



April 2026 District Retired News Brief by Kathleen Purdy, ecoeavp@yahoo.com

Dear Actives and Retired Members.

As the close of another successful school year comes to an end, it has been my pleasure to work with many of you, in the district. Currently, we have a vacancy for you on the Advisory Council as I am term-limited. If you are retiring or not, remember that you can join the OEA-Retired as a lifetime member. Payments and the amounts will continue your involvement. This is your powerful voice to help shape public education and continue to be a part of our community. We need you.

Congratulations to our retirees that voted in the NEA-Retired Elections where Carol Kinsey was elected as a Delegate and Kathleen Purdy was elected as the first Alternate. Kathleen will be attending as a Delegate and seeking her 5th term on the NEA Resolutions Committee. Hopefully, Valerie Heban, another alternate might be able to attend as a Delegate, too!



(Most of the OEA-Retired Advisory Council Members are present.)

“I just looked at my laugh lines in the mirror and I genuinely do not remember anything being that hilarious!”

Ohio Education Association Fund (for Children and Public Education)

On Tuesday, February 24, 2026, the State Convention was held during a Virtual setting. OEA President Jeff Wensing, the Chair highlighted the importance of contributing to the Fund. The State Council shared their February 3 screening recommendation of Dr. Amy Acton for Governor. The other candidate did not fill out the screening questionnaire. During the conclusion of the OEA Summer Leadership, a FCPE meeting will be held from 1:00p – 4:00p on June 24, 2025.

Please consider making a contribution to the FCPE by sending in a money order or check or online to the OEA. Because we are retired, we no longer use payroll deduction, like the actives. Send to OEA, 225 East Broad St., Box 250, Columbus, OH 43216.

An Evening with Amy Acton will be held in Canton & Stark County at a moderated town hall event, on May 22, 2026.

This will be held at the Canton Memorial Civic Center, 1101 Market Ave N., Canton, OH. It is open to the public, however you must RSVP. Contact OEA for additional questions.

Canton Senior Expo, with free Admission & Parking will be held Wednesday, **May 6, 2026** from 8:00am – 1:00 pm at the Cultural Center for the Arts, 1001 Market Ave, N. in Canton. It is presented by the Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recover and Honey Suite. Other presenters will be available. Be sure to check out the **Scams Affecting Seniors** display table. The top 3 riskiest Scams are “Travel/Vacation/Timeshare”, “Home Improvement Scams” and “Romance Scams.” Additionally, Seniors 65+ lose the most money to scammers. \$350 Median Reported Loss to BBB Scam Tracker versus \$160 across all ages. Be especially wary of scams online. You are more than twice as likely to lose money online than by phone.

- PREVENT. Prevent Medicare fraud to protect yourself. Treat your Medicare and Social Security numbers like your credit cards. Never give these numbers to anyone you do not know.
- DETECT. Detect possible fraud, errors, and abuse. Review your Medicare statement for mistakes by comparing them to your personal records.

- **REPORT.** Report suspected fraud, errors, and abuse. If you think you have been a target of fraud, report it.

April 11, 2026 District Representative Assembly in Canton.



Delegate **Yvonne Parks** is welcoming Representative **Kathleen Purdy** back. She continues to request your kind thoughts and prayers as she is working on a full recovery.



Top (OEA/NEA Directors share news from “The Hill.”) Below (ECOEA’s New



Executive Director Laurie Spangler.)