Volume 21, Number 2 October 2020 Hank Haynes, Editor

# OEA-Retired Delegate Election OEA-R Higher Education Representative Vote During October Please Support Candidates from NEOEA

OEA-R delegates will be elected during October by online and mail-in ballot. In October, look for election information by email and US mail. Please support candidates from NEOEA-R.

OEA-R members should look for an email and/or a postcard "Vote now in the OEA 2020 Elections" from "Ohio Education Association <help@yeselections.com>". Everyone will get a postcard or an email with an explanation and instructions for requesting a paper ballot by October 15. The email and the postcard provide an "Election Code" and a "Voting PIN" along with a link to the voting page. Please vote online no later than 5:00 PM Friday, October 31, 2020. For more information, candidate biographies, and to vote online; go to <a href="https://www.ohea.org/oea-retired-members/">https://www.ohea.org/oea-retired-members/</a>.

OEA-R members will elect 27 Delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly from a field of 31 candidates. The 18 OEA-Retired Advisory Council members are automatic delegates by virtue of office, for a delegation of 45 delegates and 4 alternates by order of votes.

Please support the 14 candidates from NEOEA. Here are the candidates: Debbie Bernauer, Marsh Buckley, Lyn Curry-Huston, Nanci J. DiBianca, William A. Dorsey, Marti Franks, Hank Haynes, Cheryl W. Hill, Norm Hillstrom, Bill Lavezzi, Steven Mitchell, Jene Wilson, Nancy Wonson, Diallas York.

Delegates attend both the Fall and Spring OEA Representative Assemblies. On the day before, the OEA-R Delegate Assembly meets to carry out the business of OEA Retired and for a briefing with the OEA officers and reports from the OEA-R Advisory Council. Delegates from NEOEA also attend the Fall and Spring NEOEA RAs.

The OEA Representative Assembly will be December 5, 2020 at 9:00 AM and the NEOEA Representative Assembly will be November 7. Both will most likely be virtual. The OEA-R delegates may also meet virtually the day before the OEA RA.

Please check for meeting summaries and minutes of the OEA-R Advisory Council, OEA-R Delegate Assembly, and the OEA Board of Directors on the Documents/Reports page of the OEA-R website at <a href="http://oea-r.ohea.us/">http://oea-r.ohea.us/</a>.



#### **OEA Coronavirus FAQ**

As part of OEA's commitment to monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on our members, we want to address the impact that the mandatory COVID-19 school closures may have on you, and provide you with ways to advocate for yourself during this public health crisis.

OEA is continuing to advocate with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), the Ohio legislature, and leaders from other statewide education associations, for appropriate flexibility in the delivery of special education services. Additionally, OEA is working with the NEA to advocate for temporary flexibility at the federal level to ensure that all students can access the best education possible during these unprecedented circumstances.

For more information: https://www.ohea.org/oea-coronavirus-fag/

## NEA Recommends Joe Biden for President Kamala Harris for Vice President

Steady, informed, compassionate leadership has never been more important—our schools and our nation deserve nothing less. That's why NEA is proud to recommend Joe Biden for president.

#### Joe Biden: The NEA Interview

Our pick in the 2020 race sits down with NEA President Lily Eskelsen García to share his vision for public education. Visit www.StrongPublicSchools.org for the video.

#### It's Time for Action

From Biden all the way down the ballot, pro-public education candidates need our help. Show your support at a rally, march, or canvass near you. Local events are a great way to join fellow educators in making your voices heard. This feed lists candidates who also use the Mobilize platform and will be supplemented by NEA and affiliate-sponsored events. Please visit <a href="https://www.StrongPublicSchools.org">www.StrongPublicSchools.org</a> for more information.

#### **Donate Now to FCPE**

Use a credit card to make a donation to the OEA/NEA Fund for Children and Public Education: <a href="https://www.ohea.org/donate/">https://www.ohea.org/donate/</a> or OEA-FCPE — <a href="https://www.ohea.org/oea-fund/">https://www.ohea.org/oea-fund/</a>

#### Register to Vote or Update Registration

- Have you moved?
- Has your named changed?
- Do you have children who will be 18 by election day?
- Are all your friends or family members registered?
- Not sure? Want to check? Visit: VoteOhio.Gov

#### How do you request an absentee ballot?

- Visit <u>VoteOhio.Gov</u> to print a form or call your county board of elections (you can request today!)
- Mail your request form back to your own county board of elections as soon as possible (Fill out completely and SIGN)
- Wait to receive your ballot in the mail (will be sent 30 days before the election, starting October 6)
- Return your voted ballot as soon as possible!
- Track your ballot at <u>VoteOhio.Gov!</u>

The 2020 OEA Get Out the Vote program is similar to past Friends and Family outreach programs. This year OEA is using the OutreachCircle.com platform. Join with OEA Group code NAS319. Feel free to invite your friends and colleagues. Throughout the 2020 General Election, OEA members will use OutreachCircle to engage friends and family members who are active within our organization to make sure they know how to safely and securely vote on or before November 3rd. Download flyer with QR Code.

#### Make It Count

Here in Ohio every registered voter has three convenient and simple options for voting.

#### VOTE EARLY BY MAIL

- If you want to be one of the first to vote, make your voice heard, and move our country forward, voting early by mail is your best option.
- You don't need an excuse to vote by mail in Ohio, and it is simple and convenient.
- Voting by mail is a stress-free way to make your voice heard, and you can do it from the comfort of your own home.
- In Ohio, you can apply for a vote-by-mail ballot now. Registered voters should have received a vote-by-mail application from the secretary of state in early September.
- But don't worry, if you didn't receive one in the mail, you can still go to <u>VoteOhio.Gov</u> to request a vote-by-mail application.
- Vote-by-mail ballots will be sent to those who apply starting in early October.
   Once you've received your ballot, you

- can return it by mail or -- if you want extra peace of mind -- you can return it in person to the secure dropbox at your county board of elections. Just drive up to the dropbox and drop in your vote-bymail ballot.
- You can go online at <u>VoteOhio.Gov</u> and track your vote-by-mail application and ballot just like you would track a package to make sure it was received.
- Vote-by-mail ballots, along with votes cast early in person, are the first votes counted on Election Night.

#### VOTE EARLY IN PERSON

 If you like voting in person but you know you'll be busy on Election Day, you can cast your ballot in person at your county's early voting location starting on Tuesday, Oct. 6. Early in-person voting is open during the week and on the final two weekends before Election Day.

#### VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

- In-person voting at your polling place will be open on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov.
   This will be your LAST CHANCE to vote in this critical election.
- The future of our country is on the ballot.
   If you want to be the first to make your voice heard, you should make a plan to vote BEFORE Election Day.

#### QUESTIONS?

- The Voter Protection Team is ready to help. Call 844-OH-I-VOTE (844-64-4-8683) for assistance with voting in Ohio.
- Go to MakeltCountOhio.com for more information

## Campaign 2020 OEA Endorsed Candidates

Endorsements are made by OEA members serving on screening committees from locals within the district. Decisions are made based on the candidate's position and record in support of OEA educational priorities.

Need to look up your House and Senate District? Enter your Zip code or address at <a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/district-maps">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/district-maps</a>

Donate online now to FCPE at <a href="https://www.ohea.org/donate/">https://www.ohea.org/donate/</a>. No dues money can

go to candidates, only voluntary FCPE contributions.

A few facts about the upcoming election:

- All 99 Ohio House of Representative seats are up for election.
- Sixteen (16) of the 33 **Ohio Senate** seats are up for election.
- The Ohio General Assembly will pass legislation on issues like:
  - Equitable school funding
  - The state report card
  - EdChoice Vouchers
  - Charter accountability
  - Coronavirus relief
  - During 2021, the General Assembly will pass a biennium budget.
- We have TWO Supreme Court endorsed candidates that need our support -- Jennifer Brunner and John O'Donnell.
- The Ohio Supreme Court decides issues like:
  - Redistricting in 2021
  - Collective bargaining rights
  - Protection of the salary schedule, military and teaching service credits, and the right to payment under leaves guaranteed by law;
  - Independence of state retirement systems and health care provider choice and benefits
  - Protection of constitutional rights of students to a thorough and efficient system of funding education
  - Protection of constitutional rights to freedom of speech and association.
- There are TWO State School Board candidates that need a successful election in our area of Ohio -- Meryl Johnson (District 11) and Christina Collins (District 5).
- The State Board of Education considers issues like:
  - The approval of standards
  - Interpretation of legislation like the Ohio State Report Card, charter school accountability, testing, etc.
  - OTES and OTES 2.0
  - RESA
- Bold District within NEOEA boundaries
- \*- Endorsed as friendly incumbent



HD 75 Randi Clites (D)\*

HD 77 Melissa Wilde (D)

HD 78 Charlotte Owens (D)

HD 79 Cindy Richards (D)

HD 80 No Position

HD 76 Garrett Westhoven (D)

February 2020 OEA Retirement Systems

Update: <a href="https://www.ohea.org/resources/">https://www.ohea.org/resources/</a>

affiliate-resources/february-2020-oea-

retirement-systems-update/

HD 17 Adam Miller (D)\*

HD 18 Kristin Boggs (D)\*

HD 19 Mary Lightbody (D)\*

HD 20 Richard Brown (D)\*

HD 21 Beth Liston (D)

HD 22 David Leland (D)\*

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#### **NEOEA-R Organizing Committee:**

Nancy Wonson, Lakewood TA-R; Chairperson Dennis Lewis, Parma EA-R; Vice Chair Sherri Koncilja, Painesville City TA-R; Secretary Gary Hollow, Bristol-R; Past Chair Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R; NEOEA Liaison & OEA-R NEOEA Representative Peg Ham, Lorain EA-R; OEA-R Secretary Barbara Catalano, Mayfield EA-R; OEA-R ESP Representative Hank Haynes, ACCESS-R; web/newsletter editor Debbie Bernauer, Brecksville-Broadview EA-R Rhonda Braylock, East Cleveland EA-R Marsh Buckley, Mentor TA-R Bervl Burkle, Bedford EA-R Dave Ciborek, Twinsburg EA-R Nanci DiBianca, Cuyahoga Hts. TA-R Carol Dolgosh, Lakewood TA-R Martha Dunford, Perry EA-R Sue Fatica, Painesville City TA-R Marti Franks, Twinsburg EA-R Patricia Frost-Brooks, East Cleveland EA-R Martha Harper, Ashtabula ACSE-R Norman Hillstrom, Mentor TA-R Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R Mary Keefe, Maple Hts. TA-R Bill Lavezzi, Aurora EA-R Adele Matias, Mayfield EA-R Steven Mitchell, East Cleveland EA-R Pat Wagar, Mayfield EA-R Jene Wilson, ACCESS-R Beverly Woolridge, Akron ACP-R

#### OEA Campaign 2020 Outreach Circle

The **2020 OEA Get Out the Vote** program is similar to past Friends and Family outreach programs. This year OEA is using the **OutreachCircle.com** platform.

#### What is OutreachCircle?

OutreachCircle is a platform for organizations and campaigns to keep their supporters up to date and share all the ways people can get involved. Outreach Circle allows supporters to volunteer in their spare time, whenever and wherever that may be.

### What does supporting a campaign/ organization on OutreachCircle entail?

You'll join as a supporter on OutreachCircle with the directions on the left and find all of the ways you can support our efforts.

#### How do I get started?

Use the directions below or open a web browser and go to <a href="https://outreachcircle.com/">https://outreachcircle.com/</a> to search for the organization or campaign you wish to support.

Click on View Actions to join OutreachCircle Sign in with your google or Facebook account or create an account with email and password.

#### After I set up my account what do I do?

Scroll through the feed to see all of the ways you can support our efforts. Some of the actions you complete yourself; others, you'll share with your friends.

#### What happens next?

Periodically, you will receive updates and new actions. Also, OutreachCircle is more fun with friends, so if you haven't already, you can invite them to join.

#### Join with OEA Group code NAS319

Scan the QR Code. Feel free to invite your friends and colleagues. Throughout the 2020 General Election, OEA members will use OutreachCircle to engage friends and family members who are active within our organization to make sure they know how to safely and securely vote on or before November 3rd. <a href="Download flyer with QR Code">Download flyer with QR Code</a>.

#### **NEOEA Calendar**

Oct 6	Absentee Mail-In Ballots sent—Vote and return ASAP
Nov 3	Election Day
Nov 7	NEOEA Representative
	Assembly, Zoom
Dec 5	OEA Representative
	Assembly, Zoom—TBD
Jan 26	NEOEA Leadership Summit
Feb 9	NEOEA Retired Organizing
	Committee, Zoom
Feb 22	NEOEA Legislative
	Receptions
Mar 6	NEOEA Megaconference
Mar 30	NEOEA Retired Spring
	Conference

