

**Summary: NEOEA Representative Assembly  
March 26, 2011  
Westlake High School**

NEOEA's Representative Assembly held its spring meeting in the Performing Arts Center of Westlake High School on Saturday, March 26.

Delegates elected members to a number of Association offices, endorsed candidates for four OEA offices to be filled in elections in May, considered new business items, and recognized award recipients.

In a fund-raiser conducted during the report, the 252 delegates attending donated \$5,043 to OEA's Fund for Children and Public Education.

Delegates elected members to ten positions on NEOEA's Board of Directors:

- for President-elect 2012-14: Mary Alice Conkey, East Cleveland EA;
- for Recording Secretary 2011-14: Brian McConnell, Warrensville EA;
- for OEA/NEOEA Director, Unit 3: Kecia Sanders-Stewart, East Cleveland EA;
- for OEA/NEOEA Director, Unit 6: Patrick J. Snee, Mentor TA;
- for OEA/NEOEA Director, Unit 10: Patricia Cohen, PATMR;
- for OEA/NEOEA Director, Unit 11: Martha Miller, Ashtabula ACSE;
- for NEOEA Director, Higher Education-at-large: Annette M. Burden, YSU-OEA;
- for NEOEA Director, Unit 5: Mary O'Toole, Kenston EA;
- for NEOEA Director, Unit 8: Melanie Hameed, Warren EA;
- for NEOEA Director, Unit 9: Karen Wright, Wellington SSA.

All of the terms except one are for three years. NEOEA is transitioning from a one-year presidency to a two-year presidency under a bylaw amendment passed by the Representative Assembly in 2009. Ms. Conkey will serve one year as President-elect, two as President, and two as Past President.

Delegates endorsed candidates for three-year terms in four statewide Association offices that will be filled by OEA's Representative Assembly on May 6, 2011:

- for Ohio NEA Director #1: Mary Binegar, Urbana ACT;
- for Ohio NEA Director #2: Janifer Trowles, Dayton EA;
- for OEA Director-at-large: Lillian Tolbert, East Cleveland EA;
- for OEA ESP Director-at-large: Barb Catalano, Mayfield EA.

Delegates endorsed Hasheen Wilson, YSU-ACE, for election to the NEA Resolutions Committee on July 2, 2011.

Delegates passed three New Business Items.

- NBI-1 authorized the Board of Directors to invest in purchasing its headquarters building "subject to completion of an independent appraisal, due diligence, and satisfactory fact-finding regarding the condition of the building."

- NBI-2 stated NEOEA's support for a motion being submitted at the OEA Representative Assembly to charge a one-time dues assessment of \$50 for activities in support of public employee collective bargaining rights.
- NBI-3 expressed the delegates' appreciation for their welcome by the Westlake TA and the Westlake City School District. (The motion was submitted by members of the Painesville City TA, which is scheduled to host the Representative Assembly on November 12.)

Meeting in caucus, northeastern Ohio delegates to OEA's Representative Assembly endorsed proposed changes to the OEA Resolutions that will be considered by OEA RA delegates on May 7.

Delegates honored winners of three categories of NEOEA awards.

- Delegates honored two Friends of Education, an award which recognizes "a person and/or organization whose leadership, actions, and support have contributed to the improvement of public education for a broad cross-section of northeastern Ohio":
  - US Representative Betty Sutton, D-13;
  - Brimfield Police Officer Dan Rafferty.
- The Public Relations Committee recognized winners of the 2010-11 Positive Image Awards.
  - Brunswick Education Association for Read Across America Day;
  - Field Local Teachers Association for Bully Awareness Week;
  - Lakewood Teachers Association for Adopt-a-Spot;
  - Jim Messenheimer from North Ridgeville EA for Bunk Buddies;
  - Revere Education Association for Community Projects;
  - Marsha Dunn and Sharon Irwin from Stow Munroe Falls CEA for Operation Stuff A Stocking;
  - Kelley Smith from Tallmadge TA for Community Projects;
  - Monica Wallace and Jacquelyn Knoch from Twinsburg EA for Holiday Helping Hands collection drive;
  - Diana Nordquest from West Branch EA for Grange Teacher of the Year;
  - Longfellow members of Willoughby-Eastlake TA for Fit for 15;
  - Willoughby-Eastlake Welding Program of the Willoughby-Eastlake TA for Fire Truck Renovation;
  - YSU Association of Professional Administrative Staff for Staying Connected and Giving Back.
- The Environmental Concerns Committee presented its first Green Schools Awards for leadership in environmental education. Winners are:
  - Arrowhead Primary, submitted by Jesse Smith from Copley TA;
  - Crestwood Intermediate and Primary Schools, submitted by Lee Dean from Crestwood EA;
  - West Geauga High School, submitted by Mike Sustin from West Geauga EA.

The NEOEA Representative Assembly meets again on November 12, 2011, at Thomas W. Harvey High School, 200 West Walnut Avenue, in Painesville.