

# OEA BOARD REPORT

## Welcome Back, EDUCATORS!

Another school year is here and it is going to be an important one. At our August 2017 meeting the OEA Board of Directors voted to establish the following “conditions of satisfaction” concepts to monitor OEA’s progress on each of our strategic priorities. Conditions of satisfaction are data indicators and are not intended to describe all of the work happening in the priority areas.

### *Priority 1: Building Locals’ Capacity to be more relevant to members*

1. Membership numbers in

locals and membership categories (with attention to non- fair share locals)

2. Local attendance at OEA events/conferences—tracking both number of locals and number of participating members.

### *Priority 2: Leveraging the image of educators to increase support for public education.*

1. Public policy changes (laws and regulations) that reflect OEA’s policy

positions.

2. Locals participating in community engagement campaigns.

### *Priority 3: Build OEA as a go-to resource for members on professional issues*

1. Number of members accessing in-person and online training through: local, service council, district, and OEA.
2. Tracking member satisfaction in trainings in which they participate.
3. Number of school districts accessing

### Mark Your Calendars!

#### Local Presidents’ Summit

November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Columbus, OH

Columbus Marriott  
University Hotel

More details  
coming soon!

## FLAT FUNDING, EDUCATION POLICY IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED IN NEW STATE BUDGET

With Governor John Kasich’s signing of his final biennial budget on June 30, Ohio’s school districts now have certainty over the level of state funding they will receive during the next two years. With state revenues falling significantly below projections, funding for K-12 education will increase less than 2% over each of the next two years. The budget impact varies widely among districts, although the House and Senate did reduce the number of

districts facing cuts over the next biennium. The OEA succeeded in protecting students and families—and preventing future threats to education funding—by helping to win support for a veto of a Medicaid expansion cap that threatened access to healthcare for 500,000 Ohioans.

OEA was successful in staving off several harmful proposals introduced at different stages of the budget process and in winning important revisions in state law that

will help our members and students. A plan to require teachers to complete “externships” in the business community was defeated in the House and excluded from Senate consideration due to extensive member activism. Also removed from the budget were threats to collective bargaining rights in the form of restrictions on severance and retirement incentives for K-12 employees and reductions in sick leave for higher education faculty and staff.

**CONTINUED...**

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## Welcome, cont...



"For more details,  
please see the  
complete OEA Budget  
Analysis at  
[https://www.ohea.org/  
hb-49-analysis/](https://www.ohea.org/hb-49-analysis/)

As OEA management and staff work to implement work necessary to meet the priorities that we have established on your behalf, the Board will be monitoring our progress in by the measuring how OEA and our locals are meeting each of the conditions of satisfaction.

Our purpose is to ensure OEA is as strong as possible in meeting the needs of our members and strengthening the cause of students and public education.

## Budget, cont...

More importantly, OEA made significant progress in winning a reduction in testing, helping to avert a graduation crisis, and improving charter school accountability. Two state tests, the 4th and 6th grade social studies assessments, will be eliminated next year. OEA continues efforts for the adoption of new alternative pathways to graduation for the Class of 2018 and will

continue to lobby for a long-term change in graduation requirements to reduce the impact of high-stakes testing on Ohio students.

## Significant Changes Come To RESA

Ohio Department of Education (ODE), in response to feedback from OEA members and educators from across Ohio, has made the following changes to the Resident Educator program:

- \* The Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA) will consist of one task. That task will include a video-taped lesson and 10 – 12 related questions to which candidates will respond.
- \* The areas eliminated from RESA (*student assessments, communication, and professional growth*) will be completed through activities that are developed and delivered locally.
- \* Educators who complete RESA will receive more constructive feedback on the new task.
- \* The Resident Educator Program will remain a four-year program. Resident Educators will continue to complete mentoring activities during years one (1) and two (2), and will take the RESA during their third year of teaching. Teachers will continue to become eligible for a professional teaching license after passing the RESA, and completing a fourth year of the program focused on locally-determined leadership activities as well as mentoring activities.

For Resident Educators who have not yet passed all portions of the RESA, the Ohio Department of Education will be sending an email alerting them to the program changes.

\*OEA continues to work with the ODE and legislators to make changes to the RESA program.

## 2018 Election and FCPE

The 2018 elections in Ohio will have a profound effect on the state's future, and getting as many OEA members as possible to participate in the Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) is critically important. The 2018 general election will determine not only who

becomes our next Governor, but who will control the redistricting process for the Ohio General Assembly. In addition, the re-election of our good friend Senator Sherrod Brown will also be vitally important, particularly in light of who currently holds the reins of power in

Washington. Strong participation in OEA-FCPE by our members will enhance OEA's political and legislative advocacy programs and put us in a better position to shape the future of public education for Ohio's students.

Learn more about  
FCPE here:

[https://www.ohea.org/  
donate/](https://www.ohea.org/donate/)

## STRS Ohio's Total Fund Returns 14.29% for 2017

At the May meeting of the STRS Board, staff presented preliminary 2018 premiums for STRS health care plans. Due to lower than expected health care claims, the 2018 premiums are not expected to increase by very much. For a retiree who is Medicare eligible with 30 or more years of service, the preliminary premium increase was \$129 a month, an increase of \$2. For a

retiree under age 65 with 30 or more years of service the preliminary premium is \$399, an increase of \$19. The STRS Board is expected to approve premiums at the June meeting.

At its June meeting, the STRS board elected retired teacher member Robert Stein as its vice-chair for the coming year. According to Board Policies,

contributing teacher member Mark Hill (Worthington City Schools), who is currently serving as vice chair, automatically moves into the position of chair. Stein and Hill will assume their new responsibilities on Sept 1, 2017.

Board members receive no compensation for serving on the board other than reimbursements for actual, necessary expenses.

### RETURNS BY ASSET CLASS

Liquidity Reserves	0.59%
Fixed Income	1.85%
Domestic Equities	19.59%
International	22.23%
Real Estate	4.67%
Alternative	11.56%
<b>Total Fund</b>	<b>14.29%</b>

### Final performance for 2017

Total Fund Return +14.29  
Total Assets 75.1 billion

## Janus v. AFSCME – Friedrichs Part II

This year the Supreme Court is expected to hear *Janus v. AFSCME*. This is another Friedrich's like case that will challenge "fair-share" fees. If the Supreme Court rules against unions, as many expect, fair-share fees may soon become unconstitutional.

The case provides us with an opportunity and responsibility to talk with our colleagues about the value of membership in this association. Here are three key themes:

### Support and Relationships:

OEA is a community of experienced professionals. Through a variety of online and offline tools, you have access to valuable resources on classroom management, lesson

planning, job training, and a host of other topics.

OEA is committed to making sure that anyone who becomes an educator enters his or her profession ready to reach, teach, and inspire Ohio's students.

### Influence and Power:

From your local school board to the state legislature, elected officials and people they appoint set policies that directly affect your work with students. With a collective voice of more than 124,000 members, you can influence those who shape critical policy and decisions.

Every student has a fundamental right to a great public education. That is why OEA is about more than salary and benefits, OEA is about promoting and

supporting public education.

### Protection and Advocacy:

Membership means you join forces with fellow educators to make a difference in the social justice issue that matter most to you.

Membership means less worrying for you and more support from OEA! With representation at the bargaining table, liability insurance, legal representation, and much more, your OEA provides advice and professional advocacy on a range of issues you face as an educator.

Together, we can help members understand and appreciate the value of their union membership and keep OEA and our locals strong.



PLEASE INSERT THIS LINK  
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download messaging  
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points:

**[tinyurl.com/  
y9988xsh](https://tinyurl.com/y9988xsh)**

This report is brought to you by your OEA Board of Directors. We are all full-time educators and work with all types of students throughout the state. While this report is accessible for all members, it is tailored for our local leaders within each of our associations. In each report, we hope to provide you plenty of useful information while highlighting key **takeaways** from our meetings. This is important info the Board wants to share with you and your members. We also have at least one **ask** from the Board—an action we need from you. Please help spread the word!

We have a new webpage, check us out at:

[www.ohea.org](http://www.ohea.org)

## Takeaways

1. There is great value in continuing to have one-on-one conversations with members around the three prongs of the OEA message triangle: Support and Relationships, Influence and Power, and Protection and Advocacy.
2. The OEA Board has established key measures for assessing how well we're meeting our strategic priorities and meet the needs of our members.
3. Through our collective efforts, we won key victories in the state budget related to testing and graduation and have successfully advocated for a better Resident Educator program.

## Asks

1. Organize an FCPE Drive and meet your local goals. *(Talk to your Labor Relations Consultant for more details.)*
2. Save the date for the November 4 Local Presidents' Summit. Additional information will be coming soon.

## Upcoming Dates

November 4 - Local Presidents' Summit, Columbus

December 2 - OEA Representative Assembly, Ohio Expo, Cardinal Hall, Columbus

May 11- 12 - OEA Representative Assembly, GCCC, Columbus

OEA Delegate elections must be conducted by October 10.

