

# Legislative and School Finance

## 2011 Resolutions

### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**CHAIR - Michele Pomerantz, Cleveland #279**  
William Boone, Berea #1699  
John Chapman, Berea #1699  
Bryan Trego, Botkins #4484  
Don Luckie, Cincinnati #1520  
Jim Schad, Cincinnati #1520  
Julie Sellers, Cincinnati #1520  
Jane Simon, Cincinnati #1520  
Mary Ann Brennan, Cleveland Heights #795  
Ari Klein, Cleveland Heights #795  
Tom Schmida, Cleveland Heights #795  
Bonnie Hedges, Cleveland #279  
Todd LeVeck, Cleveland #279

Shari Obrenski, Cleveland #279  
David J. Quolke, Cleveland #279  
Rachael Osman, Georgetown #4903  
Amy Geiger, Greenon #4370  
Kim Mautz, New Lexington #4186  
Karen Lewis, Oregon City #1080  
Mary Tucker, Oregon City #1080  
Greg Grime, Port Clinton #3217  
Kevin Dalton, Toledo #250  
Robyn Hage, Toledo #250  
Kathy Wersell, Toledo #250  
Alicia Daugherty, Triad #4970  
Darold Johnson, OFT Staff

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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3 WHEREAS, AFT delegates passed a resolution at its 2010 Convention committing itself  
4 to strengthening its ties at the national, state and local levels to communities in which  
5 we live and work and invite them to make the same commitment to our affiliates at  
6 every level: to become full partners with them in shaping and building the institutions  
7 that serve our communities and help shape our children's futures; and  
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9 WHEREAS, communities and the institutions and people that serve them are  
10 inextricably bound; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) and its members both serve and  
13 are a part of the communities in which they live and work; and  
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15 WHEREAS, for the OFT, community is defined not just by our members' workplaces or  
16 by geographic boundaries, but also by the values we share with the many people who  
17 come together in pursuit of common goals; and  
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19 WHEREAS, AFT and OFT seek to ensure that our communities thrive, not simply  
20 survive by working to create access to quality healthcare and public education,  
21 promoting safe neighborhoods, good jobs and the access to them, fostering mutual  
22 respect among individuals and groups, and a commitment to shared responsibility for  
23 the well-being of the whole community; and  
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25 WHEREAS, OFT has worked with locals to develop leadership that would move our  
26 union from one that is reactive to one that is proactive; and  
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28 WHEREAS, OFT has used the Gateway Training and Young Leadership Training  
29 programs to achieve this proactive goal over the past five years, and  
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31 WHEREAS, the new Ohio political and economic landscape and the emphasis on job  
32 creation calls for a grassroots effort to shape state and national policies protecting  
33 middle class families and developing policies that create jobs; and  
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35 WHEREAS, no community can flourish unless its children are well-educated, healthy,  
36 safe and provided for; and  
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38 WHEREAS, no public education system, healthcare system or other public service can  
39 flourish without the engagement and support of the immediate and broader communities  
40 they serve and in which they exist; and  
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42 WHEREAS, the OFT and AFT understand the power of collective voice and collective  
43 purpose; therefore  
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45 BE IT RESOLVED, that the OFT and AFT commit to collaboration with our community  
46 partners to build and maintain strong, vital and vibrant neighborhoods and communities  
47 that help make success in schools, success in careers, and success in life possible for  
48 all our children.  
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51 **OHIO ONE NOW COALITION**  
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53 WHEREAS, as a result of the national recession and tax cuts begun in 2005, Ohio is  
54 currently facing at least an eight billion dollar deficit as the governor and general  
55 assembly begin to consider and approve a biennium budget for fiscal years 2012-2013;  
56 and  
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58 WHEREAS, without revenue increases one out of every six dollars that had been  
59 appropriated for Ohio's needs will have to be cut; and  
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61 WHEREAS, such cuts will detrimentally affect public services including; anticipated cuts  
62 to public education, local government fund, child care, elderly services, health care,  
63 mental health services, public transportation, library services, and other critical needs;  
64 and  
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66 WHEREAS, in this economic climate with Ohio having 9.6% unemployment rate and  
67 millions of others struggling to make ends meet, we cannot afford to decrease or  
68 eliminate services that will diminish opportunities for Ohio citizens to move forward  
69 productively with their lives; and  
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71 WHEREAS, to protect critical services state leaders should use a balanced approach  
72 that includes revenues to address the state's financial crisis. The state needs  
73 productive, stable revenue solutions that reflect today's economy; and therefore

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**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ohio Federation of Teachers supports principles of the One Ohio Now Coalition, which is working to address the revenue shortfall through:**

- a balanced approach
- productive, stable, revenue solutions that reflect today's economy
- building on sound and sustainable public investments; and
- addressing the immediate crisis and plan for the future.