



NEOEA -- Retired

A publication of the North Eastern Ohio Education Association -- <http://www.neoea.org/> -- <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/>
6001 Landerhaven Drive, Suite D, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124-4190 -- 216-518-0200 - retired @ neoea.org

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Hank Haynes, Editor

OEA-Retired Delegate Election

OEA-R delegates will be elected during October by online and mail-in ballot. If you are interested in serving as a Delegate to the NEOEA and OEA Fall and Spring Representative Assemblies, **download and return a Declaration of Candidacy form by September 20, 2021.**

<http://oea-r.ohea.us/page/election-information/>.

In October, look for election information by email and US mail. Please support candidates from NEOEA-R.

The OEA Representative Assembly will be December 4, 2021 at 9:00 AM and will most likely be virtual. Over forty delegates will be elected from across the state. OEA-R delegates may also meet virtually the day before the OEA RA. For more: <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>.

Cleveland Indians Educator Appreciation Nights

Kick Off the School Year with Cleveland Indians Educator Appreciation Nights at Progressive Field. Celebrate the start of the school year with your fellow educators and families at an Indians game:

- Thursday, September 23rd vs Chicago White Sox
 - Friday, September 24th vs Chicago White Sox
 - Saturday, September 25th vs Chicago White Sox
 - Sunday, September 26th vs Chicago White Sox
- Seating Options: Outfield Club, Lower Box, Upper Box, Family Deck.

To Purchase Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/INDIANSEDCATE21>.

Special Offer Code: Educate

<https://neoea.org/files/Indians-EducatorNight-2021.pdf>.

Playhouse Square Discounts

Playhouse Square's CEO Season Pre-sale is the biggest on-sale day of the year for NEOEA members! Beginning Monday, August 30, at 11:00 a.m. NEOEA members receive pre-sale access to four highly-anticipated shows in the upcoming 2021-2022 KeyBank Broadway Series.

Use promo code NEOEA (<https://tickets.playhousesquare.org/g04/Online/default.asp>) and save up to 65% off select performances and seating locations with reduced handling fees! These in-demand shows will be making their Playhouse Square debut—be sure to purchase your tickets before the general public on-sale happening September 10!

Pre-sale Access: *The Prom*, *Pretty Woman*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Ain't Too Proud – The Life and Times of The Temptations*.

Also Available: Disney's *The Lion King*, *Wicked*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *My Fair Lady*.

NEOEA Day

NEOEA Day is Friday, October 8, 2021. NEOEA Day represents your dues dollars at work. 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! This year's 2021 NEOEA Day Catalog: Available at <http://www.neoea.org/files/ND2021.pdf>.

The NEOEA-R Organizing Committee is once again sponsoring a session at the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank (Program 22.) The Cleveland Kids' Book Bank promotes reading and literacy by working with community agencies, setting up and maintaining Little Free Libraries, and making books available to schools and community members. On NEOEA Day, we will help sort, clean, and repair books at the Book Bank (<http://www.kidsbookbank.org>.) For further information, contact Jené Wilson at jene@mac.com.

Interested in presenting next year? Find information at <https://neoea.org/Education-Union/NEOEA-Day>.

OEA-R Fall Conference Racial and Social Justice

The OEA-R Fall Conference will take on a different form this year. The conference will be held virtually over four days beginning September 30 and continuing October 7, 14, 21 from 10:00-11:30 each session. If a member misses a session, they will be able to view the missed session before the next one. There will be no cost, but registration is required. More information at: <http://oea-r.ohea.us/events/fall-conference/>. OEA-R will create a Racial and Social Justice taskforce and attendance at this webinar will be one of the requirements.

Click link below to register in advance for this meeting:
<https://ohea.zoom.us/join/register/tJMpc-2qrT4jGtPoQQZPpWJVXdTivLLwEBz4>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Phil A. Long, OEA-R Vice Chair at palciv13@gmail.com.

Racial Justice in Education 101: Grounding Retiree's Understanding To Effectively Talk About Race And Racial Justice

Session Description:

- Introduction to and definitions of the levels of racism and its impacts on institutions and systems. Outlining why a race equity/justice lens is critical to our work. Activities and tools introduced to support the development of a racial analysis as well as basic tools to engage in constructive discussions about race.

- **Learning Outcomes: We will ...**
 - *Raise awareness on the history of race and Racial Justice in Education.*
 - *Build and strengthen their ability to constructively talk about race.*
 - *Build and strengthen their ability to apply a race equity lens to their work.*
- **Agenda:**
 - Welcome & Introductions
 - Community Building
 - Centering Race
 - Levels of Racism
 - Shifting Perspectives
 - Applying A Race Equity Lens
 - Moving Forward: Next Steps
 - Closing
- **Session One:**
 - Welcome & Introductions
 - Community Building
 - Setting the Stage: Why This is Our Work?
 - Centering Race Part I
- **Session Two:**
 - Centering Race Part II
 - Levels of Racism
- **Session Three:**
 - Shifting Perspectives
 - Racial Justice
- **Session Four:**
 - Applying a Race Equity Lens
 - Moving Forward: Next Steps
 - Closing

Retired POP5 Protect Our Pensions OEA Report—Lavezzi Analysis

It's that time of year again. Many members have again received a solicitation from an organization called Protect Our Pensions, also known as POP5. OEA and OEA Retired want you to know that while there does not appear to be any inherent conflict between the stated goals of POP5 and OEA, it is important to note that there is nothing that POP5 is seeking to accomplish that OEA and our allies are not already working on.

Download the POP5 - OEA Report: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/files/2017/09/POP5-OEA-Report.pdf>.

For an in depth analysis check this October 2020 post from former NEOEA Executive Director, Bill Lavezzi: <https://lavezzi.us/education/a-parliamentarian-looks-at-pop/>.

Redistricting Commission Releases Schedule for Regional Hearings

The Ohio Redistricting Commission has released a schedule of ten regional hearings around the state from August 23-27. The hearings provide an opportunity for the public to provide input to the Commission tasked with redrawing district lines for the Ohio General Assembly.

Ohio voters twice passed redistricting reform measures. Fair districts are vitally important and Ohio citizens should be provided with ample opportunities for meaningful input in the process. For too long, partisan gerrymandering has subverted our democracy.

OEA urges our members to participate in these public hearings. We note that the bulk of the public hearings take place during the school day at the beginning of the new year making attendance difficult for many of our members. However, the Commission will accept written testimony from those unable to appear in person. If you have an interest in testifying (either in person or submitting written testimony), contact Robert Davis in OEA Government Relations davisr@ohea.org for more information.

The hearings are as follows:

- **Monday, August 23**
 - 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Cleveland
 - 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Youngstown
- **Tuesday, August 24**
 - 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Dayton
 - 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Cincinnati
- **Wednesday, August 25**
 - 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Zanesville
 - 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Rio Grande
- **Thursday, August 26**
 - 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Lima
 - 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Toledo
- **Friday, August 27**
 - 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Akron
 - 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Mansfield

NEOEA Representative Assembly Virtual on Saturday, April 17, 2021

Summary: <https://neoea.org/files/SummarySpring2021RA.pdf>.

Retired NEOEA Representative:
Donna Smoot-Walters (Barberton EA-retired)

Mentorship Program at KSEA

By Beryl Burkle, berylburkle@gmail.com

The Mentorship Program at KSEA was very successful working with students last September and through the year. NEOEA-R will continue this program into 2021-2022. We are the only Mentorship Program that has survived due to the commitment of our Retirees and students in education at KSEA. The students were very enthusiastic to join us virtually on phone, email and forms of zoom.

KSEA's President, Bailey McKarns, has invited us back for our 13th year on campus. As always we will become their professional friends meeting virtually. Students will sign up in September for a Mentor.

Join us! We need you! Please let me know you will join us. Send me an email. All students are matched to Mentors that have taught school in K-12 schools. What grade levels and subjects have you taught? It is not time consuming and we are not asking you to go to KSU. You will be amazed at these young people! These are the students that are making strides in OUR profession. You can become a bright spot in their day.

Celebrating Diversity— Read Across America

By Beryl Burkle, berylburkle@gmail.com

A great "thank you" to our group of readers from NEOEA-R that joined readers from OEA-R to read online special books of diversity to children in classrooms across Ohio. Tom Moscovic, Jene' Wilson, Beryl Burkle, and Nanci Dibianca represented NEOEA-R. It was a true learning experience to present these books. Watch at: <https://www.ohea.org/resources/all/oear-read-across-america/>.

OEA-Retired Advisory Council

OEA Policy 340.040 - Guidelines for OEA-R - Rev. 7-25-21.

- Added—Recall procedure for Advisory Council members – Article VIII, Sec I
 - Changed—Term of Appointed members of the Advisory Council from one year to three years – Article IX, Sec A.2.
- <http://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2021/08/340.040-Guidelines-for-OEA-R-Rev.-7-25-21.pdf>.

Things You Can't Throw Away— Show Quilt.

From *NEA Today for NEA-Retired Members*, August 2021, p24-26

"Retired Ohio teacher **Marti Franks** was 21 when she first directed *Our Town*, the most perfect high school play ever; she was 62 when she directed it for the last time. In between, she and her "drama kids" took to the stage hundreds of times, producing dozens of shows for their community. On closing nights, students would present her with a gift: a handmade birdhouse for Aristophanes' *The Birds*, or a hollowed-out jewelry box book for Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. When she retired in 2011, after 44 years of teaching, Franks received the most perfect present: a reading quilt, sewn from the show T-shirts given to cast and crew. "It's the loveliest gift because it's something you can actually use," says Franks, who now works as a labor liaison in Northeast Ohio."

OEA FCPE is Now The OEA Fund

The name is changing. "The OEA Fund for Children and Public Education" will be simplified to "The OEA Fund". Some will remember when it started as "Educators Political Action Committee (EPAC)".

Help raise money to elect pro-senior, pro-union, pro-education candidates. It's quick and easy to donate electronically. Go to: <https://www.ohea.org/> and click on the DONATE button at the top of the page or click here: <https://www.ohea.org/donate/>.

STRS Webinar

OEA Retired is sponsoring an STRS webinar featuring STRS Director William Neville. The webinar will include a presentation and a time for a question and answers. The webinar will take place on September 24 from 11 AM to 12:30 PM. We are aware that the security of our retirement system is a primary concern for all of our members. To register for the webinar click on this link: <https://ohea.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkuCvpjwvGNR5Li0Bjzq88c-dYuyqwK>

OEA Action Alerts

Take Action! Every day OEA works to improve public education for our students and our members. Our strength lies in collective action. With over 122,000 members, we can affect policy to improve public education for students and the educators who serve them.

Letters, emails, petitions, and phone calls from you often make the crucial difference.

Go to the OEA website to view sample letters you can edit as you wish before sending to your legislator. <https://www.ohea.org/action/>

OEA Legislative Watch August 17, 2021

OEA Legislative Watch is the association's newsletter covering the legislation and policies that affect public education employees. <https://www.ohea.org/get-involved/legislative-watch/>

Recent issues:

- August 17—Redistricting Commission Releases Schedule for Regional Hearings
- July 9—OEA Analysis of Recently Signed State Budget
- June 29—Final Budget Bill Includes Fair School Funding Plan, Pathway Out of State Takeover
- June 10—Senate Passes Budget Bill
- June 3—Senate Adopts Substitute Budget Bill, Removes Fair School Funding Plan and Expands Vouchers
- May 14 – OEA Testimony; Senate Bill 145; Senate Bill 1
- April 28 – Testing Reduction Legislation to Receive Proponent Testimony
- April 23 – Ohio House Passes State Budget Bill; OEA President DiMauro Testifies on Budget Bill in Ohio Senate
- April 16 – House Bill 110 Adopted; OEA submits testimony on House Bills 99 and 200; SB 165
- March 19 – House Bill 67 Advances to the Governor; HB 200: Report Card Overhaul Receives First Hearing Sponsor Testimony
- March 12th – OEA Testifies in Support of HB 67; HB 200: Bi-Partisan Report Card Bill Would Eliminate A-F Letter Grades
- March 5th – Revamped HB 67 heads to Senate; OEA testifies on HB 110; HB

151 Eliminates RESA; and HB 6

- February 26th – OEA Testifies in Support of Bill to Fix School Funding; HB 67 Stalls Amid Federal Testing Announcement
- February 11th – Bills Introduced to Waive Spring testing for This School Year; SB 1 and HB54
- February 5th – DeWine Unveils Executive Budget Proposal

NEOEA Discounts

Check the NEOEA.org website for complete information on these valuable 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/>. Use activation code **NEOEA0613** and company name **NEOEA**.
- **Bright Now! Dental:** <http://www.brightnowdental.com/>. <https://neoea.org/files/BrightNowFlyer.pdf>
- **Liberty Mutual:** https://www.libertymutual.com/neoea?src=aff_4wpb_m_0006967_neoea
- **Ohio Educational Credit Union:** <https://neoea.org/MemberData/ohecu-loan.pdf>
- **Park Place:** Discount airport parking: <https://neoea.org/MemberData/ParkPlace.pdf>
- **PlayhouseSquare:** <https://tickets.playhousesquare.org/g04/Online/default.asp> (promo code NEOEA).
- **Great Lakes Science Center:** <http://greatscience.com/educators>

OEA-Retired on the Web

OEA-R has a new presence on the OEA website at: <https://www.ohea.org/retired/>. If you get lost, pull down the "MEMBER CENTER" tab and click on "OEA Divisions, Affiliated Departments and Associate Organizations", then "Divisions", then "OEA-Retired".

On the page is a link to the original OEA-R website containing all the essential OEA-R information <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>.



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

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NEOEA-R Organizing Committee:

- Nancy Wonsan, 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
- 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
- Beryl 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
- Peg Ham, Lorain EA-R
- Martha Harper, Ashtabula ACSE-R
- Norman Hillstrom, Mentor TA-R
- Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R
- Mary Keefe, Maple Hts. TA-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

NEA & OEA Discounts

- **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.org/member-center/member-benefits/>
- **OEA/NEA Attorney Referral and Discount Information:** <https://neoea.org/files/ARP.pdf>
- **NEOEA Member Benefits:** <https://neoea.org/Education-Union/Member-Benefits>

Retirement System Updates

- STRS <https://www.strsoh.org/>
- SERS <https://www.ohsers.org/>
- PERS <https://www.opers.org/>

OEA Retirement Systems Updates can be found at: <https://www.ohea.org/resources/>

Need to Update Your Contact Information?

Update your OEA & NEOEA contact information at: 1-844-OEA-info (1 844 632 4636) or membership@ohea.org. Also online: <https://www.ohea.org/member-center/member-update-form/>

Miss Your News and Views?

Each issue of the *NEOEA News and Views* is available online at <http://neoea.org/>. First register at <https://neoea.org/joinreq> -- it's easy and free. Once registered, you'll have access to the Members-Only page, which has recent issues and member-only information for download.

Fall 2021 OEA COVID FAQ

- <https://www.ohea.org/ohea-coronavirus-faq/>
- <https://www.ohea.org/press-releases/2021/ohea-statement-on-latest-mask-wearing-guidance/>

NEOEA Calendar

- September 30** OEA-R Fall Conference, Virtual
- October 8** NEOEA Day Programs
- November 6** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Eastlake North HS
- December 2/3** OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly
- December 4** OEA Representative Assembly, Columbus
- January 25** NEOEA Leadership Summit
- February 5** ESP Virtual Conference
- March 5** NEOEA MegaConference
- March 21** NEOEA Legislative Receptions
- April 9** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Mayfield HS
- May 6-7** OEA Representative Assembly, Columbus

