

## ECOEA COUNCIL CONNECTION APRIL 2014

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\***

NON-MEMBER guests' cost is \$15.00; send Val photos of union activities [www.ecoea.ohea.us](http://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, e-mail office [ecoea@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ecoea@sbcglobal.net)

ECOEA Five Star Award-meet 5/6 criteria (see website); Certificates @ Fall 2014 ECOEA RA; Lottery Type drawing

### **BE SURE TO FOLLOW ELECTION GUIDELINES, EVEN IF BY ACCLAMATION**

\*\*Color Guard or Music Entertainment stipend available for performing @ OEA RAs\*\*

OEA RA- Friday-Saturday, May 9-10, 2014 @ Vets Memorial in Columbus

AWARDS Dinner-Friday, May 9, 2014

DLC HOSPITALITY & NETWORKING-Thursday, May 8, 2014

ECOEA SUMMER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP-Thursday, July 31, 2014; Canton Marriott Courtyard; First Session @ 2:00pm, Dinner @ 4:30pm, Second Session at 5:30pm; \*\*\*MUST SEND \$10 CHECK DEPOSIT TO HOLD RESERVATION!

OEA SUMMER ACADEMY-Monday, Aug 4-6, 2014; Columbus Hilton Downtown; See ECOEA website for scholarships available from OEA and ECOEA

OEA Education Support Professional Award-deadline July

2013-2014 Annual OEA Awards- May 9-10, 2014 presentation of awards @ OEA Spring RA

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

OEA Women's Caucus-Saturday meetings @ OEA Headquarters May 31, 2014; NEA Women's Leadership Training-June 20-22; Dublin Crowne Plaza; Arlene Doubledee 800-654-4034 or [doubledee@ohea.org](mailto:doubledee@ohea.org); limited to 35 participants

OEA FCPE Spring Drive for ENTIRE STATE!-contact LRC if your local conducts a fall drive; more information, toolkit, and many resources available soon; Goal is to increase contributions and participation

OEA Endorsed Candidates for Statewide Positions Nov 2014 Election:

Governor-Ed FitzGerald

Treasurer-Connie Pillich

Secretary of State-Nina Turner

State auditor-John Patrick Carney

Attorney General-David Pepper

Retirees-PreRetired memberships-LAST, BEST OFFER; ECOEA-R newsletter; ECOEA-R website; outings and campaign activities

Current Vacancies for ECOEA- Columbiana County Rep #1(2015), ESP #1(2014), Student Observer; Various ECOEA Standing Committees

NEA Member Benefits & OEA Access card- [www.neamb.com](http://www.neamb.com) & [www.ohea.org](http://www.ohea.org)

\*\*\*This is now a permanent card\*\*\*

Teacher Tool Kit [www.ohea.org](http://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\***

### **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

EDUCATION VOTES-www.educationvotes.org Updates from NEA, Take "KIDS NOT CUTS" Pledge

### **LEGISLATION/ISSUES...**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES-www.ohea.org---Political Action Tab---"OEA Legislative Watch" AND www.nea.org---Legislative Action Center Tab

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS-Be sure members close to retirement go to a planning meeting with their system to avoid losing any money on their retirement! DUE TO CALAMITY DAYS, POTENTIAL RETIREES MAY NEED TO UTIZE "COMPLETE DEPOSIT" TO AVOID WORKING IN JUNE.

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 "So Called Right to 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! EVERYTHING (and I mean EVERYTHING!) that we dislike about our profession is the result of a legislative decision. OTES, value-added, STRS/SERS changes, privatization of services, calamity days, and many, many other issues are a direct result of our elected representatives. Although some decisions are beyond our control and our right to negotiate, many issues can still be influenced by us. If Right-to-Work is instituted in Ohio, we will no longer have a voice at all. Imagine what our jobs would be like then!  
NOW IS THE THE TIME TO EDUCATE OUR MEMBERS! Share your story and the facts with friends, family, and neighbors!

SB229 is a high priority right now! The House version has completely changed the Senate version. The House has also added SB 5 components!

EARLY VOTING MAIL IN BALLOTS-check postage rate and your Board of Election's address!