if you are interested in becoming a MENTOR this September. Let us know what grades you have taught, primary, middle school, or the subjects in high school.

If you have questions, email Beryl or Nanci and leave your phone number. We will talk with you and answer all your questions. Mentoring KSEA students is fun. It is worthwhile because you will become their Professional Friend.

BerylBurkle@gmail.com or Nanci Dibianca rcfd871@gmail.com

Holden Arboretum Tour

NEOEA-R members visited the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland in May. Our event included a tram tour around the grounds followed by a box lunch. In addition to the gardens the Canopy Walk above the trees and Boardwalk were available to attendees. We plan to hold additional group fun related activities in the future.





Read Across America via KSEA

The students at KSEA planned two family programs in Kent at Suffield School and Brimfield Schools. The students planned activities for reading for ages K-6 and invited families to bring the children for an hour of fun. These were original games that the children could play. Each school had participants from family members. KSEA students arranged the evening and the games and you could hear the laughter of the children and their parents. The groups read a Democracy Book and all quietly listened. In years past KSEA students have done Read Across America readings in Ravenna. OEA-R gave them a monetary gift to buy materials this year.

NEOEA-R We have continued to do our reading in Northeast Ohio in classrooms, churches and anywhere children are gathered.

berylburkle@gmail.com and Nanci Dibianca
rcfd871@gmail.com

OEA-R 2024 Spring Election Results



The following persons were elected to the **Ohio Education Retired Advisory Council** and others will serve NEOEA-Retired members at the NEA Representative Assembly in July in Minneapolis:

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Chair – Mary Binegar, Central
- Vice Chair – Phil Long, WOE
- Education Support Professional – Becky Cashell, NCOEA
- Higher Education Representative – Open
- Eastern Representative – Lee Gillison
- North Central Representative – Rebecca Mayer-Radel
- Northwestern Representative – Lisa Marshall Scott

NEOEA NEA RETIRED DELEGATES

Peg Ham, Steven D. Mitchell and Jené Wilson

NEOEA Summer Leadership

Summer is here and that means our **SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** will be held soon at our new location at *Corporate College East* on **July 17-18, 2024**.

We offer two days of training for you, local leaders and all members. This year we are offering amazing sessions on Wednesday afternoon, as well as a presidents' track, building representative training, leadership sessions, and grievance processing training on Thursday – to name just a few of the topics. We have something for all members – regardless of your title or your position in the local.



Our Keynote speaker is Danielle Wiggins from WKYC. Graduate credit is also available from Lake Erie College. Registration closes July 10.

<https://neoea.org/files/SLC2024.pdf>

OEA Spring Representative Assembly Report



Spring 2024
Representative
Assembly

Members of the Representative Assembly elected the following statewide candidates from NEOEA:

Rob McFee (Willoughby-Eastlake T.A.) – OEA Secretary-Treasurer (term ending July 14, 2027)

Sharron Callahan (Cardinal E.A.) – NEA Director #5 (term ending 8/31/2027)

Passed the following New Business Items:

- SP-2024-01 – The OEA shall convene an OEA member Special Education Workgroup to examine issues related to special education workload and caseload limits, educator retention, and the delivery of special education services and provide recommendations for OEA resolutions, legislative policies, and model contract language to improve service delivery and working conditions for staff.
- SP-2024-02 – The OEA will convene a Dues Study Task Force to review education support professional (ESP) dues and make recommendations for any necessary changes to the ESP dues formula.

Referred the following New Business Item to the Resolutions Committee:

- SP-2024-03 – OEA stands against Asian Hatred and desires to promote tolerance and acceptance of Asian Americans and the contributions they have made to America.

Voted on the following Constitution and Bylaws Proposals:

- #1 – To Amend Article V, Section 10 of the Ohio Education Association (OEA) Constitution would eliminate outdated language on board “Action Without Meeting” and replace it with new language that will allow the Board to address matters that arise immediately before (preliminary) or after (postliminary) a meeting or event. To facilitate this, the Board can poll its members using telephone, email, or text message. – PASSED
- #2 – To amend Section 8-3(b)(c) of the OEA Bylaws to replace the specific names of recognized caucuses with a general reference to "each recognized OEA caucus." – PASSED
- #3 – To Amend OEA Constitution Article VI, Section 2, to update qualifications for elected officers to include full-time service to the OEA as fulfilling the requirement of being actively engaged in the education profession in Ohio. To Amend Bylaw 2-1(c) to clarify the definition of "actively engaged in the education profession" within the

Constitution to include serving in a full-time elected position within the OEA. – PASSED

- #4 – To amend Article X, Section 2(d) of the OEA Constitution to change the voting requirement for constitutional amendments from a three-fourths (3/4) vote to a two-thirds (2/3) vote of delegates at the Representative Assembly. – FAILED

Information from the OEA RA:

The following Constitution articles were read by title for possible amendment at the December 2024 RA:

Article II – Membership; Article IV – Representative Assembly; Article V – Board of Directors; Article VI – Officers; Article IX – Affiliates; Article X – Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws

Takeaways:

Electing pro-public education candidates to office and passing ballot measures to strengthen our democracy and economy are top OEA priorities for 2024. Delegates welcomed **endorsed US Senator Sherrod Brown**, who gave a rousing address to the Representative Assembly, while raising funds for his campaign and the OEA Fund and also turned in hundreds of signatures in **support of the Citizens Not Politicians Campaign**. *Please be on the lookout for information on how you can get involved in OEA's Campaign 2024 program.*

Addressing challenges related to student behavior and mental health was a major issue discussed throughout RA weekend, including at a pre-RA professional development session led by OEA staff and legal plan attorneys. As part of the strategy to improve working and learning conditions in our schools, delegates unanimously adopted a new resolution supporting strong limits on the student of cellphones and personal electronic devices –

Join us on July 20 for the OEA Educational Foundation gala at COSI in Columbus in support of diversity and innovation in our classrooms and the needs of economically disadvantaged students – <https://www.ohea.org/foundationgala/>

Public Education Partners



PEP is an organization that helps individuals become a grassroots public education advocate.

Through citizen advocacy, we must make PUBLIC EDUCATION a nonpartisan focus of every election – local, state, and national.

Below are some ideas, including suggestions.

- Start a local school district grassroots advocacy group to focus on supporting students, teachers, and education professionals in your public schools. Counteract those faux grassroots groups being organized and resourced by those who do not support public education.
- Establish relationships with people who are already actively engaged, such as people who have worked on school levy campaigns and those who work with

foundations or run referendum efforts. Invite them to join you, identify your shared concerns and goals.

- Build relationships with the people elected to represent your community and schools. Knowing where candidates stand on issues that impact our public schools is essential to electing strong supporters of our students. Hold our elected officials accountable for votes that benefit our students and public schools once elected.
- Connect with local leaders, parent groups, educators, community members, and business owners who support local schools. Assist them in hosting a series of community discussions of education ideology, issues, and policies for the opportunity to talk about what matters to all of us: making sure that every child in the community can attend an excellent school and knowing that strong schools are the heart of strong communities.
- Get involved with your local school board. Attend meetings, share your opinions, suggestions, and ideas in the time allotted for public comments. Find out if your school district has joined the Vouchers Hurt Ohio lawsuit against the state for the private/parochial school voucher program, and if not, strongly encourage its participation.
- Know who is running for election to your school board. There is a national strategy, orchestrated and funded by several school-privatization organizations, to recruit and train extreme candidates to take over school boards. A group called How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse has put together a regularly updated list of extremist candidates to avoid and a document that explains how one can identify extremist candidates.
- Get to know your state school board members, as well as your legislators, and make sure they know you. Write, call, attend listening sessions, and share your concerns, ideas, and values. Decision-makers and lawmakers need to hear from us. Often.
- Let State School Board members know that you support their efforts to block the governor's unconstitutional takeover of the mostly-elected state school board.

Here are a few things you can do to stay informed and in touch with Ohio Legislators:

- Follow and respond to them on social media
- Add their office numbers to your phone contacts
- Call and ask to be added to their mailing lists
- Watch for announcements of constituent coffees or office hours
- Invite legislators to community events
- Testify in-person or send written testimony to give opinions about proposed policies.
- Write letters to the editor as a fast, free, and effective way to reach your entire community to let them know why you support your local public schools. Effective letters are short (250 words or less) and to the point, and connect the larger issue or concern to community needs. Make it personal by sharing your story or perspective, and appeal to values you share with your community. Stay focused, and include a suggested action or information on how to support education advocacy efforts in your letter.

More information about PEP and how you can be an advocate: <https://neoea-r.ohea.us/2024/02/04/what-is-pep-public-education-partners/>

Webinar Replays

OEA-R presented several webinars this school year. You may watch replays of these online events at the following links...



OEA-R Understanding GPO/WEP

OEA-R/STRS So You're Turning 65

OEA-R Slide Into Success

OEA-R Zoom with Freedom Fighter Charles Black

NEOEA Discounts at Playhouse Square



NEOEA members have discounts for highly-anticipated shows in the KeyBank Broadway Series.

- ◆ **Back to the Future** - Jun 11-Jul 7 | KeyBank State
- ◆ **MJ** – Jul 16-Aug 11 | KeyBank State Theatre
- ◆ **Come From Away**—Aug. 13-18, 2024 | Connor Palace

Use promo code listed in the Playhouse Square area of Announcements at neoea.org, accessible after logging in, and save up to 65% off select performances and seating locations with reduced handling fees! GET TICKETS: <https://tickets.playhousesquare.org/g04/Online/default.asp>

NEA & OEA Discounts



<https://www.ohea.org/member-center/member-benefits/>

- ◆ **NEA Member Benefits:** For questions call 1.800.637.4636 (toll free); <https://www.neamb.com/>
- ◆ **NEA Student Debt Navigator:** <https://www.neamb.com/products/nea-student-debt-navigator>
- ◆ **NEA Travel Dollars**—Enroll in NEA Travel and receive \$500 Travel Dollars to use like cash when you book a vacation. <https://www.neamb.com/products/nea-travel-dollars>
- ◆ **NEA Discount Marketplace:** <https://www.neamb.com/products/nea-discount-marketplace>
- ◆ **OEA ACCESS:** <https://ohea.accessdevelopment.com/>
- ◆ **OEA/NEA Attorney Referral and Discount Information:** <https://neoea.org/files/ARP.pdf>
- ◆ **NEOEA Member Benefits:** <https://neoea.org/Education-Union/Member-Benefits>

- ◆ **Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse:** <https://www.rocketmortgagefieldhouse.com/group/detail/fieldhouseplus> Code: OEA22

NEOEA Discounts

Visit <https://neoea.org/Education-Union/Member-Benefits>

- ◆ **Bedrooms Today:** <https://neoea.org/MemberData/2019-01-BedroomsToday.pdf>
- ◆ **Best Benefits Club:** <https://bestbenefitsclub.com/>
- ◆ **Bright Now! Dental:** <https://www.brightnow.com/>
<https://neoea.org/files/BrightNowFlyer.pdf>
- ◆ **Ohio Educational Credit Union:** <https://neoea.org/MemberData/ohecu-loan.pdf>
- ◆ **Park Place:** Discount airport parking: <https://neoea.org/MemberData/ParkPlace.pdf>
- ◆ **Great Lakes Science Center:** <https://greatscience.com/educators>

NEOEA-R Calendar

<http://neoea-r.ohea.us/calendar/>

Jul 3-7	NEA Annual Meeting
Jul 18-19	NEOEA Summer Leadership
Sep 25	OEA-R Fall Conference
Sep 10	NEOEA-R Organizing Committee



NEOEA Calendar

<https://neoea.org/Education-Union/NEOEA-Calendar>

OEA Information Update



Reminder: should you change your address, phone, or email address, please let the Membership Department at OEA know.

<https://www.ohea.org/member-center/member-update-form/>

Additional membership questions?
membership@ohea.org or InfOEA at 1-844-632-4636.

By doing this, it allows OEA-R Advisory Council District Reps to be able to let you know of upcoming events in your District. It also gives the Advisory Council the ability to send you important details via email. If you know of friends that are active members that are retiring this year, please inform Lisa Marshall-Scott at lisascott4850@gmail.com.

Join OEA-R / NEA-R

Life Membership information and forms are available at:

<https://oea-r.ohea.us/join/how-to-join/>

Join Online: <https://www.mynea360.org/s/join-now>