Summary: NEOEA Representative Assembly
November 7, 2026
Brookside High School in Sheffield Village

The North Eastern Ohio Education Association held the fall meeting of its Representative Assembly on Saturday, November 7, at Brookside High School in Sheffield Village.

The Representative Assembly serves as NEOEA's top governing body, following a structure similar to that of the National Education Association (NEA) and the Ohio Education Association (OEA), with which NEOEA is affiliated. Representation is proportional, with each local association allotted at least two delegates and larger locals receiving additional representation.

Presiding at his first Representative Assembly, NEOEA President Andrew Smith welcomed 223 delegates and 36 guests. He acknowledged veterans in attendance and expressed gratitude to NEOEA Past Presidents, new delegates, committee members, and the NEOEA Board of Directors. President Smith discussed the election held this past Tuesday. He thanked all members who worked to help elect pro-public education candidates and emphasized the importance of continuing that momentum. He reminded delegates that it is our responsibility as educators and union members to champion public education by sharing the great things happening in our schools, celebrating student successes, and highlighting the positive impact public education has on our communities every day.

He stressed the importance of having a seat at the table with legislators and other decision-makers to advocate for the resources and support needed to strengthen our schools and ensure a high-quality education for every student. Andrew also encouraged local associations to take advantage of NEOEA and OEA grants to fund initiatives that promote public education, engage their communities, and strengthen advocacy efforts at the local level.

President Smith welcomed newly-elect Ohio Representative (HD 16) Scott DiMauro who thanked everyone for helping him win. One of Scott's top priorities is to fairly fund public schools.

OEA Vice President Dan Greenberg appeared via video to update us on legislative issues. He noted that more people are contributing to the OEA Fund—keep up the good work! Dan discussed items that may be brought up and passed during this session. He encouraged members to talk with their members and community about what is happening at the state that affects public education. He thanked everyone for what they do every day.

During the Legislative Committee's report, delegates participated in a fundraiser for the OEA Fund, contributing a total of $5,335.

In OEA Secretary-Treasurer Rob McFee's video, he discussed the financial report and highlights that will be discussed at the OEA RA in December. He discussed the streamlining of the grant programs making it easier for locals to receive money. He encouraged all locals to fill out the Local Assessment Tool, Local Capacity Grant, and Wellness Grant. Autopay was extremely successful.

At the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, delegates adopted the 2026-27 NEOEA Resolutions, a document containing 188 statements of Association principles. Delegates approved eight resolutions:

- A-1, Public Education
- A-3, State Board of Education and Other Public Offices
- A-11, School District Reorganization
- A-12, Takeover of Public Schools or Public School Districts
- B-10, World and Classical Language Education
- B-12, ELL and MLL Education
- B-13, Economic Life Skills
- C-35, Vaccinations

Anne Cleary (Olmsted Falls EA) was elected as NEOEA Unit 2 Representative, Carol Correthers (Lorain EA) was elected as OEA/NEOEA Unit 1 Representative, Crystal Boyd Funderburk (Hudson EA) was elected as OEA/NEOEA Unit 7 Representative, and Jerry Turillo (Boardman EA) was elected as OEA/NEOEA Unit 8 Representation—all by acclamation.

With no nominations received for NEOEA Unit 6 Representative or NEOEA ESP Representative-at-Large, elections for those seats will be held in the spring.

Delegates made an early endorsement of Rob McFee for OEA Secretary-Treasurer as well as Sharron Callahan for NEA Director #5. Both positions will be elected at the May 2027 OEA RA.

Jason Scherer, President-elect and Chairperson of the NEOEA Finance Committee, presented the annual audit report, confirming that NEOEA received a clean audit.

The Social and Human Concerns Committee sponsored a cleaning supplies drive for the local community.

Delegates honored winners of four categories of NEOEA awards.

- The Legislative Committee recognized locals who are leaders in two categories for contributions to the OEA Fund.
  - Locals with the highest dollar contributions per member:

Unit 1	Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA
Unit 2	Lakewood TA
Unit 3	East Cleveland EA
Unit 4	Brunswick EA
Unit 5	Howland Classroom TA
Unit 6	Painesville City TA
Unit 7	Twinsburg EA
Unit 8	Field Local TA
Unit 9East	LEADD
Unit 9West	Akron ACP
Higher Ed Unit	YSU-OEA

  - Locals with the most improved dollar contributions per member:

Unit 1	Clearview EA
Unit 2	Fairview Park EA
Unit 3	Orange TA
Unit 4	Strongsville EA

Unit 5	Lakeview TA
Unit 6	Mentor TA
Unit 7	Twinsburg EA
Unit 8	Field Local TA
Unit 9East	Streetsboro SSPA
Unit 9West	Akron Classified
Higher Ed Unit	YSU-OEA

- The Public Relations Committee recognized winning entries in the 2025-26 Communications Contest Awards.
  - Honorable Mention certificates were given to:
    - Bedford EA for *BEA Beacon*
    - Chardon EA for *CEA Update*
    - Elyria EA for *EEA Connection*
    - Field Local TA for *In Talk*
    - Lakeview TA for *LTA Update*
    - Madison EA for *MEA Newsletter*
    - Orange TA for *OTA News*
    - Painesville City TA for *PCTA Newsletter*
    - Parma EA for *PEA Strong*
    - Vermilion TA for *VTA Member Newsletter*
    - Warren EA for *WEA Update*
    - Warrensville EA for *WEA News & Views*
    - Willoughby-Eastlake TA for *WETA News*
  - Westlake TA received a $100 award as the Medium Local winner for *WTA Newsletter*.
  - Strongsville EA received a $100 award as the Large Local winner for *The Strongsville EA Newsletter*.
  - The Outstanding Communications for 2025-26 received a $200 cash award: Akron Association of Classified Personnel for *AACP Newsletter*.
- Delegates honored 41 local affiliates as NEOEA's Five Star Locals for 2025-26:

Akron Assn. of Class. Pers.
Austintown EA #
Bay TA #
Bedford EA
Boardman EA
Brunswick EA
Cardinal EA #
Champion EA #
Chardon EA
Clearview EA
East Cleveland EA #
Elyria EA #
Euclid TA
Fairview Park EA #
Field Local TA #
Howland Classroom TA
Lakeview TA #
Lakewood TA
Madison EA #
Maple Hts. TA
Medina City TA
Mentor Class. Emp.
Norton Classroom TA
Oberlin Ohio EA *
Orange TA #
Painesville City TA #
Parma EA
Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA #
Southeast Local District TA #
Southington EA #

Streetsboro EA
Strongsville EA
Tallmadge TA
Trumbull CTC EA
Twinsburg EA #
Vermilion TA #
Warren EA
Warrensville EA
Waterloo EA
Westlake TA
Willoughby-Eastlake TA #

\# indicates local received all six stars available.
* indicates first-time recipient.

Northeastern Ohio delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly met in caucus to prepare for the upcoming OEA RA, which convenes on December 5.

OEA President Jeff Wensing's video highlighted the wins on Election Day. He thanked members who helped in any way with the elections. OEA will continue to fight for all Ohio students to receive a fully-funded public education. There is a new era of educators who are standing up for their profession. Mr. Wensing is looking forward to seeing everyone in Columbus in December.

The NEOEA Representative Assembly will hold its next Representative Assembly on Saturday, April 17, 2027, at Orange High School, 32000 Chagrin Blvd., Pepper Pike.