

# EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

## 2011 Resolutions

### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**CHAIR - Jennifer Bennett, Cleveland Hts #795**  
Vikki Bell, Arlington #4564  
Amy Jambor, Berea #1699  
Roslyn Painter-Goffi, Berea #1699  
Jay Bodnar, Brookfield #1728  
Sheri Ondo, Brookfield #1728  
Elizabeth Seich, Buckeye #4595  
Katie Hofmann, Cincinnati #1520  
Mary Rutledge, Cincinnati #1520  
Sandy Hawley, Cincinnati #1520  
Beth Rae, Cleveland Heights #795  
Jillian Ahrens, Cleveland #279  
Mark Baumgartner, Cleveland #279  
Sandra E. Green, Cleveland #279  
Meryl T. Johnson, Cleveland #279  
Wendi Kral, Cleveland #279  
Jim Wagner, Cleveland #279  
Dee Dee Faust, Georgetown #4903

Nicole Roberts, Georgetown #4903  
Mary jo McFarlane, Liberty-Benton #4943  
Eric Bickel, Miami Valley #4575  
Chris Treen, New Lexington #4186  
Kathy Young, New Lexington #4186  
Jody Kays, Newton Falls #4864  
Sue Layshock, Newton Falls #4864  
Terri Hook, Oregon City #1080  
Bob Polachek, Port Clinton #3217  
Maria Bailey, Toledo #250  
Denise Conrad, Toledo #250  
Lisa Dickinson, Toledo #250  
Kimberly Sams, Toledo #250  
Cindy Thomas, Van Wert #4088  
Karla Butler, Van Wert #4088  
Pattie Keipper, Van Wert #4088  
Todd Paul, Warren Co. #4474

### **Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)**

1  
2  
3  
4 WHEREAS the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is due for  
5 reauthorization, and  
6

7 WHEREAS the ESEA is an act that was put in place to support the public education of  
8 economically disadvantaged students, and  
9

10 WHEREAS lawmakers are considering reauthorizing ESEA using the competitive grant  
11 model of Race to the Top (RttT), and  
12

13 WHEREAS RttT was funded by stimulus money to support schools in difficult financial  
14 times and to encourage change and innovation, and  
15

16 WHEREAS there were inconsistencies in the judging of RttT applications that indicated  
17 subjectivity in awarding grants, and  
18

19 WHEREAS providing funding to impoverished and academically at risk children should  
20 not be dependent upon the grant writing skills of adults and should be accessible to all  
21 eligible students, therefore  
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) advocates that the  
24 ESEA not be a competitive grant process as was Race to the Top, and

25  
26 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that OFT petitions the American Federation of Teachers to  
27 work closely with lawmakers in Washington, DC to ensure that the ESEA not be a  
28 competitive grant process.  
29  
30

31 **Resolution in Support of HB 1, "The Education Opportunity Act"**

32  
33 WHEREAS the Education Opportunity Act (HB 1) gives every Ohio student a greater  
34 chance to succeed in the changing workplace, and  
35

36 WHEREAS the Education Opportunity Act (EOA) creates a foundation for Ohio's long-  
37 term progress by investing in our children and their education, and  
38

39 WHEREAS the EOA invests in four critical priorities for education: teaching and learning  
40 in the classroom; a new school funding system that equalizes funding; stronger parent-  
41 school-community partnerships; and greater accountability, and  
42

43 WHEREAS the EOA is written to phase in funding over ten years to support the  
44 education reforms it contains, and  
45

46 WHEREAS Ohio's Race to the Top (RttT) strategy demonstrates a commitment to the  
47 bold and innovative education reforms that are outlined in the EOA, therefore  
48

49 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers strongly supports the initiatives  
50 outlined by the EOA, and  
51

52 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers supports the reforms  
53 addressed in Ohio's RttT grant, and  
54

55 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers urges the Ohio  
56 legislature to maintain its support for EOA in order to support the transformation of  
57 education for the K-12 students in Ohio.  
58  
59

60 **Resolution on Race to the Top: Teacher Evaluation**

61  
62 WHEREAS Race to the Top (RttT) requires a comprehensive teacher evaluation  
63 system, and  
64

65 WHEREAS RttT requires locals to implement a teacher evaluation system that  
66 incorporates multiple measures of student growth, and  
67

68 WHEREAS student growth is only one component of measuring a teacher's  
69 performance, and  
70

71 WHEREAS annual state assessment test scores have been proposed as the way to  
72 measure student growth, and

73  
74 WHEREAS annual state assessments are only one of many ways to measure student  
75 growth, and

76  
77 WHEREAS the majority of teachers in Ohio do not teach in areas that are subject to  
78 annual state assessments, therefore

79  
80 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) supports a  
81 comprehensive teacher evaluation system that is fair, credible, and evidence based,  
82 and

83  
84 BE IT RESOLVED that the OFT investigates multiple ways to measure student growth.  
85 therefore

86  
87 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the OFT investigates ways to evaluate all teachers  
88 (academic core teachers and non-core teachers) equitably, using a comprehensive  
89 evaluation system that incorporates multiple measures of teacher performance.

90  
91

### **Resolution on School Improvement Grants**

92  
93  
94 WHEREAS the federal government makes available competitive School Improvement  
95 Grants (SIG) for states and districts, and

96  
97 WHEREAS the grants set forth opportunities to advance school improvement initiatives,  
98 and

99  
100 WHEREAS the grants require districts to develop a written proposal that adheres to an  
101 established rubric, and

102  
103 WHEREAS federal grants are reviewed by external evaluators using this rubric, and

104  
105 WHEREAS districts send representatives to be evaluators who were not familiar with  
106 the SIG writing process, therefore

107  
108 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers supports the identification of  
109 qualified SIG readers who are knowledgeable of the requirements set forth within the  
110 grant and the rubric and who are also experienced in the SIG writing process.

111  
112

### **Resolution on Race to the Top: Helping Locals Network**

113  
114  
115 WHEREAS Race to the Top (RttT) encourages collaboration, and

116  
117 WHEREAS networking between Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) locals is  
118 encouraged and helpful, and

119  
120 WHEREAS it is important to provide web space for online networking, therefore

121  
122 **BE IT RESOLVED** that OFT supports RttT by providing web space for OFT locals that  
123 are interested in pursuing networking, and  
124  
125 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that OFT will post OFT locals' RttT proposals to  
126 encourage locals to find potential networking relationships.