

NOV 2014

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Levy Passes: Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to every teacher who donated money, gave of their time to phone bank or walk neighborhoods for literature drops or canvassing. Anything that you did to have conversations to get out the vote for Issue 1 is very much appreciated.

The teachers personally donated over \$2,500 for the campaign. Jenny wrote and received a

grant to Central OEA for \$2,000 to pay for the postage and printing of 4,500 postcards that were used as a chaser for every single person who asked for an absentee ballot.

Below is an email that Jenny received from the GJ Board President, Jill Schuler, who asked her to share it with the teachers:



To Teachers and GJPS Supporters

Firstly, on behalf of the Board of Education, we congratulate each of you on the mission accomplished Tuesday night! The GJPS district is well served by its community and we couldn't be prouder. The successes of the classroom parlayed into a victory in the voting booth.

Secondly, thanks to all of you for your unwavering support of the school district, for your commitment to community excellence and the drive and fortitude to make good things happen. As parents we understand the family sacrifices each of you have made; that does not go unnoticed. In this community endeavor we want to thank you for the walking, talking, hosting, meeting, giving,

planning, recruiting, organizing, setting up, tearing down, baking, and the multitude of other tasks that were required to make this issue successful. The benefits of the success of this levy will be felt for years in the school district and community. Your willingness to step up made the difference; clearly its success would have been jeopardized without each and every person that helped in the process.

Again, we are thankful for your willingness to serve and grateful for each of your commitment to community.

Most sincerely,
Jill



Mark Your Calendar:

11/16	American Ed. Week
11/27	Happy Thanksgiving
11/29	OH—IO! Go Bucks
11/30	Advent Begins
12/11	Board of Ed Meeting
12/16	Hanukkah Begins
12/22	Winter Break Begins

GJEA Board of Directors Meetings

4:00 PM at Lincoln High School Library

December 17

January 21

February 18

March 18

April 15

May 13

All members are welcome to attend!

School Levy Passes

. Teachers donated over \$7500, walked door to door, made phone calls and most important voted. Your support has paid off and will mean better days for the district as a whole. Now that the levy has passed, what does it mean? The district will receive about \$3 million dollars a year for such improvements as the purchase of school buses, replacement of auditorium seating at the high school, compressors in A/C unit at Middle School East, replacements of the roof at Royal manner and Jefferson, upgrading lighting at Royal Manner, AC repair at Middle School South and many other projects in which all buildings should see improvements. It not only means improvement in the health and safety of the buildings but

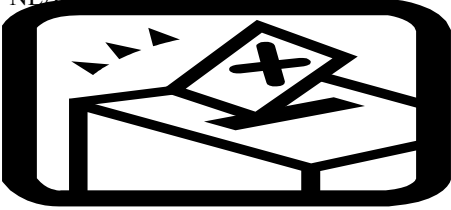
Lobby Days

places teachers in a better position come negotiations.

Joan Miller, Paige Harding and Dwayne Marshall will be heading for the Statehouse on November 19 to speak with representatives about the issues that teachers are experiencing in the classroom. One such issue will be about the over testing of our students and using these assessments to determine a teacher's worth. Lobby Days are setup through out the year by OEA to allow any member to speak with your state representatives about educational issues. Our representatives need to hear the personal stories of educators. We need to speak up and hold the people we elect accountable. As once

State and Local Elections

This election would not have passed if for change for strongly support public education. NEA is watching and ready to fight any bills that they see as harmful to our profession and our students. The good news was that 5 of the 7 state school board members elected are for pro-public education. These elections also mean that more than ever we need a strong OEA to fight anti-public education bills at the state level while NEA fights at the national level.



GJEA Election Results

The GJEA elections results for both NEA and OEA delegates are as follows:

For representing GJEA at the NEA National Convention will be Jenny Palguta, Paige Harding and Dwayne Marshall. Alternates in order are Dave Palguta, Josh Goody, and Sarah Hanson. In the near future we will have the opportunity elect State Delegates allowing some alternates to attend giving GJEA stronger representation.

Representing GJEA at the OEA State Convention will be Jenny Palguta,

Dwayne Marshall, Paige Harding, Joan Miller, Josh Goody, Dave Palguta, Matt Anderson, Rachel Coldwell, Sarah Hanson and Lindsay Dexter. Jim Birath will be an alternative.

Both of these conventions allow the delegates to forge policy and give directions to how the organization shapes education both at the



LPDC Reminder

Do you have a question about your teaching license? Will you need to renew your teaching license in 2015? All license-related questions can be answered by our Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC), with all related information now located on the GJPS Staff Intranet. Just look in the left column and scroll down to "Human Resources." Then click on the "LPDC" link. All current LPDC forms — including IPDP and CEU requests are now located at this site. LPDC Committee members include: Chair **Sandy Nicholson** (BE); Vice Chair **Rhonda Wamsley** (MSS); Secretary **Angela Potts** (LHS); **Mickie Sebenoler** (CO); and **Erin Anderson** (CO).

Legislation

There are a number of bills in the Statehouse that will affect the education profession. House Bill 228 will limit the number of hours a student can be tested in one year per subject to four hours. House Bill 642 places a 3-year suspension of high stakes testing. Other items: House Bill 343 that will eliminate Common Core has made it out of committee and will be voted on by the State House. It is believed that if this bill passes the State House, it has no chance of passing the Senate. Also, STRS, SERS and PERS have worked out an agreement that will allow transfer of credit. The legislators still have to accept the proposal, which is ex-

OEA– New APP: My OEA

The Ohio Educational Association has released a new app called "My OEA". The app gives easy access to OEA related information such as calendar, documents, and contact information. It also provides useful tools like "Postcard": This app allows you to create an electronic postcard and either send or share it with whomever you would like. You can even post it on Facebook or Twitter. "Take Action": read about the latest actions that are in the works and feel free to sign a petition or two showing your support. "Newsfeed": Stay tune for the latest educational news stories that

affect the state of public education. You will also have easy access to Twitter, Facebook and You-tube. There is more: the "MyDeals" app allows you easy access to discounts with various merchants locally and nationally right at your fingertips. Check it out for yourself and more important: it's free.



Know You Contract

Personal Leave:

All of the following information may be referenced on pages 37 & 38 of our contract about personal leave.

- * All teachers are allotted 3 personal days each year.
- * You may take them in whole or half day increments.

- * You are supposed to request it in AE-SOP at least 3 work days prior to your absence. You are expected to wait until you receive an approval email from your supervisor before you plan to be absent.
- * They do have the right to deny your leave if there are more than 25 teachers out on a Friday or a Monday.
- * You may not use it against a holiday unless you give a good reason. Please

email Matt Cygnor and explain why you need personal leave if it falls against a holiday. He has the authority to grant the day.

Finally, you "will receive an incentive for not using personal days in a given school year: \$150 for one day not used, \$250 for two days not used, and \$350 for three days not used, payable in the second July pay."