

REGULATIONS FOR ELECTION OF LOCAL ASSOCIATION DELEGATES OEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

- There is no limit to the number of candidate names on the ballot. Each association should make every effort to secure enough candidate names to provide for a sufficient number of alternates. Only those candidate names appearing on the ballot (including write-in candidates) may serve as a delegate or alternate to the December and May OEA Representative Assemblies.
- An affiliated local association may designate officers to serve as automatic delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly. The local's Constitution and Bylaws must contain specific language authorizing the designated officer(s) to serve as delegate by virtue of office. The ballot must also include a statement indicating the names of the officers serving as delegates by virtue of office in compliance with the local constitution (OEA Bylaw 4-9-f-3). Names of officers serving as a delegate by virtue of office must be recorded on the official election report form. Elections for local delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly must be held in all local associations, in compliance with the Landrum-Griffin Act.
- **DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE OEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MUST BE ELECTED – NOT APPOINTED!** The number of votes received by each candidate must appear on the reverse side of the official election report form in order for your election information to be processed by OEA.

<p>SAMPLE BALLOT</p> <p>Any Local Education Association</p> <p>Delegate to 2023-2024 OEA Representative Assembly</p> <p>Vote for no more than two (2) delegates</p> <p>in addition to Local President and Vice President (serve as automatic delegates by virtue of their offices) for a total of four (4) local delegates.</p>	
*	Jim Butcher
*	Anne McCaffery
	Robert Jordan
	Ariana Grande
	(write-in candidate)
	(write-in candidate)
<p>*Automatic delegate by virtue of office in accordance with local constitution/bylaws, Art. 3, Sec. 2.</p>	

- Landrum-Griffin regulations require that all ballots, marked, unmarked and voided must be retained by the local association for a period of one year from the date of the election.

- **DO NOT use the word “alternate”** when constructing your local association ballot! All candidates run for delegate status! Candidates are to be listed as delegates and alternates in rank order of votes received.
- Elections for local association delegates must be conducted by October 10 and reported to OEA by October 15 respectively, as stated in OEA Bylaw 4-9-d.
- Allocation of local association delegates shall be made on the basis of active membership in the association. Active members whose current annual dues have been paid or are in the process of being collected shall be counted in the delegate allocation as stated in OEA Bylaw 4-3-a-1. All membership forms must be received by the OEA Membership Division prior to the Representative Assembly to ensure the accuracy of delegate allocation counts.
- Delegates who are unable to attend the fall OEA Representative Assembly should contact their local president to request that they be replaced by an alternate. Note: The RA database will be reverted back to its “as-elected” state for the spring OEA Representative Assembly; therefore, any delegate-alternate switches made in the fall will not be in place in the spring.
- All candidates must be a member of their local, district, state and national associations. Names of all candidates must appear on the same ballot.
- A sample copy of a voided ballot used in the election or minutes from an association-wide general meeting indicating the results of the election must stay on file with the local for a period of no less than one (1) year, and be made available to OEA upon request.
- Local associations who did not meet the October 10 and/or October 15 election deadlines will need to submit a letter addressed to the OEA Credentials Committee explaining the reason for not meeting the deadlines. The delegates or president of the affected local will need to meet with the OEA Credentials Committee at delegate registration prior to or on-site at the Representative Assembly in order to have credentials released and be officially seated.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING OEA AND NEA ELECTIONS: The election of OEA and NEA Representative Assembly delegates and alternates is controlled by the Landrum-Griffin Act, which specifically requires that the notice of election must be **“mailed to each member at the member’s last known address”** at least **fifteen (15) days** before the election date. Posting or word of mouth is not sufficient. Publication in the local association newsletter is permitted so long as the newsletter is mailed to the home address of each member. The notice should include the date, time and place of the election, and also list the offices to be voted on and, if possible, the list of candidate names. If more than two candidates are running for a single office, it is wise to include in the notice the date, time and place of any runoff election which may be necessary. To avoid election challenges at the local level, OEA members/leaders must conduct elections in accordance with the Ohio Education Association Manual for the Conduct of Local Association Elections and the Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreements. Local leaders responsible for conducting elections should pay special attention to sections dealing with Notice of Nominations and Notice of Elections. The Manual may be downloaded at www.ohea.org, navigate to “Log In,” click on the “Member Center” category and then on the “Members Only” subcategory. The Manual may also be obtained from the local UniServ Office or OEA Executive Offices by calling toll-free 800-282-1500 x3169.