

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2016 Edition —Vol. 6

EDITORS:
KATHLEEN PURDY and
SALLY SMITH

RETIREES ARE EXPERIENCED

During a recent NEA Tele-Conference Town Hall meeting, NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia said the more than 312,000 members of NEA-Retired play a critical role in political advocacy because of experience, leadership roles and advocacy for communities and we are most likely to vote each election.

President Lily described how retirees are needed for local school boards, state boards and public office to strengthen public education because we share the same principles and core values.

NEA is interested in all retired members who are presently in elected offices. They are also interested in prepar-

ing retired members to become closely linked through awareness and education by identifying opportunities to engage, organize and activate other members, staff and stakeholders under the Every Student Succeeds Act. It replaced No Child Left Behind.

Along with this is the focus on state and local activism.

The NEA C4O (Center for Organizing) has a campaign vision to address the three Priorities on data collection pieces. 2,000,000 new educators will be hired in the next 5 years and they leave the profession for several reasons.



OEA-R at the June 29-30 NEA-R Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

The number one reason new educators leave the profession is because they don't feel supported. They also cite: 1. Conditions in the Classroom; 2. Social Justice; 3. Parental and Community Engagement and Educational Policy (testing, funding issues).

You may be called upon to provide guidance to locals.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN TITLE 1, ESSA

1. Basic Requirement: A school district may receive funds if it conducts outreach to all parents and family members.
2. District Policy: Each Title 1 school district shall

- develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of Title 1 children a written parent and family engagement policy.
3. Capacity-building: Dis-

- strict policy must provide technical assistance.
4. Annual Evaluation: This will show the effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools.

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Special points of interest:

- More relevance to members
- Improve the image of Educators
- Build OEA as a member resource for professional issues
- Be ready to Tell Your Story

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN TITLE 1, ESSA (CONTINUE)

5. **Minimum Spending:** Each district shall reserve at least 1 percent of its Title 1 funds to assist schools to carry out the parent and family engagement activities.
6. **Professional Development:** This will support schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for district and school staff about effective strategies.
7. **School Policy:** This policy is developed with and approved by parents in a language parents can understand.
8. **School-parent compact:** Jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, entire school staff and

- students share responsibility for improved student achievement.
9. **Parent-Teacher Communication:** The compact must describe how



Help Us to Keep Working for Our Communities

the school will provide regular, two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff.

10. **Dual Capacity-Building:** Title 1 districts must, with assistance from parents, educate teachers, support staff, school leaders, and other staff, in the importance of engaging families; how to work with parents as equal partners, and build ties between parents and the school.

The purpose of Title 1: "To provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps."

NEA-RETIRED 2016 ORGANIZING CONFERENCE

My trip to San Diego was truly a Wonderful Lifetime Experience and Opportunity! It is one that I will treasure for many years and given the opportunity, I would love to attend again.

I attended a few of the many workshops being offered. In particular, one addressed the position of the Constitution

"I was determined to make certain to learn ways to advocate along with the active members." by Joyce Hawkins Williams

and By-Laws. (I represent OEA-R on the district committee.) Another was on Finances, and tips on attracting new members to the local organization.

There were awesome motivational talks given during the whole convention at gathering times after meals. I

had the opportunity to work the phone bank for the upcoming presidential election for the candidates endorsed by NEA.

I met some very wonderful people from all across this country! I even met some more of my fellow Ohio members for the first time! We sat together and became better acquainted on a more personal level. I thank ECOEA and ECOEA-R for providing this opportunity! JHW

UNITE. INSPIRE. LEAD! NEA ANNUAL MEETING IN DC

The gathering in Washington, DC for our annual NEA-R Annual Meeting was very informative and motivating.

It was held June 29-30, 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel Downtown Washington and we honored our members and two students for their accomplishments. We also elected NEA-R Officers and Candidates to the Resolutions Committee.

We voluntarily contributed to the Jack Kinnaman Scholarship fund with 12 of us from Ohio donating \$280 as well as participating in the live auction which netted Ohio retirees the Dr. Sues quilt that would be hung in the OEA headquarters.



District Representative Kathleen and OEA-R Vice Chair Carol .

We continued to be very generous to the NEA fund, setting a new fundraising record this year.

Special thanks to OEA-R William Dorsey who assisted us with having the highest bid on the quilt, taking official photographs of each and making certain we enjoyed

our time at the 2016 NEA-Retired An-

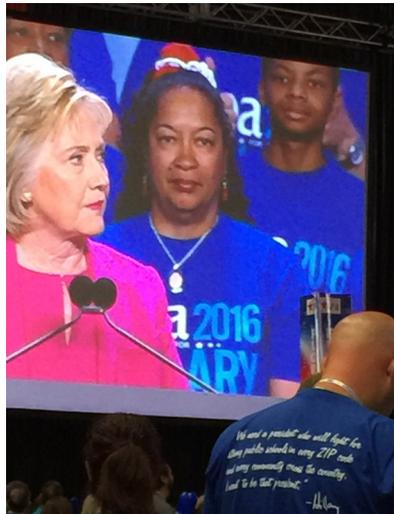
COMMIT TO VOTE FOR AMERICA’S FUTURE

During the 154th Annual Meeting of the NEA, held July 2-7, 2016 in Washington, DC, the 50th Anniversary of the NEA-ATA Merger was celebrated through song and historical facts.

Several of the members that drafted the language and brought the two unions together were present, including WWII veteran, Dr. Lucas, who at age 96 years-old received a standing ovation after he delivered the testimony from his contributions to this cause.

The recognition was held on the Fourth of July, one day before the NEA endorsed candidate for the office of President of the United States, Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton spoke for almost

an hour to the Delegates, Guests and NEA Officers, Executive Committee Members, Staff, new Officers and Inter-



national Guests.

NEA Director #4, Gretchen Washington from SWOEA (Southwestern Ohio Education Association) was standing immediately to the left of our NEA Endorsed Candidate, Democratic Presumptive Presidential Nominee, Mrs. Clinton.

She spoke very firmly on reforming our criminal justice system, making college more affordable and investing in high-quality public schools for all our kids and before appointing the next Education Secretary, she would seek the advice from the National Education Association Leadership. She was the first endorsed presidential candidate to address the RA since 1972, which was a question asked of her by the NEA Screening Committee if endorsed.

FUND FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) is primarily used to support candidates for political office. OEA has endorsed former Governor Ted Strickland for U.S.

Senate. At the NEA-R Annual Meeting, Kathleen Purdy announced she will be a candidate for District 8, Ohio School

“As of 6/16/2016/ there are 312, 397 NEA Retired Members, an increase of 5, 780.” see ohioballot.com for endorsements

Board. Throughout the last decade, the move from candidates who support most of our education concerns toward encouraging our own members to run for office has started the conversation. At both NEA and OEA, the value of

Retiree Candidates for local government and state wide offices is recognized as critical to our success in advocating the three Strategic Priorities and ESSA. Ac-

cording to President Higgins’ message in Ohio Schools, OEA’s candidate endorsements are available on ohioballot.com so that voters can see who educators support. This is important because in some races the candidates are not well-known and OEA is a trusted voice.

To contribute to the FCPE, go to www.ohea.org or phone 1-800-282-1500 or use the new contact center-InfoOEA– a one-stop connection for any questions, issues or other concerns.

JOIN THE NEW EDUCATOR CAMPAIGN: UNITE, INSPIRE, LEAD!

The New Educator Engagement, Recruitment and Support Campaign will position the association to become critical to the success of new educators and ultimately the success of all our students. The campaign supports affiliates and locals in recruiting and engaging new educators between July and November through one-on-one conversations. This will be followed by a tailored digital communications campaign– in

coordination with your State Affiliate– to begin providing the support new educators need to be successful in their new career.

During the 2016 OEA Summer Leadership Academy, OEA-R Staff Liaison Todd Jaeck has invited



neweducatorsupport@nea.org

interested retired members to attend an intensive session to support the NEA/OEA Strategic Priorities on this New Educator Program. The session is titled, “Organizing for the Schools Our Students Deserve” and retirees would then assist in their local districts to make personal contact and Training the Trainers.

KATHLEEN PURDY, ECOEA-R DISTRICT REP
361 BRIARCLIFF AVE. N.E.
ALLIANCE, OH 44601-2115

OEA-R MISSION STATEMENT

OEA-R IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ITS MEMBERS, PROMOTING MEMBER INVOLVEMENT WITHIN OEA, AND SUPPORTING PUBLIC EDUCATION.

OEA-R PURPOSE

1. Advance and promote the OEA programs for retired members and pre-retired subscribers.
2. Provide a structure for participation within the framework of the OEA.
3. Identify the needs and concerns of retired members.
4. Encourage cooperation and communication among all segments of the public education profession.

ADDRESS LABELS HERE

OEA-R Officers

John Hoyes, Chair
jhoyes@columbus.rr.com
Carol Kinsey, Vice-Chair
cskinsey@aol.com
Peg Ham, Secretary
lowes50@aol.com

OEA-R Staff Liaison Todd Jaeck
jaeckt@ohea.org
Kathleen Purdy, OEA-R District Representative
ecoearetired@yahoo.com

ECOEA Leadership Team

Julie Nelson, President
JulieNelson818@gmail.com
Cindy Endres, Vice President
lae42590@aol.com
Mandy Bankert, Recording Secretary
mandy.bankert@gmail.com
Valerie Heban, Business Manager
ecoea@sbcglobal.net

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Since the last edition, some questions were asked as to how to become involved. Below are some dates and answers to FAQs.

Q: How can I become a Delegate to represent retirees at the OEA Representative Assembly?

A: File a Declaration of Candidacy document by September 21, 2016.

Q: Where would I obtain this document?

A: On the district website at www.ecoea-r.ohea.us or call OEA at 1-800-282-1500.

Q: When is the next large gathering for Retirees to attend?

A: The OEA-R Fall Conference on Wednesday, September 14, 2016.

Q: Is there a Registration process?

A: Yes. This 9:00–3:00 event is posted on our website. It is held at the STRS Building, 7th Floor Conference Room.

Q: When is the NEA-R Organizing Conference?

A: March 21-25 in Dallas, TX.

Q: Is the "Not Back to School Luncheon" in August?

A: Yes. It is August 17th at Mulligan's Grill at 11:30-1:00 p.m. 4118 Belden Village St. NW in Canton. Self-pay. All welcome.

Q: Is there still time to apply for the OEA-R Advisory Council Vice-Chair position?

A: Yes, however, the Declaration of Candidacy form must be filed by September 21, 2016.

Q: Is this form on the website?

A: Yes, or phone OEA at 1-800-282-1500.



Please check us out on our website: www.ecoea-r.ohea.us or email Kathleen Purdy, your District Representative at: ecoearetired@yahoo.com.