



September 2014

Northwestern Ohio Education Association

NEWSLETTER



www.nwoea.org

Over 9,200 Members

101 West Sandusky – Suite 302 • Findlay, Ohio 45840 • Tel: 800-366-9632 • Fax: 419-422-3417

NWAEA to Hold Fall Briefing

On November 13, NWAEA will hold a Fall Briefing for all NWAEA delegates and alternates to the OEA Representative Assembly. The briefing will be held at 6:30 PM in the Community Room at Glenwood Middle School, 1715 N. Main Street, Findlay and snacks will be available.

At this briefing delegates will be informed as to what they need to know and what to expect at the OEA Fall RA on December 6, 2014. OEA officers will be invited to address the delegates. Proposals requiring a delegate vote will be discussed. Candidates to be elected at the OEA Fall RA will have the opportunity to address the delegates. Copies of the OEA Delegate Handbook, as well as reports, will be distributed and reviewed at the briefing. Other topics to be discussed include registering and credentials, location of NWAEA seating, proper procedure to go to the microphone from the assembly floor, submitting New Business Items, and the NWAEA district lunch. ■

NWAEA Goes “Green” with Winter Newsletter

Each year NWAEA publishes three newsletters; the fall issue in September, the winter issue in January, and the spring issue in June. For economic and ecological reasons, the winter issue of the NWAEA newsletter will not be mailed to each of the 9,200+ members in January 2015. Members are encouraged to view the online winter newsletter by visiting the NWAEA web site at www.nwoea.org to read about the current district activities and events. ■

OEA 2014-2015 Representative Assembly

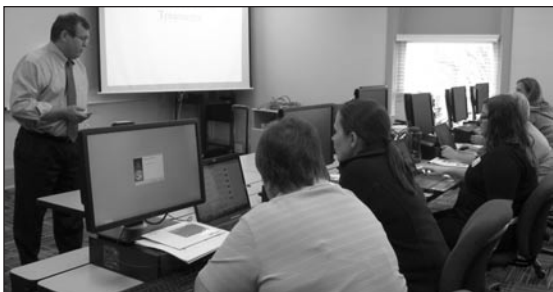
OEA Fall RA • Saturday, December 6, 2014

OEA Spring RA • Friday and Saturday, May 8-9, 2015

Greater Columbus Convention Center • Columbus, Ohio

October 10, 2014 - Deadline to hold OEA Delegate & Alternate elections

October 15, 2014 - Deadline to submit election results to OEA



OEA Secretary-Treasurer Tim Myers trains association treasurers to use the Quicken software to carry out their financial responsibilities for their locals. ■

Local Treasurers Learn Electronic Bookkeeping

The NWAEA Quicken Workshop was held on July 30th in conjunction with the annual Treasurer’s Workshop. Using a computer lab at the University of Findlay, local association treasurers were given a “hands-on” learning opportunity in the use of the Quicken computer program as they recorded and summarized financial transactions. OEA Secretary-Treasurer Tim Myers

from Elida was the workshop presenter. Each attendee was provided with a copy of the Quicken Deluxe 2014 software through grants from Region 3 and Region 4. Undaunted by the usual frustrations and confusion of encountering new software, participants plan to use the software to carry out their financial responsibilities for their locals. ■

NWAEA Workshop Prepares Treasurers

Thirty-seven local association treasurers and leaders attended the annual NWAEA Treasurer’s Workshop on July 30th on the University of Findlay campus. OEA Secretary-Treasurer and NWAEA member Tim Myers presented the training. Accompanying Myers to answer accounting and membership questions was Joe Cohagen, OEA Controller.

Attendees learned the proper procedures and legalities of being a local association treasurer. The level of experience ranged from no experience to that of seventeen or more years. Each

participant received a copy of the 2014-2015 OEA Treasurer’s Manual, which became his or her textbook for this session.

Using the highlighters and tags provided by the NWAEA Professional Development Committee, the participants marked important pages of the manual as policy and procedures were explained by OEA Treasurer Myers. He also reviewed the criteria for the OEA’s Fiscal Fitness Award Program. This incentive program offered by OEA could award a local treasurer \$2,000, if he or she meets the “best practices” outlined in the program. ■



Names of two attendees at the NWAEA Treasurer’s Workshop were drawn to win the 2014-2015 OEA portion of their dues paid by OEA. From left are Joe Cohagen, OEA Controller, dues winners Becky Wasson of Patrick Henry EA and Amber Ramsey of Riverdale EA, and Tim Myers, OEA Secretary-Treasurer.



*Notes from
NWOEA
President
Jennifer Long*

This summer I had the opportunity to take a graduate class at the University of Findlay as part of the coursework needed for the Teacher Leader endorsement. In this class our final project involved creating a SWOT Analysis of an organization. Through this SWOT Analysis we identified the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats to our organization and developed action plans around each area. For the class, I choose my own school district but I feel this analysis can be applied to NWOEA as well in an effort to help us move forward in a time when educators and public education are under constant attack.

NWOEA definitely has strength in numbers with our 9,200+ members. Each of these members brings a diversity to our organization and possesses a passion for education and the students they serve. The members also contribute a wealth of experiences and talents that help us to reflect on the history of our organization as well as focus on future possibilities for NWOEA. As NEA President Dennis Van Roekel stated in his keynote address to the delegates at the 2014 NEA Representative Assembly in Denver, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure."

Making a Difference Together

(Marianne Williamson) The members of NWOEA have the power to make a difference in the future of public education in our state by recognizing how their individual diversity, strengths, experiences and knowledge can move our organization forward.

As in many organizations, member involvement is a weakness at NWOEA. It is important to remember that WE are NWOEA. NWOEA is not just the officers, the members of the Board of Directors, or NWOEA committee members and chairs. Our organization is not unique in lack of member involvement at the district level. A change in the culture from a few doing the work of many to a culture of increased member involvement where many are engaged in the work of the organization, would lead to a successful organization where the needs of the members are being met. To increase this involvement, it is important for local leaders to explain the relationship between their local and NWOEA. Recently I had the opportunity to have a one-on-one conversation with a co-president of a large local and explained how NWOEA fits into the "big picture" and how her local could benefit from opportunities at NWOEA such as a Public Relations Grant, the Graduate Memorial Scholarship, the NWOEA Service Awards, Engage Grants to increase attendance at the OEA Representative Assembly and becoming a delegate to the 2015 NEA Representative Assembly in Orlando, Florida.

As mentioned, opportunities abound not only at NWOEA but also across the

state. This fall we have the opportunity to elect a pro-public education governor for the Buckeye State. We have seen time and time again the failed education agenda of our current governor. If you are tired of the over use and misuse of standardized testing, the lack of accountability for charter schools and the decrease in funding for our public schools, you have the opportunity to lead change by working together to elect Ed FitzGerald as the next Governor of Ohio. A quote by Helen Keller sums up our opportunity for change, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

We all can recognize the threats to our organization and public education, including our state legislators and Governor. The Ohio Department of Education and the use of standardized test scores in the evaluation of teachers pose yet another threat to our organization. But we as an organization and professional educators must never give up. We have the power to make a difference but we must be bold in our actions and never fear that we are inferior or powerless. The 9,200+ members of NWOEA, the 120,000+ members of OEA and the 3 million dedicated, talented professional educators of NEA have the power and passion necessary to make change happen.

In the busyness of the start of another school year, let us focus on our strengths, improve our weaknesses, take advantage of our opportunities and most of all eliminate the threats and make public education a top priority in the State of Ohio once again. ■

Engage Grant Assists Local Delegates to Attend OEA Spring RA

The 2014-2015 NWOEA Local Delegate Assistance to OEA Spring RA Engage Grant helps locals become involved in the Association at the state level. Funding from this grant offers assistance to local associations which have not recently attended OEA RAs to send delegates to the OEA Spring RA. Delegates to these meetings elect officers, adopt budgets, approve governing documents, and set the policies that determine the direction of the Association. Locals that do not send delegates to the RAs are forfeiting the rights they have as a member of a democratic organization.

NWOEA Engage Grant Local Delegate Assistance to OEA Spring RA

provides funding to reimburse up to \$250 for overnight lodging and mileage to the OEA Spring RA for one delegate from a local that has not sent delegates to an OEA RA in the previous two (2) school years. Funding will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis until funding is exhausted with preference given to delegates who attend the OEA Fall RA and whose local has the highest percentage of member participation in the Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) as of December 31, 2014. Itemized receipts are required for reimbursement of up to \$250. Any delegate interested in applying for this grant should submit a letter of interest including delegate contact information

and local association president's signature. Letters should be sent by March 6, 2015, to the NWOEA Center, 101 W. Sandusky St., Suite 302, Findlay, OH 45840.

The NWOEA Board of Directors urges all local associations to hold elections for OEA RA and NWOEA RA delegates. Elections for OEA delegates to the Fall and Spring RAs must be held by October 10, 2014, with election results submitted to OEA by October 15, 2014. NWOEA delegates are in addition to a local's OEA delegates. NWOEA delegate elections must be held in the locals by January 30, 2015, with delegate and alternate election results submitted to the NWOEA Center by February 10, 2015. ■

3 Appointed and 3 Seats Open on NWOEA Board

At the June 20th retreat the NWOEA Board of Directors approved three appointments leaving three more positions to fill. Rhea Young (TAWLS) was appointed to serve as the OEA Board of Directors Unit I Representative, a position not filled at the 2014 NWOEA RA. Wendy Menier (Danbury Association of Non-Teaching Employees) was appointed to fill the position of At-Large Education Support Professionals Representative vacated by Chris Menier upon his election as OEA Board of Directors Unit III Representative by the delegates at the 2014 NWOEA RA. Both Rhea and Wendy will serve until the 2015 NWOEA RA when delegates will elect representatives to finish the terms. Sue Cramer, who resigned her position as NWOEA Unit II Representative due to her retirement from teaching as of July 1, 2014, was appointed to serve as the NWOEA-Retired Representative

until OEA will hold an election this fall and retired members will vote for the NWOEA Representative to serve on the OEA-R Advisory Board and the NWOEA Board of Directors.

Three positions are currently vacant on the NWOEA Board of Directors. The NWOEA Board will consider appointments of these positions at the September 23, 2014 meeting. These appointments shall be effective until the next regularly scheduled Representative Assembly on April 16, 2015. Open seats are as follows: Unit I Representative, Unit II Representative, and At-Large Minority Representative. Any Unit I or Unit II member interested in serving as a Unit Representative or anyone interested in serving as the Minority Representative should declare his/her interest in writing or by email. Correspondence should be addressed to the NWOEA Center, 101 W. Sandusky St., Suite 302, Findlay,

OH 45840 or emailed to the NWOEA Executive Director at nwoea_wisebaker@sbcglobal.net. The statement of interest must be communicated to the NWOEA Center by September 16, 2014.

The NWOEA Board of Directors meets approximately three times a year at the NWOEA Center in Findlay and has a retreat in June. Board of Directors members attend UniServ meetings and communicate with local presidents about NWOEA activities. Board members are also encouraged to attend NWOEA workshops, RAs and the Awards Banquet. NWOEA board members are reimbursed for mileage at the IRS rate, provided meals, and furnished lodging when necessary.

To see the list of locals in Units I, II, or III, visit www.nwoea.org. If you have questions, please call the NWOEA Center, 1-800-366-9632. ■

*** * * NWOEA Caucus December 6, 2014 at OEA RA * * ***

NWOEA Board of Directors Retreat

NWOEA Board of Directors, committee chairs, and representatives on OEA committees met for their annual retreat on June 20 at the 577 Foundation House in Perrysburg, Ohio, to conduct NWOEA business and to plan the 2014-2015 year.

Founded by Virginia Secor Stranahan, the 577 Foundation is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the historic property at 577 East Front Street in Perrysburg, Ohio. In 1997 the Stranahan home was given to the 577 Foundation and is available to non-profit organizations for conferences. Today the home and grounds are used for community events and educational experiences. Before getting down to business, many board members toured the estate grounds enjoying the various gardens and buildings.

During the late morning and afternoon meeting, the Board accepted the following resignations: Michael Jordan, NWOEA-R Representative and OEA-R Advisory Council member; Perry Lefevre, NWOEA Unit I Representative; and Sue Cramer, NWOEA Unit II Representative. The Board appointed Wendy Menier to serve as the At-Large Education Support Professionals Representative, Rhea Young to serve as the OEA Board of Directors Unit I

Representative, and Sue Cramer to serve as the Retired Teachers Representative.

The Board adopted the 2014-2015 calendar and approved NWOEA and OEA committee appointments. A motion passed to continue funding the Local Delegate Assistance to OEA Spring RA Engage Grant. NWOEA Committee Chairs and NWOEA Representatives on OEA Committees, who were in attendance, gave reports and updates. A dinner at the Social Restaurant followed the afternoon meeting. ■



NWOEA Board Members are amazed at the organically grown flowers, herbs, and vegetables in the Geodesic Biodome while touring the Stranahan estate before starting a busy day at the June Retreat at the 577 Foundation House.

Fall Workshop Offers Variety of Sessions

By Dan Greenberg, Professional Development Committee Chair and NWOEA Vice-President

This year's Fall Workshop offers a little something for every member, with a "professional issues" session for those new in education to the STRS update from OEA Secretary-Treasurer Tim Myers. These two, along with a session covering OTES and another dealing with strategies to build a stronger local, ensure that all workshop attendees will leave the evening with valuable information that they can take back to their locals.

The Fall Workshop is a great way to gain knowledge and training, and I would like to issue a challenge to every local to have at least two members attend the workshop. Local leaders, make "the ask" to a couple of your members. It would be great to see a large group of young teachers at the professional issues session, learning about the challenges we face as educators, as well as the relevance of the association in our profession.

A copy of the registration form can be found on the back page of this newsletter or online at www.nwoea.org. I look forward to seeing you on October 7! ■

NWEOA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs



Jennifer Long
President
McComb



Dan Greenberg
Vice President
Sylvania
PDC Chair



Jennifer Gent
Recording Secretary
TAWLS



Jerry Schlick
Immediate Past President
IAC Chair • Nom & Elections Chair
NWEOA-R



Miki Hodge
Unit I
Rossford



September Kuebler
Unit I
Bowling Green



VACANCY

Vacancy
Unit I



Lynn Lawrence
Unit II • Credentials Chair
Resolutions Chair
Leipsic



Melinda King
Unit II
Fund Raising Chair
Lima

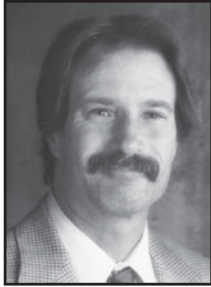


VACANCY

Vacancy
Unit II



Roberta Tevis
Unit III
Kenton



Dan Corfman
Unit III
Gibsonburg



Donald Jones
Unit III
Carey



Rhea Young
Unit I OEA Rep
TAWLS



Jerry Oberhaus
Unit II OEA Rep
Constitution & Bylaws Chair
Liberty Center



Chris Menier
Unit III OEA Rep
Danbury



Tim Myers
OEA Secretary-Treasurer
Elida



Sue Cramer
OEA-Retired Rep
NWEOA-R Chair



VACANCY

Vacancy
At-Large
Minority Rep



Wendy Menier
At-Large Education Support
Professionals Rep
Danbury



NO PHOTO
AVAILABLE

Emily Drought
OSEA Consultant
Kent State University



Joyce Wisebaker
Executive
Director/Treasurer
Budget Chair/NWEOA-R



Alice Diller
Awards Chair
NWEOA-R



Rita Croy
Convention Planning
Chair
NWEOA-R



David Foes
Public Relations Chair
Bellevue



Emilee Whetstone
Scholarship Chair
NWEOA-R



Matthew Durham
Screening Chair
TAWLS

2014 NEA RA "We Educate America"

By Jennifer Long, NWOEA President
and Delegate at the NEA RA

Over 320 delegates from Ohio attended the 2014 NEA Representative Assembly in Denver, Colorado from July 1-July 6. NWOEA was represented by delegates from Sylvania, Washington Local, Maumee, McComb, Northeastern Local, Rossford, Liberty Center, Leipsic, Lima, Elida and our retired members.

Delegates attended morning caucuses and the RA at the Denver Convention Center each day. NWOEA also had 100% participation from its delegates in the Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) drive held during the RA. At the 2014 RA the delegates witnessed history in the making as they approved New Business Item 23. This item called for the resignation of the US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan due to the department's focus on high stakes testing and the overuse of test scores to pit students against one another.

Throughout the four day assembly, the delegates considered 107 New Business Items, participated in elections for NEA Officers and the NEA Executive Committee, and were motivated and inspired by the words of outgoing NEA President Dennis Van Roekel and newly elected President Lily Eskelsen Garcia. ESP of the Year Paula Monroe and Teacher of the Year Sean McComb shared their vision, hopes and dreams for the future of public education with the 7,000+ delegates of the RA.

President Van Roekel encouraged delegates and all NEA members to take the lead and create a student-centered agenda that is focused on educator quality and student success as well as equity. It would demand accountability for the whole system and not one that is focused on the overuse and misuse of test scores. He summed up his vision for the future of the NEA with the following quote, "I want this organization to always be the kind of organization that has the audacity to dream big, the courage to act, the power to make a difference. NEA, We Educate America!" ■



NWOEA Delegates attending the 2014 NEA RA from left: Miki Hodge (Rossford), Tim Myers (Elida), Darrell Bryan (Elida), Melinda King (Lima), Jennifer Gent (TAWLS), Jennifer Long (McComb), Sue Cramer (Northeastern), Dan Greenberg (Sylvania), Lynn Lawrence (Leipsic), Rhea Young (TAWLS), and Don Traxler (NWOEA-R).

Opportunity for Locals to Honor Outstanding Members

Do you know a member in your local who deserves to be recognized for the contributions he/she has made to the local association? Do you know a new teacher who has stepped forward to make contributions to his/her local association? Help these outstanding members get the recognition they deserve by nominating them for an NWOEA Service Award. Your local president will receive nomination forms in November, or you may call 1-800-366-9632 to have nomination forms sent to you. Forms will also be available at www.nwoea.org.

ANY MEMBER CAN PLACE A NAME OR NAMES IN NOMINATION
ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE AWARDS BANQUET
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015 AT THE FINDLAY COUNTRY CLUB

2014-2015 NWOEA SERVICE AWARDS



Local Service Award

recognizes an individual for distinguished service to association work in his/her local and having local-wide implications. Up to three members per local may receive this award per year, and a member may receive this award every five years.



Promising Leader Award

recognizes a member who within the first five years of teaching has shown initiative in his/her local association. Each local may nominate ONE member per year. A person may receive the award only once.



District Service Award-Active

recognizes a member or group actively involved in education who has contributed distinguished service to association work on the NWOEA district level or having district-wide implications.



District Service Award-Retired

recognizes a retired person who has remained active in association work and has contributed service on the NWOEA district level or having district-wide implications since retirement.

NWOEA Representatives on OEA Committees



Ilse Marie Goertz
NWOEA-R
Convention Planning



Lynn Lawrence
Leipsic
Resolutions



Dan Greenberg
Sylvania
Legislative



Jennifer Long
McComb
Collective Bargaining



Stacey Higgins
Bowling Green
Local Development &
Training



Brenda Pepa
Danbury
Member Rights &
Protection



Sue Cramer
NWOEA-R
Organizing Strategy



VACANCY

Professional Efficacy



*By Tim Myers,
STRS Board
Member and
Past Chair*

A strong year for investments should result in an improving financial picture for STRS Ohio. The retirement system completed its 2014 fiscal year on June 30, and final results show that STRS Ohio's total fund return was +16.8%. Assets as of June 30 stood at \$74.8 billion. These positive gains come on the heels of a solid +13.7% total fund return in fiscal year 2013. The fund's assumed actuarial return is 7.75%.

While the actuary's pension valuation report isn't due until October, STRS Ohio expects these investment gains will lead to a reduction in the system's funding period—that is, the expected time necessary to pay down the system's unfunded liabilities. Ohio law requires STRS Ohio to have a funding period of no more than 30 years. As I shared with you in my last update, STRS Ohio took steps in March that were expected to reduce its funding period to about 32 years. The better than expected investment returns may result in a slight improvement to this

STRS Ohio Update

figure, keeping STRS Ohio on track to reach a 30-year funding period in 2016 — the time frame that was projected when pension reform legislation was passed in 2012.

While the strong investment returns were welcome news, it's worth noting that STRS Ohio's 2015 Investment Plan calls for only moderate growth in the capital markets in the year ahead. That's no surprise following two years of substantial gains in the stock market.

STRS Ohio staff and the retirement board are also working together to manage the system's operating expenses prudently. In fact, retirement system operating budgets have remained relatively flat for the past five fiscal years. STRS Ohio came in under budget once again for fiscal year 2014. And the retirement system's capital budget for fiscal year 2015 reflects a decrease of about 5.2% from the prior year's figure. While expenses have been kept in check, STRS Ohio has maintained its commitment to member service. As I noted in the June newsletter, an independent study ranked STRS Ohio second in overall service out of 55 pension funds that took part in the study.

I'm happy to be able to share with you this positive news about your retirement system. The board and staff are focused on keeping this positive momentum, but that doesn't mean there aren't challenges ahead.

The board will continue to closely monitor the system's financial status. In June, the chair named a funding committee whose work in fiscal year 2015 will be to study the system's financial picture and to provide recommendations and updates to the board.

September brings with it a new school year, and it is also the start of our "board year" as well. To close this quarter's update, I'd like to share with you some recent changes in board leadership. Annually in September, board administration changes hands. On September 1st, Robert Stein, a retired educator from Strongsville, became board chair after serving as vice chair for the past year. The board's new vice chair is contributing teacher member Carol Correthers, a classroom teacher in the Lorain City School District. These two individuals are well equipped to lead, and they will be guiding an experienced board.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the board's past chair, Dale Price, a contributing teacher member from the Toledo Public Schools. Dale did an excellent job of leading the board through some difficult but necessary decisions this past spring to keep STRS Ohio on track to reach its long-term funding goals. He remains on the retirement board, and his continued guidance will be of great value. ■

Rise, Reclaim and Renew: 2014 OEA Summer Academy

Twenty-eight NWOEA members representing sixteen local associations attended the 2014 OEA Summer Academy held August 4-6 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. They joined approximately four hundred educators at this year's conference entitled "Rise, Reclaim and Renew." The academy provides members practical knowledge and leadership skills for strengthening the local association as the chief advocate for education employees and for school quality.

"Winning in the Court of Public Opinion" was the keynote speech given by Rodney N. Ellis, Sr. A former eighth-grade Language Arts teacher, Ellis currently serves as president of North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE). He is a 2009 graduate of the Education Policy Fellowship Program, currently serves on the Board of Directors for the MSA program at Winston-Salem State University, is a mentor in the "Real Men Teach" program also at WSSU, and serves on the NC Teachers and State Employees Health Plan Board of Trustees.

Conference participants chose from one of the following module training sessions: association leadership; collective bargaining; communications, organizing, and political action; and professional advocacy. Participants had the opportunity to attend an elective session that focused on a current issue in education, as well as NEA Member Benefits sessions. Many members also attended the Campaign 2014 Legislative Reception hosted by OEA, where they had the opportunity to speak with various state legislators. This year on the opening night of the academy, the District Leaders Council (DLC) hosted "A Night at the Races" and raised over \$6,000 for the Fund for Children and Public Education.

On Tuesday, August 5 during the lunch break, academy participants hit the streets just outside the Hilton Downtown to publicly send the message that over-testing is hurting students, educators and communities. To close this year's academy, members of the Reynoldsburg Education Association shared their experiences as to how "Standing in

Solidarity – Speaking with Power" helped them to reclaim their professional voice.

Each year the NWOEA Professional Development Committee offers scholarships to the OEA Summer Academy. These scholarships are available through the NWOEA Center, and they cover the cost of registration, lodging, and food. ■



The following first-time OEA Summer Academy attendees were among the NWOEA members at the district dinner at Barley's Underground Restaurant. Seated from left: Sally Knapp (North Central), Lisa Marshall-Scott (Fostoria), Danielle Carrasquillo (Bowling Green), Rhonda Miller (Danbury). Standing from left: Brenda Pepa (Danbury), Patrick Horstman (Lima), Ryan Lindahl (Findlay), and Sarah Green (Fostoria).

NWEOA PR Grants Fund Local Projects

Each year NWEOA offers Public Relations (PR) Grants to provide up to \$500 for local associations to fund public relations and professional development projects. 2013-2014 PR Grant recipients used their funding in a variety of ways.

To continue communicating its message and role in the community and supporting school programs, the Teachers' Association of Washington Local Schools (TAWLS) sponsored signage at the newly renovated Whitmer baseball stadium. TAWLS used its NWEOA PR Grant to purchase a 4' x 8' banner printed with the association's name and its 50th anniversary logo.



TAWLS shows the community its support for the baseball program through an association banner on the Whitmer baseball field fence.

Elida EA continued its tradition of purchasing the rental of a billboard to show the community the accomplishments that the students, teachers, and building staff have achieved. This year the big billboard dressed in the school's colors of black, white, and orange encouraged the community to "Support Your Elida Local Schools." The billboard was strategically located on one of the city's busiest roads.



Using an NWEOA PR Grant, the Elida EA purchased this billboard ad strategically placed in a highly trafficked spot in town.

On March 2nd the Lima Education Association (LEA) used this year's PR Grant to once again distribute books to newborns to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss. To stress the importance of parents reading to their children early in life and to instill the importance of reading, LEA

members visited the two area hospitals to present to 20 sets of proud parents gift bags containing new books to celebrate Read Across America Day. This LEA project now in its tenth year received media attention from the local television station and the Lima newspaper.



Brian Anders, Lima EA member, presents a bag of books to a newborn and family to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss and promote Read Across America Day.

The Kenton Education Association (KEA) used funding from this year's PR Grant to provide a gift card to every member on "Teachers' Appreciation Day" in May. The monetary amount of a gift card was based on the number of years of membership in the local association. This project let KEA members know how much they are appreciated for remaining loyal members of KEA during hard times when they could have easily opted not to join and pay dues.



Kenton EA members join together to thank the local association for the gift cards purchased with NWEOA PR Grant funds and given by the Kenton EA in recognition of their years of membership in the local association.

Banners, billboards, books, and gift cards are examples of how some of the locals who applied for an NWEOA PR Grant used the funding this past year to enhance the image of their local associations among members and/or within the community. ■

NWEOA Important Dates

2014

- October 7 Fall Workshop
Findlay Inn & Conference
Center 5:15 – 8:30 PM
- November 3 Deadline for submitting
Public Relations Grant Applications
- November 13 OEA Delegates Briefing
- December 6 NWEOA Caucus at OEA RA

2015

- January 20 Deadline for submitting
Awards Nominations
- January 30 Deadline for election of NWEOA
RA Delegates and Alternates
- February 2 Deadline for submitting Graduate
Memorial Scholarship Applications
- February 10 Deadline for submitting NWEOA
Delegate & Alternate Election
Results to NWEOA Center
- February 13 Deadline for filing letters of
intent for NWEOA Officers and
Board of Directors
- March 3 Awards Banquet
Findlay Country Club 6:00 PM
- March 6 Deadline for submitting Local
Delegate Assistance to OEA
Spring RA Engage Grant
NWEOA RA - 5:00 PM
- April 16 Bowling Green High School
Light dinner served
Treasurer's Workshop
Date and location TBA
- July

To Apply for NWEOA PR Grants

Apply for grants from the NWEOA Public Relations (PR) Committee and finance local association activities! The PR Committee invites you and your



local association to receive some of your NWEOA dues dollars back in the form of an annual NWEOA Public Relations Grant. These grants are designed to allow locals that wish to enhance the image of their association among members and/or within the community an opportunity to receive funding to finance a public relations project.

In September local presidents will be receiving grant applications for the 2014-2015 school year. The PR Committee will evaluate applications and approve grants up to \$500 until a total of \$8000 has been awarded. Locals awarded a grant will receive half of the approved funding immediately to provide money upfront before starting a PR project. Upon verification of attendance at required RAs and NWEOA events, receipt of all documentation, and evidence of a successful FCPE drive, the remainder of the grant money will be mailed within twenty days. ■



Visit the NWEOA Website www.nwoea.org

101 W. Sandusky - Suite 302
Findlay, Ohio 45840

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Findlay, Ohio
Permit No. 78



Local treasurers use highlighters and sticky notes to mark important information at the NWOEA Treasurer's Workshop.

NWOEA Fall Workshop



When: Tuesday, October 7, 2014

Where: Findlay Inn and Conference Center
200 East Main Cross

Program: 5:15 – 5:45 Registration
5:45 – 6:45 Dinner
7:00 – 8:30 Break Out Sessions

Cost: \$12.00 for NWOEA & NWOEA-R members
\$7.00 for college students
\$24.00 for non-NWOEA members

Certificate of Attendance for 1.5 contact hours available

Brief Legislative Update will be given during dinner by Scott DiMauro, OEA Vice President

BREAK OUT SESSIONS – Choose one:

A. Professional Issues (Challenges and Pitfalls) for New Educators and ESPs. Veterans welcome!
Annette Kubiske, OEA Labor Relations Consultant

B. Success with OTES
Ellen Adornetto and Patty Nyquist
OEA Education Reform Consultants

C. How to Build a Strong Local
Andres Becerra, OEA Organizing Director

D. STRS Update - What Everyone Needs to Know
Tim Myers, STRS Board Member

Attendance at this NWOEA Workshop will count as one of the two attendance requirements for a 2014-2015 PR Grant

NWOEA Fall Workshop Registration Form

Name _____ Local Association _____

Address _____ Phone _____
Street City State Zip Code

Circle one session choice: **A B C D** Circle one menu choice: **Chicken Tilapia**

Email address for registration confirmation _____

Please return this registration form & your check made payable to NWOEA to the
NWOEA Center, 101 W. Sandusky St., Suite 302, Findlay, Ohio 45840 • Questions?? Call 1-800-366-9632

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 - You may register online at www.nwoea.org