

# COMMUNIQUE

Publication for Members of Central OEA/NEA • Adrienne M. Bowden, President



The 2024-2025

## Central OEA/NEA Member Resource Guide

This Member resource guide is broken down into **3** main sections.



### 1 How Does Central OEA/NEA Support its Members and Locals

- Free Professional Development and CEUs
- Conferences and Scholarships
- Grants, Grants, Grants, and Incentives!
- Optimize Your NEA Membership Benefits
- Know Your Weingarten Rights

### 2 Who and What is Central OEA/NEA

- How to Connect with Us
- Who is Central and what do we do?
- The 2024-25 Central Executive Board and Roles



### 3 How You Can Get Involved

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# Proudly Serving the Members of Central Ohio: Your Resource Guide

Adrienne M. Bowden (Pickerington EA VP), Central President

Welcome back to another school year! I hope your summer break rejuvenated your spirits and filled you with excitement for the upcoming school year. As we embark on another academic year, it is essential to set the right tone by creating positive and welcoming environments for all our students, parents, and educators. As professionals, we help set that tone and ensure our buildings are positive and enjoyable learning environments for all.

This year, Central is working to reengage our members and to provide professional development opportunities, leadership support, and financial resources to our Locals and Members so that we can assist in creating stronger Associations. Our Associations are stronger when more members are actively involved. When we get more members active, the stronger our collective voices will be! We will need strong advocates this year as we lobby for better public schools in our communities.

This first issue of the *Communiqué* is designed to serve as a member resource guide to provide an overview to help you make the most of your Central OEA/NEA Membership. Please review the resources in this guide to find the right opportunities for you! Check out our website for the most up-to-date details on the conferences, scholarships, grants, and committee work we offer.

The most important thing to know about your union is that YOU are the union. Our Association is only as effective and powerful as the members participating in our committees,

activities, and conferences. You can best exercise that power by staying informed, involved, and engaged. There are various opportunities throughout the year.

Thank you for belonging to our Association. We value you as a member and professional and for what you do every day for our students in our schools. Best wishes for a great upcoming year! Please let us know if we can help you or your Local during this year.

In solidarity,  
Adrienne M. Bowden  
Central OEA/NEA President



## COMMUNIQUÉ

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## How to Connect with us



You can find Central OEA/NEA on the web

**[www.centraloanea.org](http://www.centraloanea.org)**



**centraloanea**



**Centraloanea**

# Who Is Central and What Do We Do?

## You Belong to One, You Belong to All

As a member of your Local Association, you are also a member of Central OEA/NEA, the Ohio Education Association, the National Education Association, and Education International. Central is one of ten districts within OEA. We are your link between your local and OEA. We are divided into five services areas:

Area 1: Licking & Fairfield

Area 2: Marion, Union & Delaware

Area 3: Clark, Logan & Champaign

Area 4: Fayette, Pickaway, Ross & Madison

Area 5: Franklin Co. including SCOPE, DD

Here are some of the services provided at each level:

### Local EA (Your school district)

- Contract Negotiations
- Community Outreach
- Working with Administration
- Local Education Advocacy

### District (Central OEA/NEA)

- Leadership development
- Grants for locals
- Member scholarships for district, state and national conferences
- Free professional development opportunities for members
- Education advocacy
- Central Communiqué

You can check out [www.centraloearnea.org](http://www.centraloearnea.org) for more details

### State (OEA)

- Provides your local Labor Relations Consultant
- Education Advocacy- Lobbying
- Free professional development opportunities
- Ohio Schools



## Central OEA/NEA has four main goals.

### Meeting Local Needs

- Recognize leadership development needs of all locals and provide strategies to support them.
- Promote understanding of and commitment to diversity in our membership.
- Offer grant programs to meet the needs of our locals.

Central offers several grants to Local Associations for levy campaigns, growth and development activities, scholarships to conferences, and incentives for participation.

### Political Action

- Provide training and support to increase local awareness and participation in the political process.
- Have a media program to promote public education.

Central promotes political action through training, organizing and communication with members on a wide range of political activities such as lobby days, candidate screenings, and campaign activities. Central also provides a stipend for up to three members in each local to be Education Advocate Leaders.

### Training

- Provide quality professional development.
- Expand opportunities for leader involvement beyond the local level.
- Train members in leadership roles.

Central hosts many conferences and training opportunities throughout the year, which are always free for members. We train members on technology in the classroom, professional issues such as OTES, bargaining, testing, social justice, and much more. We host diversity conferences and also provide training for Local Association leaders, building reps and treasurers.

### Communications

- Provide communication between Central and its local leadership and members.
- Collaborate with and improve relations with other OEA districts.

Central publishes four Communiqués a year, plus a regular electronic communication. Recognizing that we all get a lot of email, much of our email is opt-in. You can sign up to receive important Central information at [www.centraloearnea.org/ace](http://www.centraloearnea.org/ace).

To organize and implement these goals, members of Central volunteer to serve on a wide range of committees.

For more information on Central, including our committees, programs and grants, visit our website at [www.centraloearnea.org](http://www.centraloearnea.org)

# Central OEA/NEA Executive Board



**Adrienne Bowden**

President  
Adrienne teaches Jr High Science and STEM at Pickerington Local Schools. Adrienne is also the Co-Vice President of Pickerington EA.



**Joie Moore**

OEA Unit 2  
Joie is an ESP at Pickerington Local Schools. She is the President of Pickerington Support Staff Association.



**Jim Templeton**

Vice President  
Jim teaches band at Kenton Ridge High School in Springfield.



**Paige Harding**

OEA Unit 3  
Paige is a vocal music teacher for Middle School East in Gahanna Jefferson.



**Scott DiMauro**

OEA President  
Scott DiMauro is a high school social studies teacher from Worthington.



**Jessie Keplinger**

OEA Unit 4  
Jessie teaches HS science at Elgin High School and is the president of Elgin EA.



**Dwayne Marshall**

NEA Director  
Dwayne Marshall is a Social Studies Teacher at Gahanna Lincoln High School who teaches Government and African American History.



**Janet Carter**

OEA Unit 5  
Janet is a Career Tech teacher at Madison Correctional Institution teaching Business Office Services Support and a Board Member for S.C.O.P.E.



**Linna Jordan**

NEA Director  
Linna is an EL teacher in Hilliard City Schools where she is also full-time release President.



**Denise Hermetz**

OEA Unit 6  
Denise teaches K through 6 Technology at the Northwestern Local School District in Clark County.



**Geoff Mize**

OEA Unit 1  
Geoff teaches history at Westerville Central.



**Marjorie Langston**

OEA Unit 7  
Marjorie teaches chemistry for Hamilton Local Schools and is the STEM Curriculum Coach and one of the diversity leads for (one of) the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Teachers.

The Executive Board is supported by staff members Russell Hughlock (Organizing and Communications Coordinator), Mary Kennedy (Fiscal Manager) and Amy Grittani (Project Manager).



**Sherise Thompson**

OEA Unit 8  
Sherise is an educator for Hilliard City Schools. She teaches 7th grade social studies. She is also HEAs secretary and Membership Chair.



**Mark Brugger**

Area 5 Rep #2  
Mark is a 4th grade teacher at McVay elementary in Westerville city schools. He is currently an at large representative in WEA.



**Greg Moore**

Area 1 Rep  
Greg is a Business Teacher for Pickerington Local Schools at Pickerington Central High School.



**Dominic Marsano**

Area 5 Rep #3  
Dominic is a US Navy veteran, a graduate from The Ohio State University, and a career technology teacher at Marion Correctional Institution.



**Juliet Litzel**

Area 2 Rep  
Juliet is a math & science intervention specialist at Bunsold Middle School in Marysville Schools. Juliet is a Building Rep.



**Kim Cooper**

Area 5 Rep #4  
Kim teaches ELL at Herbert Mills STEAM Elementary. She is the Treasurer of Reynoldsburg Education Association.



**Jeff Caivano**

Area 3 Rep  
Jeff is a Middle School satellite instructor for Springfield-Clark Career Technology Center (CTC).



**Diana Long**

ESP Rep  
Diana works at Thomas Worthington High School as the ALS support educator.



**David Jardot**

Area 4 Rep  
David teaches social studies at Tolles Career and Technical Center in Plain City.



**Tammy Shelton**

SCOPE Rep  
Tammy is a career tech teacher teaching business office secretarial services at Lebanon Correctional Institutions and is the Secretary for SCOPE Local Association.



**Kelly Modlich**

Area 5 Rep #1  
Kelly has taught American Sign Language for 24 years at Westerville South High School. She is now the full-time release President of Westerville EA.



**Barry Alcock**

Retired Rep  
Barry is the Central Rep on the OEA-Retired Advisory Committee, and is a retired English teacher in the South-Western City Schools.

# Why Me?

## Should I be a delegate to the Representative Assembly?

I'm sure most of you have seen OEA's document on the Top 10 Reasons to Belong, which outlines some of the best reasons to become members of OEA. But let's talk about why you should become a delegate to the OEA's Representative Assembly (RA).

The RA is the policy-making body of the Association. The OEA RA meets twice a year, typically in December and in May, in Columbus to establish OEA's policies and objectives, elect officers, establish dues, adopt the Association budget, adopt/evaluate a legislative program, act on resolutions and new business items, and conduct other necessary for the business of the OEA.

The RA is made up of members who have been elected as delegates to represent their Local Associations. Suppose you haven't been elected as a delegate and want to see what happens at an RA. In that case, you are welcome to attend the OEA RA as a guest, but according to the OEA Constitution and Bylaws provisions or policy, as a guest, you are unable to debate and vote on any of the issues.

### So, why me?

#### POWER

You will have voting power. Your local is not like any other local in Ohio. We all have similarities, but like we are as individuals, all locals are unique. Being a delegate to the RA allows us to vote for things that matter to our locals, whether large or small, in a rural or urban area. You can vote for things that matter to YOUR local. You get to add your voice to over 121,000 other voices across the state.

#### VOICE

As educators, we are the experts when it comes to knowing what is best for our students. As a delegate to the RA, you can use your voice to move action items to ensure state policy provides those students with a quality public education. Your voice allows you to be a part of selecting who represents us at the state and national levels. You can share your personal experiences as an educator with others from around the state, and those collective voices matter and make a difference!

#### NETWORKING

As a delegate to the RA, you have the opportunity to network with other educators from across the state of Ohio. You can talk with members from locals who have problems similar to your local. You can get ideas from different locals and share what has been successful with your locals. As a delegate, you realize that you are not alone. We are all in this together and can be successful together.

## Central Board Member Roles

The President and Vice President are elected by delegates to the Central Representative Assembly. The President is the executive officer and spokesperson for Central, presides over all meetings of the Executive Board and Representative Assemblies, and appoints all committees and their chairpersons with the advice and approval of the Executive Board. The Vice President assumes the duties of the President in their absence and perform other duties as directed by the President and the Executive Board.

Ohio's NEA Directors are elected by delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly. Their role is to represent Central members as they lobby in D.C., taking concerns to our federal lawmakers and acting as a liaison between the NEA Board of Directors and OEA's Board and membership.

OEA Directors are elected by delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly. Central has nine OEA Directors in Units 1-8 and an Education Support Professional (ESP) At-Large Director. Their role includes representing Central on all matters before the OEA Board of Directors and acting as a liaison between the Central Executive Board and the OEA Board of Directors.

Central Area Representatives are elected by delegates to the Central Representative Assembly from their specific area. Areas 1-5 are based on counties within the Central OEA/NEA District. Their role includes acting as a liaison with their area association leaders and membership and reporting concerns to the Central Executive Board.

ESP Representative is elected by Central's ESP members. The number of ESP representatives reflects the proportion of Central's ESP members. Their role includes acting as a liaison between ESPs and the Central Executive Board.

The Central Board also includes a Retired Representative, a SCOPE Representative and a Student Representative, all appointed annually by the Board.

Supporting the Board are staff members, the Fiscal Manager and the Communications & Organizing Coordinator.

#### KNOWLEDGE

When you attend the OEA Representative Assembly (OEA RA), you are the person who becomes the point of information. You will return to your Association's members with knowledge about the goals all OEA members have charged OEA leadership with for the upcoming year. Members will look to you to keep them informed about OEA's business, legislative issues, and political agendas.

### So, why me? Why wouldn't you?

## Free Professional Development and CEU's

The Membership Development Committee is privileged to present professional conferences for Central members. They are always open and free to all, provide CEUs and are opportunities to network with other educators.

The Power Up Conference will be Saturday, March 22, 2025. Topics have included student and educator wellbeing, advocating at the local level, professional code of conduct training, social media awareness and more.

The Local Leader Retreat takes place June 9-10, 2025. It offers training specific to current and future leaders. The most important part of this retreat though is time to work together as a leadership group to plan for the coming year or deal with issues in your local.

Local Association Training, which includes sessions for local presidents/vice presidents, new/experienced Treasurers, and Association Representatives takes place on June 5, 2025.

The Member Engagement Committee provides members with opportunities year-round, from the annual Diversity Conference scheduled for February 15, 2025, to 1-hour virtual Speaker Series sessions throughout the year. Educating members on topics as diverse as dyslexia, economic and social justice, rural education, second language learners, and much more. We are constantly striving to meet the needs of members as our communities and challenges change.

### Micro-Credentials

NEA has a program that allows educators to earn micro-credential certificates. Whether you want to learn about bully-free schools, restorative practices, exceptional learners, English language learners, or 80 other topics of interest, NEA micro-credentials has a course for you. The micro-credential program has the benefit of being personal, flexible, and performance-based for the educator. Learn more at [www.nea.org/professional-excellence/professional-learning/micro-credentials](http://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/professional-learning/micro-credentials)

### The OEA Higher Education Benefit

With the OEA Higher Education Benefit, you and your family members can earn an associate degree online from a public, accredited community college – with no out-of-pocket costs to you. This can save you thousands of dollars. And the process is simple. To learn more visit [freecollege.ohea.org](http://freecollege.ohea.org)

**POWER UP**  
With Central OEA/NEA PD

Summer 2024

## Conferences and Scholarships

As part of our mission, Central OEA/NEA offers members scholarships to attend Central, OEA and NEA conferences and events that promote leadership, involvement, diversity, and building and supporting locals. Scholarships are awarded as funds are available. More information and applications are available on our website.

**NEA Leadership Summit:** Incredible learning experience to prepare our leaders with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead a relevant and thriving organization. Special pre-conference workshops for women and minorities will be offered.

**NEA ESP National Conference:** premiere event to enhance the skills and knowledge of ESP members nationwide.

**NEA Higher Ed Conference:** national conference for members of higher educational institutions.

**NEA Retired Conference:** devoted to training retired members to organize and advance the cause of public education.

**NEA RA Delegate Scholarship:** for elected local delegates to the annual NEA Representative Assembly.

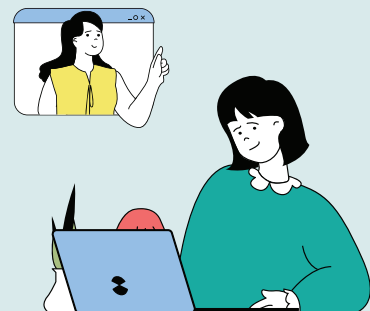
**OAESP Summer Leadership Meeting:** statewide meeting for ESP members to obtain practical knowledge and leadership skills.

**OEA Advocacy and Organizing Institute:** training for local leaders and bargaining team members. Scholarships should cover the registration cost for the conference including an overnight room (based on double occupancy) and meals.

**OEA Summer Leadership Academy:** provides the opportunity for emerging and prospective leaders to obtain practical knowledge and networking with other leaders. \$100 scholarship to cover the cost of registration.

**Vivian Brown Educational Scholarship for College Students:** awarded each spring to the child of a Central OEA/NEA member who is enrolled in an Ohio university or college course of study leading to a degree in education.

**NEW!** Continuing Education Scholarship: awarded each spring to a Central OEA/NEA member who is enrolled in a course of study supporting their role in education.



# Grants, Grants, Grants, and Incentives!

It pays to get involved...literally! Up to \$1250 in Local Participation Incentives can be earned for each Local this year! Ask not what your union can do for you, but what you can do for your union. Members can run in your Local as a delegate to the Central and OEA Representative Assemblies, or attend one of Central's professional development opportunities. We are happy to help you get started and support you in any of these activities—just ask! Check out our website for activities and register there.

Central OEA/NEA'S Public Relations Grant is designed to provide support to Locals engaging their members with the community. Grant funds can be used for a variety of items or activities including, but not limited to apparel, awards, banners, buttons, fair/festival booths, involvement in community charitable events, sponsoring youth events, races, community parades, or yard signs to welcome kindergarteners or honor graduates. If you have an activity that will bolster the image of your Local in the community, please share your ideas with Local leaders! Central's Locals are eligible for a Public Relations Grant of up to \$500 once every three years.

Central's Growth & Development Grant is as easy as ever, and there is no limit to the number of times or the amount for which a Local can apply. We want to keep your Local strong and build leadership. To that end, the online application now includes a menu of growth and development activities based on activities proven to develop new leaders and engage members. As a union member, we encourage you to volunteer and work with your Local leadership to go through the menu and choose a few activities for the year, then apply. Some of these may be activities that your Local has wanted to try but lacked the funding to get started. Let us help you get the ball rolling. The GDG coordinator can earn a stipend from Central.

The Local Emergency Grant Program was created to assist Local Associations with projects of an immediate or urgent nature. Community initiatives such as a school district levy or bond campaigns are examples of activities that align with the intended target of these grants. Some funding has been for: postcards, postage, printing costs, refreshments for levy committee meetings, support to the levy committee, etc. This grant is available to all of our Locals once a year, and Local Association leadership may apply for this as needed.

As a member, you can work with Local leaders to assist in the application process. Central grant applications are reviewed monthly throughout the school year, and Locals may apply for each type of grant. We look forward to seeing your Local applications soon! There is more information on our website, [www.centraloeanea.org](http://www.centraloeanea.org), where you will also find the online applications.

# Know Your Weingarten Rights

Every OEA member is guaranteed the right to union representation during an investigatory interview conducted by his or her employer if the interview could in any way lead to discipline, including termination, or could affect the member's personal or working conditions. In this situation, the member should request that an association representative or officer be present at the meeting. Without this representation, the member has the right to choose not to answer any questions per the United States Supreme Court case of *NLRB v. J. Weingarten, Inc.*, 420 U.S. 251 (1975). It is very important to remember that the employer does not have to advise an employee of his or her rights under Weingarten.

OEA suggests that representation occur any time the purpose of the meeting is any of the following:

- Any type of disciplinary action;
- Investigation meeting;
- Reprimand;
- Infraction of a work rule or board policy;
- Questions concerning a request or use of any leave;
- Allegations of abuse; and
- Parental, student or community complaint.

Members should ask their principal, supervisor, or other management personnel to clarify the purpose of the meeting to determine if association representation is needed. We recommend using the following language to ensure your rights:

If the discussion I am being asked to enter into could in any way lead to my discipline or termination or affect my personal working conditions, I ask that an association representative or officer be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions. That is my right under a U.S. Supreme Court decision called Weingarten.

When the employee makes the request for an Association Representative to be present, the employer can do any of the following: (1) stop questioning until the representative arrives; (2) cancel the interview; or (3) tell the employee it will cancel the interview unless the employee voluntarily gives up his or her rights to representation. No member should ever waive his or her right to representation.

For more information about your rights as an OEA member, speak to your Labor Relations Consultant.



# So, any big plans for the summer?

**Guy Kendall-Freas, (former Ohio teacher and OEA leader; now an Affiliate Relations Specialist with NEA member Benefits)**

Last spring, I asked OEA members about plans for their summer, wondering what big adventures might be undertaken, what tasks might be tackled, and what diversions from the day-to-day routines are being planned. Our mission at NEA Member Benefits is to HELP MAKE MEMBERS LIVES BETTER and member responses got me wondering how NEA Member Benefits might MAKE MEMBERS SUMMERS BETTER.

One member outlined plans to attend over a dozen concerts all over the country. I wondered if she knew about the NEA Discount Ticket Program through which members can get tickets to concerts, sporting events, amusement parks, movie cinemas, and other events – almost anything that requires a ticket for admission (other than traffic court) is available for less through the program.

Another explained that they planned to travel to several states, continuing their goal of visiting all 50. I wondered if they knew that the NEA Travel Program promises the lowest available cost for hotels and resorts, airfare, car rentals, cruises and guided tours AND that every NEA member has at least \$500 of credit to use to further reduce the costs when booked through the NEA Travel Program? We call them Travel Dollars and what isn't used in twelve months will expire, only to be replenished the next day.

A newly graduated aspiring educator shared that they were planning the set-up of their first classroom and I wondered if they knew that they can save on purchases made at over 3,500 merchants featured on the NEA Discount Marketplace AND get cash back on every purchase, too.

Since it's all on-line, finding the best deal is so easy and they could do all their shopping while simultaneously relaxing on the beach or poolside.

Another talked about working over the summer, trying to put back a bit more money for a child's college expenses. I wondered if they knew about the NEA College Loan Program which can fund up to 100% of the costs of college for members and their children, with no origination fee (unlike Parent Plus loans that charge a 4% origination fee), no pre-payment penalty, and attractive rates that are discounted more just for being an NEA member!

I concluded that NEA Member Benefits absolutely can help make members summer better but not just summers, every day, all year long, for as long as they remain a member. You can learn more about ways we do that at [www.neamb.com/](http://www.neamb.com/) start. Best wishes for the upcoming school year – may it be your best year ever!

You can contact Guy at [gkendall-freas@neamb.com](mailto:gkendall-freas@neamb.com).



## Sign Up for Central's Advocate for Children and Education (ACE) Emails

Interested in education policy and how you can stay informed? Want to know how to get involved? Sign up to receive our ACEs list at [www.centraloearna.org/ace](http://www.centraloearna.org/ace)

Elected officials enact policies that affect our students, our schools and the daily lives of educators. Decisions regarding school funding, services, curriculum standards, licensure, class sizes and teacher evaluation are all made by elected officials. As Ohio's legislators consider policies that affect public education, they must hear from educators—the true experts on education issues. As teachers, faculty and education support professionals, OEA members should get involved in these decisions and make their voices heard.

By signing up you will be able to learn more and act on current issues affecting public education.

We promise we won't spam you, but instead, we will always try to make sure our emails are relevant and timely. You can unsubscribe at any time. [www.centraloearna.org/ace](http://www.centraloearna.org/ace)



# Serving on a Central Committee

Your experience, expertise and voice are needed and can help shape the direction of Central's many programs.

If you are interested in participating in one of the following Central committees, you can apply on our website here

[www.centraloaneaa.org/for-members/committee-interest](http://www.centraloaneaa.org/for-members/committee-interest).

Committees typically meet once a month, with most meetings held virtually. Central provides a meeting stipend.

Here are the committees you can apply to serve on:

## Constitution and Bylaws

Periodically reviews the governing documents and makes recommendations for changes. Handling the details of preparing ballots, conducting elections, and other election-related responsibilities.

## Convention Planning

Plans and implements the annual Representative Assembly.

## Awards Committee

Designs an award program for effective Local Associations and outstanding association leaders and nominating potential award recipients.

## Finance Committee

Recommends an annual budget and oversees expenditures, administering grant programs, and fiscal oversight of the Association.

## Membership Development Committee

Plans conferences and workshops for local leaders and membership designed to meet Local Association needs and personal professional growth.

## Membership Engagement

Plans strategies for engaging a diverse cross-section of members in Association leadership (i.e., Minorities, ESP and Retired members).

## Member Communications Committee

Makes recommendations related to effective communications between the Association and its members.

## Organizing Committee

Reviews the NEA competencies on organizing to determine how to best serve our members. Mobilizing members into action to become education advocates.

You can also apply to serve on OEA committees. Learn more and apply to serve by visiting [www.centraloaneaa.org/for-members/committee-interest](http://www.centraloaneaa.org/for-members/committee-interest)

# Curious About Getting Involved in the Union? Join the Emerging Leaders Program!

## Janet Carter (SCOPE) Testimonial

In 2023, I came across a flyer for the Emerging Leaders program. I had been a union site representative for several years but desired to improve my leadership skills.

The program exceeded my expectations. It provided ample opportunity to network with others who also wanted to grow as leaders. Amazing guest speakers and excellent program facilitators provided interactive guidance and activities to enhance personal and professional leadership skills.

I recommend that anyone who may be an aspiring leader participate in this program. You will explore your leadership style, learn how to adapt it, and share concepts and ideas with others who share your desire to either become a leader or improve your leadership skills. If you are looking to get more involved in your local association but don't know where to start, Central OEA/NEA offers interested members an Emerging Leaders program to get you on your way.

Come learn about...

- The many layers of the Association
- Learn what your Leadership Style is
- Issues you will encounter as an Association Leader
- Skills you will need as an Association Leader
- How you can become more involved in your Association
- How to become an OEA or NEA delegate to Rep Assembly and why
- What does OEA Headquarters look like....

## Led by:

Erin Stevens, Pickerington EA and Kim Cooper, Reynoldsburg EA

## If you Are Interested:

If you are interested in learning more about the program or wish to join, send an email to: [emerging.leaders@centraloaneaa.org](mailto:emerging.leaders@centraloaneaa.org)

## Free Contact Hours

Upon completion of the program, participants will be awarded a certificate detailing the number of contact hours earned.



# Join an OEA Caucus

Joining a caucus is a great way to meet and advocate with like-minded educators. Typically, there is a membership fee to join, but all members are welcome to participate in each caucus. If you would like to join a caucus, you should email the contact person for more information on how to get involved.

## **OEA BAT Caucus (OEABAT)**

Alexander, Brittany – Chairperson,  
E-mail: [buckeyegirl.alex@gmail.com](mailto:buckeyegirl.alex@gmail.com)  
Linch, Karen – Vice Chairperson,  
E-mail: [karengs@yahoo.com](mailto:karengs@yahoo.com)  
Thompson, Sherise – Treasurer,  
E-mail: [sheriseklat@gmail.com](mailto:sheriseklat@gmail.com)  
Website: [sites.google.com/view/oeabatcaucus/home](https://sites.google.com/view/oeabatcaucus/home)

## **DORIS L. ALLEN Minority Caucus (DLAMC)**

Marshall, Dwayne – President,  
E-mail: [marshall.133@icloud.com](mailto:marshall.133@icloud.com) or  
[marshalld@ohea.org](mailto:marshalld@ohea.org)  
Daniels, Cassandra – Vice President,  
E-mail: [danielsc@ohea.org](mailto:danielsc@ohea.org)  
Correthers, Carol – Secretary,  
E-mail: [correthersc@ohea.org](mailto:correthersc@ohea.org)  
Website: [www.dlamcofohio.org](http://www.dlamcofohio.org)

## **OEA HISPANIC Caucus (OEAHC)**

Jordan, Linna – Chairperson,  
E-mail: [jordanli1973@gmail.com](mailto:jordanli1973@gmail.com)  
Garcia, Julie – Vice Chairperson,  
E-mail: [juliegarcia60@gmail.com](mailto:juliegarcia60@gmail.com)  
Peloquin, Sandra – Secretary,  
E-mail: [speloquin@lorainccc.edu](mailto:speloquin@lorainccc.edu)

## **OEA LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER PLUS Caucus (OEA-LGBTQ+)**

Butlien-Cohen, Kara – Chairperson,  
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## **OEA RURAL Caucus (OEARC)**

Callahan, Sharron – Chairperson,  
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## **OEA WOMEN'S Caucus (OEAWC)**

Daniels, Cassandra – Chairperson,  
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Belinda Dixon- Vice Chair  
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## Meet a Member Who Recently Got Involved: Kelley Stocker

### **Education experience:**

Finishing year 10, Westerville Education Association (Westerville South High School), Social Studies: Government and African American History

### **Involvement in WEA:**

Fac Rep for 7 years and PAC Chair for a year

### **What do you do as PAC chair for WEA:**

Organize the screening committee for local school board candidates, recommend endorsements to our local executive board, help endorsed candidates' campaign, and organize the OEA fund drive.

### **Why is this work important:**

It is critically essential to have a local organization that is engaged and informed about the people making decisions that affect our working conditions, students, and education communities.

### **How has WEA/Central/OEA helped you:**

I have gained so much knowledge and skill as a Fac Rep and PAC Chair from attending professional development workshops and conferences.

### **What have you learned:**

I am looking forward to attending my first OEA Summer Academy and learning a lot more about engaging and organizing around local and state politics.

### **What are your goals for the next and upcoming years:**

To learn as much as I can about local and state politics to effectively engage our membership in using their voices and votes to choose elected leaders that will prioritize public education.



 COMMUNIQUE  
Summer 2024



**THANK YOU**

**for being a member of  
Central OEA/NEA**

You are the true expert in education!

You deserve a voice  
in how best to educate our students.

We are here to support you.

Adrienne & Jim,  
Central Leadership

**Association  
Benefits**

- Free CEUs
- Liability Protection
- Improving Professional Practice
- Professional Networking



**Dates of Note**

- |          |                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 11/8/24  | Central All Area & Delegate Briefing |
| 12/7/24  | OEA RA                               |
| 2/15/25  | Central Diversity Conference         |
| 1/24/25* | MLT/WLT (East)                       |
| 3/7/25*  | NEA Summit                           |
| 3/22/25  | Central Power Up Conference          |
| 3/22/25* | NEA ESP Conference                   |
| 4/25/25  | Central RA                           |
| 5/9/25*  | OEA RA                               |
| 6/16/25* | Central Local Retreat                |
| 7/2/25*  | NEA RA                               |

\*Multi-day event.  
First day listed.