

ECOEA COUNCIL CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 2013

Please share the following information with your service council on behalf of ECOEA.

ECOEA WEBSITE-all forms, applications, newsletters, calendar, workshops, links, legislative contact information, etc are online; ***new workshop policy requires a \$10 check deposit***; send Bruce photos of union activities www.ecoea.ohea.us
East Central Ohio Education Association Facebook page & Twitter
ECOEA Shirts-order forms available ****ECOEA Committee Members ½ price**

Special ECOEA Levy Assistance-\$100, call office

ECOEA Five Star Award-meet 5/6 criteria (see website); Certificates @ Fall 2013
ECOEA RA; Lottery Type drawing

ECOEA RA-Saturday, April 20, 2013 @ CPEA Office in Canton
****Color Guard or Music Entertainment stipend available for performing @ OEA RAs****
OEA RA- Friday & Saturday, May 10-11, 2013 @ Vets Memorial in Columbus
OEA District Leaders Council Networking and Hospitality-Thursdays, May 9, 2013 @ Double Tree Worthington
OEA Awards Dinner-Friday, May 10, 2013

OEA Education Support Professional Award-deadline July
2012-2013 Annual OEA Awards- Marilyn Cross Scholarship (\$2,000), JFK Scholarship (\$4,000), Jean Kershaw Scholarship (\$2,000), Human and Civil Rights Awards (\$500), Peace and International Relations Award, OEA Media Award for Public Service, OEA Friend of Education Award****all other awards due Jan 2013; May 10-11, 2013**
presentation of awards @ OEA Spring RA ****MARCH 1 EXTENSION on several!**

ECOEA Spring Legislative Dinner: Friday, March 8, 2013; Courtyard Marriott, Canton
ECOEA Members \$10 refundable, guests \$15 non-refundable *Reservations by Feb 28
Sign-In 6:00pm...Dinner 6:30pm...Program 7:30pm...Hospitality 9:00-Midnight
Hotel has a block of rooms at \$109 & members can get \$25 back with their receipt

OEA Women's Caucus-Saturday meetings @ OEA Headquarters; March 2, 2013; May 18, 2013 *Need ECOEA rep (must be OEA WC member); Campaign to Win WLTP June 21-23; Crowne Plaza Dublin; Contact Jane Gorka gorkaj@ohea.org

OEA GLBTC-Saturday meetings @ OEA Headquarters;(must be OEA GLBTC member)

Retirees-PreRetired memberships now-ECOEA RA & OEA RA become eligible for \$25 gas card AND \$100 drawing at OEA RA ; ECOEA-R newsletter; ECOEA-R website; outings and campaign activities

Current Vacancies for ECOEA- Columbiana County Reps #1 & #2, ESP #1, Various ECOEA Standing Committees, OEA Core Function Committees, OEA BOD Unit 3

NEA Member Benefits & OEA Access card- www.neamb.com & www.ohea.org
*****This is now a permanent card*****

Teacher Tool Kit www.ohea.org

POLITICAL ACTION

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT....

MANY BILLS ARE DROPPING THAT AFFECT PUBLIC EDUCATION. STAY INFORMED & EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT THESE CRITICAL ISSUES

HD98-Right now awarded to Al Landis (R) but still in appeals

60 House seats= Republicans would have a 3/5 majority and would be able to put legislation on the ballot without collecting any signatures

66 House seats=Republicans would have 2/3 supermajority and could add an emergency clause to any legislation, making it effective immediately. They could also make any legislation referendum and veto proof. If this had been the case when Senate Bill 5 passed, it would be law today!

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

ACES-Be sure to check it out & update if necessary

FCPE-drives; individual face-to-face contacts; online link. Lobby efforts are crucial!

OEA Facebook-short video clips that can be shared & posted to your own site

OEA Twitter-instant updates & notifications of impending legislative decisions

OEA Text Message Alerts-text "OEA" to 69866 or fill out form on OEA website

LEGISLATION/ISSUES...

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS-5 individual bills passed-Be sure members close to retirement go to a planning mtg with their system to avoid losing any money on their retirement!

OEA/ECOEA ENDORSED CANDIDATES-keep talking to friends, family, and neighbors in your area! Thank those who supported our candidates!

RIGHT TO WORK LEGISLATION "Freedom in the Workplace" Petitions are being circulated and can be held for years. Currently, Gov. Kasich has said that RTW is "not on his radar", but pressure from the Tea Party or a second term could easily change this.

There is currently a "No Rights at Work" Taskforce working on a tool kit and other materials and messaging is being field-tested. There is also some information available on the OEA website. The "UNFAIR, UNSAFE, HURTS US ALL" slogan from the SB5 campaign is very applicable here!