



Educators across the state give to the OEA Fund.



The OEA Fund pulls our resources together so our voices will be heard.



Educators sit down with candidates and ask the questions that matter the most to public schools. We endorse candidates based on their positions on education issues.



When our endorsed candidates get elected, we have a seat at the table for important decisions about public education.

TAKING POLITICAL ACTION

Major decisions affecting public education and education employees are made by those elected to public office. For that reason, OEA and NEA screen and recommend candidates for election. The associations also contribute to campaigns of recommended candidates. To comply with election law, money contributed to campaigns must come from political action committees whose funds are not intermingled with those of the Association.

Each year, the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) conducts fund raising campaigns among its members. Twenty percent of the money collected through voluntary contributions is forwarded to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. The OEA Fund Council, made up of OEA members, determines how its money will be spent. The NEA Fund does the same, contributing to campaigns in Ohio.

Members can claim a credit against state income tax for contributions made to the campaign committee of candidates for any of the following

Ohio offices: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor of State, Treasurer of State, Attorney General, Ohio Board of Education, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives. Ohio law permits a state income tax credit up to \$50 for single filers and \$100 for joint filers. Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

OEA members have a long tradition of effective activism. It starts with understanding that policy decisions affecting educators and the future of public education are made by elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels. Whether it's rallying crowds, coming to Columbus to lobby legislators, or connecting with them through mail, phone calls, emails, and social media, our member-activists make the case for issues that matter to educators, students, and public schools.

By making contributions to the OEA Fund, OEA members ensure that those who advocate for students and support public education, regardless of political party, are elected and retain public office.

This year it is critically important that our voices are heard. We need to ensure schools receive the funding they need for students and educators to have a safe return to school while still making progress on issues like EdChoice Vouchers, testing, and repealing Ohio's failed state takeover law. These efforts have been made possible through supporting propublic education candidates and legislators with FCPE funds.

There are many ways you can get involved to help make our collective voice stronger:

- Learn more about issues being debated in the Ohio General Assembly and U.S. Congress that affect you and your profession by visiting www.ohea.org/get-involved/.
- Find your legislator (and their OEA Legislative Scorecard) at scorecard.ohea.org/.
- Attend an OEA Member Lobby Day.
- Contribute to the OEA/NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. Visit www.ohea.org/donate/.