



# OAPSE News

Official Publication of the Ohio Association of Public School Employees, OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO

Vol. 69, No. 1

Fall, 2010

## ***Voter Anger is Well Deserved . . . So is a Vote for Governor Strickland***

### ***Blame for Failed Policies Rests with Bush, Kasich, Portman & Friends***

**R**ecent polls from Gallup and others indicate that voters are irate and plan to take out their anger on incumbent politicians. I don't need a pollster to tell me about voter anger – I have seen it across Ohio as I travel the state to meet with OAPSE members and those from other unions. And I don't blame workers and middle class families for being enraged. With unemployment in double digits, housing foreclosures at an all-time high, a state budget in crisis, and many of us facing financial and retirement insecurity, it is no wonder that Ohio voters are irritated. **I just want us to direct our anger where it belongs – at the people who got us into this mess,** not Governor Strickland and other friends of our union who are trying to turn Ohio around.

There can be no doubt that the failed policies of Republicans George Bush, Rob Portman and John Kasich have had disastrous consequences for our nation, and particularly for Ohio. Their trade policies alone cost Ohio 141,000 jobs in the last decade and devastated our economy – not to mention the lives of those whose jobs were shipped to China. Of course, the loss of good manufacturing jobs impacted our public budgets and threatened our jobs and our pensions.

While we are on the subject of pensions, it should be noted that on Kasich's watch as a managing director for Lehman Brothers, Ohio public pensions lost \$480 million when his firm went bust. While Kasich wants to deny a significant role with Lehman, he was

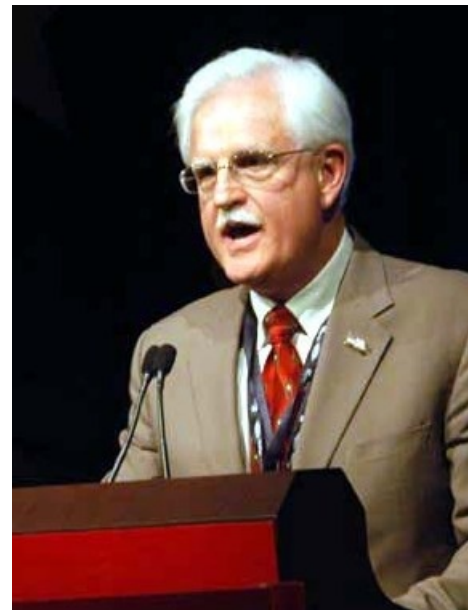
a managing director and in the top 3 percent of employees when the company failed after risky real-estate moves and too much debt, which it moved off its books to try and fool investors. Kasich won't disclose most of his earnings at Lehman, but we know that in just one year – the year Lehman went bust – he was paid almost \$600,000, most of it a bonus. The fact is that while Ohioans were working hard to take care of our families, Kasich was on Wall Street taking care of himself, raking in big bucks working for the firm that triggered the collapse of our economy.

And now he wants to be in charge of Ohio.

Contrast his behavior and track record with that of our governor. When Ted Strickland took office in 2007, he had to face the consequences of 16 years of bad state management under one-party Republican rule. Couple that with the effects of the national economic devastation, and he had his work cut out for him.

Our governor responded with programs and policies to strengthen Ohio. He has governed with a steady and compassionate hand and kept working families at the top of his agenda. When the national economic recovery takes hold, Ohio will be well positioned for job growth because of Ted Strickland's relentless focus on new energy jobs and the revitalization of our industrial base.

In fact, we are already seeing signs that his plans are working for Ohioans.



*Photo Credit: Jason Perlman, Ohio AFL-CIO*

OAPSE Executive Director and President of the Ohio AFL-CIO Joe Rugola delivers a common sense view of Ohio's future in his address to the State Federation's 27th Biennial Convention

After years of downsizing and layoffs that ravaged our communities, the GM Lordstown plant added extra shifts to accommodate a high demand for its energy-efficient Cobalt. And just weeks ago, the first Chevy Cruze rolled off the assembly line at Lordstown after a \$350 million investment in the plant by GM. These cars are being built by union members who had been laid off, but were called back to work with the plant expansion. In just that area of the state alone, more jobs are being added, including 150

*Continued on Page 2*

*Continued from Page 1*

positions at U.S. Endoscopy, and more at Exal Corp., which is planning a \$400 million expansion to make state of the art aluminum bottles.

How can Kasich argue that Ted Strickland has fostered a negative climate for business when all of this activity – and more, including full capacity tire manufacturing in Findlay – has earned our state the number one ranking in job growth in the nation? OAPSE members know better than anyone that growth in private sector jobs means an increase in tax revenues and stronger state and local governments.

Even with a budget hole of \$3.2 billion, Governor Strickland kept his commitment to fully fund Ohio's public educational system and put the needs of our children first. The crushing weight of the national economy means a longer timeline to completion. But when fully phased in, the governor's plan ensures that Ohio's schools are funded in accordance with the state constitution and that every child in Ohio is guaranteed the same quality public education. He has made Ohio's schools his top priority, and now our schools rank first in the Midwest and fifth in the nation.

He has stood with employees who

want to have a union by issuing executive orders to enable home health care and child care workers to have a say on the job. He has supported our brothers and sisters in the building trades through enforcement of Ohio's prevailing wage laws. And he is standing with firefighters as they work for expanded collective bargaining rights.

Governor Strickland has held the line on college costs, freezing tuition for two years and capping any future hikes at 3 percent. As a result, more than 65,000 Ohioans attend universities today than when he took office. And more than 140,000 workers have received job training to help get them through this tough economic time.

On the other hand, John Kasich wants to turn the student loans programs over to Wall Street. He favors charter schools over public schools. He wants to outsource private sector jobs and privatize public sector jobs. And he wants to eliminate the state income tax, which accounts for 47 percent of Ohio's budget. So, for every 100 employees where you work, 47 would be gone after budget cuts.

For OAPSE members – for all Ohio workers – there shouldn't even be a question of who to support for Governor. Ted Strickland is a man of

integrity, honor, compassion and commitment to Ohio's middle class and working families. He has a record to back that up.

John Kasich's record speaks for itself. He is an investment banker who helped steer Lehman Brothers into bankruptcy and trigger our recession, while making a fortune in salary and bonuses. In his own words, he favors free trade and outsourcing of manufacturing jobs. He advocates privatizing every public sector job. And he wants to destroy unions because we "threaten our American values."

**Sisters and brothers, your anger is justified. Make sure you direct it at those who let us down.**

It's a clear choice for governor. State President JoAnn JohnTony and the OAPSE State Officers and Executive Board have endorsed Ted Strickland because he is a proven friend who supports the work OAPSE members do. We feel strongly that he deserves our endorsement and your vote. For more on the differences between the candidates, see page 3. You can also read about our other endorsed candidates and why we support them.

You can vote now. When you do, vote for Ted Strickland. Vote for a better future for Ohio. □

## **Kasich Wants to Gut Governor Strickland's Education Plan**

If elected to the state's top office, Republican John Kasich is threatening to dismantle Governor Strickland's new school-funding model, which is a constitutional, fair way to pay for public education and requires fewer local levies.

Kasich refuses to provide details of how he would fund education, but has said he favors charter schools and vouchers over public schools.

*"This is just so typical of Kasich. Put a sound bite out there that trashes the governor but provides no detail on what exactly you would do differently. I don't think Kasich has a clue that the governor's program — passed by the General Assembly — is the only plan out there that has any hope of actually reducing the need for property-tax*

*levies to pay for schools,"* said Randy Weston, OAPSE Director of Political Action and Legislative Affairs.

According to most newspapers throughout the state, Kasich's plan could force local school districts to put frequent levies on the ballot.

*"OAPSE members know from experience how hard it is to pass local levies. And the courts have ruled that this system of relying on local tax payers is unconstitutional. Kasich might understand how to campaign, but he clearly doesn't understand how to govern,"* Weston said. □



## **How to Find Your Elected Representatives**

If you don't know in which Congressional district you live or can't remember your state legislative districts, now you can look it up. Just go to the website: [www.votesmart.org](http://www.votesmart.org)

Enter your zip code, and find your U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representative information.

Once you know the correct districts, check out our endorsement pages to see who your union recommends! Then be sure and cast your ballot early either by mail or at your local board of elections. □

**Vote**



**Ted Strickland**  
Governor of Ohio

# Strickland vs. Kasich

**Where *THEY* stand  
on these issues  
should matter  
to *YOU, YOUR FAMILY*  
and *YOUR CO-WORKERS!***



**John Kasich**  
Candidate for Governor

## ***Education***

Supports public education; proposed eliminating vouchers and a halt to more charter schools;  
Passed a plan that is a constitutional and fair way to pay for public education and requires fewer local levies.

Supports charter schools and vouchers.  
Has pledged to eliminate Governor Strickland's education plan.

## ***Public Service***

Supports public employees and the work we do.  
Will not privatize public sector jobs.

Favors privatization, saying, "We don't want public employees" and "If it's in the yellow pages, outsource it."

## ***Your Right to Join a Union***

Supports collective bargaining for public employees and, as governor, expanded collective bargaining rights.

Has vowed to "break the back of Organized Labor" because unions "threaten our American values."

## ***Fair Wages and Benefits for All Workers***

Supports Ohio's prevailing wage and minimum wage laws.

Wants to repeal the prevailing wage and voted against increasing the minimum wage.

## ***Unfair Trade Agreements that Cost Jobs and Gut Public Budgets***

Voted against NAFTA and against free trade with China that cost Ohio jobs.  
Opposed tax credits for companies that outsource jobs.

Voted for NAFTA and free trade with China, costing Ohio tens of thousands of jobs.  
Supported a loophole so billionaires could dodge paying taxes by renouncing their U.S. Citizenship.

## ***2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights***

Supports the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and has earned an endorsement and "A" Rating from the NRA and an endorsement from Buckeye Firearms.

Earned an "F" Rating from the NRA because of anti-gun votes while he was in Congress.



## Governor Strickland: Our Way of Life is at Stake

Governor Ted Strickland addressed an enthusiastic and supportive crowd at the Ohio AFL-CIO 27th Biennial Convention in September and urged them to energize their coworkers, friends and family.

*"In this election, our way of life is at stake,"* Strickland told the 600 delegates and guests. He acknowledged that Ohioans are frustrated by the economy, unemployment and a deep division between political parties. *"I know people are angry. But I think sometimes they forgot how we got into this mess in the first place."*

Strickland said his goal has always been to make sure working people had a fair shake and opportunities to prosper. His opponent, however, has not been on the side of workers *"even though his father was a mail carrier. He has forgotten where he came from,"* the governor said, citing Kasich's votes for NAFTA and free trade with China.

These trade policies have resulted in the loss of more than 141,000 jobs in Ohio and devastated our economy. Kasich also would privatize Social Security, raid our public pensions, cut Medicare for the elderly and Medicaid for ill children and the poor.

*"This is a tough race because people are hurting. But I think you know I have fought – and will always fight – for working families and the things that matter to you. Decent jobs and health care and public education and affordable college tuition, and energy policies that make sense and create long-term employment. I hope I have your support and that you will be with me. You know, some people say I am a nice guy – maybe too nice a guy – and I try to be. But some things are worth fighting for. I will fight for the middle class and for you. And I hope you will stand with me in this fight,"* Strickland said.

The governor noted the importance

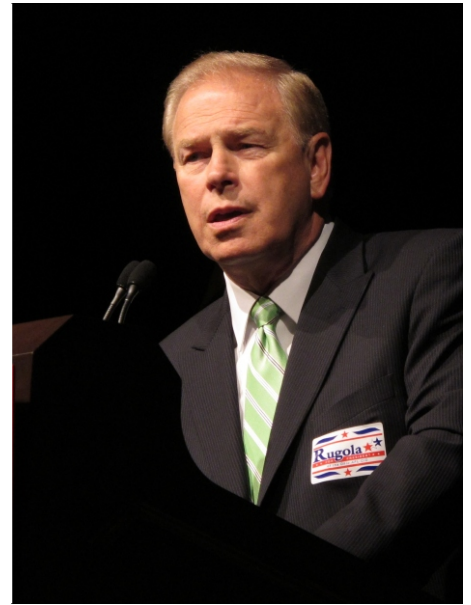


Photo Credit: Allen Zak Photography

### Governor Ted Strickland

of union members voting early by absentee ballot. (See Page 10.) □



### Yvette McGee Brown

Candidate for  
Lieutenant-Governor of Ohio

When Governor Strickland went looking for a running mate to serve as his partner in office for the next four years, he set the bar high. After all, he had the able services of Lee Fisher as Lt.-Governor during his first term. And while it was a challenge, the governor found the perfect candidate in Yvette McGee Brown.

A strong advocate for children and

## McGee Brown Shares Our Priorities

families, McGee Brown has served as a judge on the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court and the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. She is the founding president and former head of the Center for Child and Family Advocacy at Nationwide Children's Hospital. The Center is a child abuse and family violence program focused on helping children and families heal.

Because OAPSE members work with children and families every day, we appreciate the importance of making sure that children are healthy inside and out, and are glad to share that priority with Yvette. We share many other priorities as well – such as quality public education and public services like libraries, early childhood education programs, community and technical colleges and departments of disabilities that are fully funded so they can help the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Yvette has pledged to help Governor Strickland put Ohioans back to work so we can strengthen our state and our local communities. And she

will stand with Ohio workers when we are targeted by those who want to privatize us or find other excuses to get rid of us – including John Kasich and Mary Taylor, who are running against the Strickland/McGee Brown team.

In announcing the selection, Governor Strickland said, *"Yvette is someone whose life is marked by the great opportunities she found here in Ohio and by the even greater service she chose to give back to this state and its people. I asked Yvette to be my running mate because I know she will work her heart out on behalf of Ohio's working people."*

*"That kind of commitment to working families is exactly what we need at the highest level of state government,"* said OAPSE Executive Director Joe Rugola. *"Ted Strickland made a good choice in Yvette McGee Brown. She has spent her personal and professional life fighting for children and families. Yvette is bright, energetic, and committed to making life better for all of us. We wholeheartedly support her candidacy as Ted's running mate."* □



**Lee Fisher**

*Ohio Lt.-Governor and*

## A Friend Who Will Fight for Us in Washington

When Lee Fisher won this year's primary for a seat in the U.S. Senate, OAPSE members knew we had the opportunity to send a true friend to Washington. We have come to count on Lee as a champion of not just OAPSE members but all middle class workers in Ohio.

*"Whether he was sponsoring our legislation, enforcing public contracts, working to create jobs to strengthen our economy and our tax base, or partnering with Governor Ted Strickland to strengthen public education, Lee has been there for us,"* said OAPSE State Secretary Sandy Wheeler.

Now, we have a chance to be there

for him. He is running to represent us in Washington. He is running to help further a Congressional agenda that benefits all workers and their families.

For years as a state legislator, Lee Fisher took the position that public workers should have the same right to a union as every other worker in Ohio. He stood with OAPSE through all the votes – and a veto from the governor – until finally we won our battle in 1983. His courage to vote his conscience and his refusal to see justice denied has made a huge difference for thousands of public employees and safety forces in this state.

Lee has continued to be a friend of labor. As Ohio Attorney General, he enforced state prevailing wage laws and even stopped a project from going forward until the contractor did the right thing. He was a watchdog at the State Employment Relations Board (SERB), so OAPSE members knew

they were getting a fair shake at work.

As Lieutenant-Governor, Lee Fisher has worked to ensure that the jobs created in the State of Ohio pay a living wage, and has implemented policies that support the efforts of organized labor.

He strongly supported executive orders, issued by Governor Strickland, allowing home health care workers and child care workers to join a union. And when he is elected a United States Senator this fall, Lee Fisher will advocate for the Employee Free Choice Act because he knows ALL workers deserve the right to organize for better wages and benefits and safer working conditions.

*"There is no doubt that Lee Fisher deserves our support. We need to send him to Washington to work with Sherrod Brown on behalf of OAPSE members and all workers,"* Wheeler said. □

## Cordray Earns OAPSE Endorsement

No one doubts that Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray - undefeated five-time champion of Jeopardy - is bright. But now the OAPSE Executive Board has showed its smarts by endorsing him for re-election as Ohio's top law enforcement officer.

*"I can't say enough about Rich Cordray. He has been our friend since I can remember. Whether as a state representative, Franklin County Treasurer, Ohio Treasurer or Ohio Attorney General, Rich has stood with us in every fight. This endorsement is made with pride and thanks for his personal and professional friendship,"* said OAPSE State President JoAnn Johntony.

In addition to his stellar work as a treasurer and attorney, Cordray has walked and marched with OAPSE and Ohio AFL-CIO members and has stood with us at the ballot box.

*"Rich lives in a school district where we have almost 900 members.*

*He has publicly supported our levies and cast his ballot with us every time. He has shown us that he values the work we do, and that means everything to us,"* Johntony said.

Since his election as Ohio Attorney General in 2008, Rich has taken action to hold Wall Street accountable. His office is managing several major lawsuits against Wall Street firms such as AIG, Bank of America and Merrill Lynch, and these efforts have resulted in more than \$2 billion in settlements for Ohio taxpayers.

He is actively pursuing unethical companies, including the foreclosure rescue scammers who take advantage of people who are desperate to keep their homes. His office responded to more than 30,000 consumer complaints last year, and recovered millions in fines and compensation for the people of Ohio.

*"Rich is a strong advocate for veterans and public safety and service workers. And he is a very good friend to*

*organized labor. That is why we have endorsed his re-election and why we will be working everyday from now until November to make sure he continues as Ohio's Attorney General,"* stressed Johntony.

She said Cordray's opponent, former U.S. Senator and Ohio Lt. Governor Mike DeWine, cannot compete with Rich.

*"We beat DeWine four years ago when Sherrod Brown took him on and hammered him on his record. And we will beat him this year also. Mike DeWine stood with the Bush Administration every chance he got, and he turned his back on regular working people. We don't need him in the Ohio Attorney General's office."* □



**Richard Cordray**  
*Ohio Attorney General*

# VOTE EARLY and VOLUNTEER on Election Day!



## Boyce Meets Expectations as Ohio Treasurer

When Governor Strickland appointed Kevin Boyce as Ohio Treasurer in January 2009, working families in our state had high expectations. Kevin had a reputation as an honest, hard working elected official who understood the concerns of workers and acted accordingly. He has not disappointed. In fact, Treasurer Boyce has cemented his position as a friend of organized labor and the hard working men and women we represent.

Kevin Boyce has put his heart and soul into helping all of us weather this tough economic storm. His innovative policies and procedures have saved the state almost \$30 million, which can be put to good use funding critical public services. And his office got rid of \$800 million in toxic assets, like Lehman Brothers, before the company col-

lapsed, saving Ohio millions more.

He was taught the value of hard work by his single mother and grandmother, who also instilled in him the importance of education. Treasurer Boyce put himself through college and graduate school, and chose a life of public service so he could help others who face similar hardships to those he knew growing up.

As a member of the Columbus City Council for eight years, he focused on job creation and the fiscal strength of the city. He founded the Columbus Youth Commission, significantly expanded parkland and greenways, advocated for stronger civil rights laws, and championed job creation strategies that led to the creation or retention of over 20,000 jobs in central Ohio.

As Ohio Treasurer, he is working to ensure taxpayer dollars are protected and

focusing on job creation. His office has helped retain and create 16,000 jobs in his short time there.

*"Governor Strickland obviously knew what he was doing when he chose Kevin as our Ohio treasurer. There is no doubt that Kevin Boyce is qualified for and committed to the position of Ohio's chief fiscal officer. The OAPSE Executive Board looks forward to working with him for many years to come. But that can only happen if we do our jobs and get him elected on November 2,"* said OAPSE State Vice President Davida Russell. □



**Kevin Boyce**  
Ohio State Treasurer

## The Clear Choice for Secretary of State

Ohio voters have a clear choice in the race for Ohio Secretary of State. They can either select a person who was a Republican leader during a time of huge corruption by his party in state government and who continues to oppose OAPSE members and all workers as a state senator. Or they can choose a true and long-time friend whose experience and commitment to public service has helped improve the lives of every working family in this state.

The OAPSE Executive Board made the right choice when it endorsed Maryellen O'Shaughnessy for Ohio Secretary of State. *"Maryellen has a proven*

*record of working with us. As Clerk of Franklin County Court of Common Pleas and as a Columbus City Council member, she has been on our side in key battles that made a real difference for working families. She will make a great Secretary of State,"* said OAPSE State President JoAnn Johnntony.

O'Shaughnessy wants to improve Ohio's election system by opening it up to more voters and ensuring fair and open elections. *"And she will work with Governor Strickland and Yvette McGee Brown to get our economy going. That's what we need in the Mahoning Valley, where I am from, and all across the state,"* Johnntony

said.

As secretary of state, she would sit on the Apportionment Board, which will draw new legislative lines in Ohio and determine the outcome of future elections. We need fair representation on that board so that reasonable and competitive districts not lopsided, unwinnable districts are created. We need Maryellen. □



**Maryellen O'Shaughnessy**  
Candidate for  
Secretary of State

## Just Add "Pepper" to Ohio Auditor's Office

OAPSE members know better than anyone why it is important to have a friend in the Ohio Auditor's office. That's why the OAPSE Executive Board endorsed David Pepper for the seat and why we are urging OAPSE members to "Just Add Pepper" to their ballot this fall.

*"Under current State Auditor Mary Taylor, who is certainly no friend to OAPSE, school districts have been able to ask for and get audits which target our*

*members and call for layoffs in our units. Our people are paying the price. We need fairness and justice in the Auditor's Office and David Pepper will provide that,"* said OAPSE Executive Director Joe Rugola.

As auditor, Pepper would be a member of the Apportionment Board, which would draw new legislative lines in Ohio and determine the outcome of elections for years to come.

*"Clearly, we need a friend of middle class and working families on that board so regular folks have a voice and don't get shut out of Ohio politics,"* Rugola said. □



**David Pepper**  
Candidate for  
State Auditor

# Brown, Trapp Get OAPSE Support for Ohio Supreme Court

Those who work in public education know how important the make-up of the Ohio Supreme Court is. We only have to look at the DeRolph Decision and its aftermath to get a clear picture. In 1997 – after six years of legal proceedings – the Court ruled that the Ohio school funding system was unconstitutional.

That ruling came by the thinnest of margins on a 4-3 vote, and many thought we were finally on our way to an educational system that guaranteed every Ohio child a quality education. Unfortunately, when the make-up of the court changed and friends of public education were no longer on the bench, the court failed to keep jurisdiction of the case, and progress on educational equality has stalled.

*"We have a very lopsided court right now that favors big business over consumers, children, the elderly and the most vulnerable Ohioans. But this election gives us a chance to chip away at the Republican majority and put two good judges on the court. Ohio Appeals Court Judge Mary Jane Trapp is one of those candidates, and the other is our current Chief Justice, Eric Brown,"* said OAPSE Associate Director Gary Martin.

Because of his more than 30 years of public service and a strong record of integrity, Judge Eric Brown was appointed by Governor Ted Strickland to serve as Chief Justice on May 3 after the death of Chief Justice Tom Moyer, who was retiring after this term.

The OAPSE Executive Board endorsed Brown because of his extensive experience as a judge, school board member, small business owner and manager in the Ohio Attorney General's office and his commitment to fairness on the state's highest court.

Brown now serves as the first Democrat to lead the court since 1986. He is the only current Democrat on a court with six Republican justices. As chief justice, Brown will set the agenda for the court and assign cases.

*"We are pleased to support Chief Justice Brown. Those of us who live in Central Ohio know he is a committed public servant and a true supporter of workers and their families. We need to work hard to see that Chief Justice Brown maintains his position on the Ohio Supreme Court after November 2,"* said Martin.

Judge Trapp has a proven track record of serving families and has



**Eric Brown**  
Chief Justice of the  
Ohio Supreme Court



**Mary Jane Trapp**  
Candidate for  
Ohio Supreme Court

focused on protecting children and families throughout her career. She has more than 25 years experience representing workers, children at risk, and small business owners.

*"And that experience, along with her impeccable reputation of honesty, integrity and hard work, earned her the support of the OAPSE Executive Board when we decided on endorsements for the Ohio Supreme Court. We really need her on the state's highest court so we can be sure workers will get a fair shake. Right now, with nearly all Republicans, the rulings on cases have been terrible for us. Electing Judge Trapp can help change that,"* Martin said. □

## 2011 OAPSE/AFSCME Memorial Scholarships

The OAPSE/AFSCME Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. will award ten (10) scholarships which offer financial assistance to deserving students again this year. To be eligible, an applicant must be a graduating high school senior and the daughter and/or son of an active OAPSE member or Legal Guardian. The applicant must intend to enroll in a full-time degree program of an accredited college, university or

business/technical school and must enter the fall term following the granting of the scholarship. The scholarships may be used for any field of study.

Requests for applications or information regarding the OAPSE/AFSCME Memorial Scholarships must be made by the active OAPSE member by completing the mailing label and sending it to the address listed below. Infor-

mation and applications may also be downloaded from the union's website at: [www.oapse.org](http://www.oapse.org), then click "Member Benefits," then "Scholarships." Completed applications with all necessary supportive documentation must be sent in one envelope and postmarked **no later than March 1, 2011**. The Scholarship Committee will meet in April, 2011 to select the winners. □



OAPSE/AFSCME Memorial Scholarship Committee  
ATTN: Mary Beth Thompson  
6805 Oak Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43229-1591

**PLEASE DELIVER TO:** (Please print information clearly on the mailing label.)

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Local # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



# Executive Director Joe Rugola Elected President of the Ohio AFL-CIO

## Begins Another Term as Leader of 650,000-member State Federation of Labor

Delegates to the 27th Biennial Convention of the Ohio AFL-CIO unanimously elected OAPSE Executive Director Joe Rugola to a full term as president of the state federation.

*"I am honored and humbled that the leaders and rank-and-file members of Ohio's trade union movement have placed their faith and trust in me. I will continue to work with all of organized labor to make life better for every working family in our state,"* Rugola said.

The Ohio AFL-CIO represents more than 650,000 workers who are members of 48 different international unions.

Rugola began serving as Ohio AFL-CIO President in 2007, upon the mid-term retirement of Bill Burga, a leader of the United Steelworkers of America. Rugola served as Chairman of the Ohio AFL-CIO's Task Force on Political Action where he created the "Take Back Ohio" program, which has helped to reshape the way labor influences electoral politics in Ohio. Among the program's successes were the election of Governor Ted Strickland and the other Democratic statewide officeholders and

the shift of the Ohio House of Representatives to a Democratic majority for the first time since 1994.

Rugola has been the executive director of OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4 since 1988, and will continue in that role. He is a long-time political activist and earned a bachelor's degree in political science from The Ohio State University.

*"I appreciate the support of the officers, executive board, members and staff of OAPSE.*

*Our union has taken an active and critical role in shaping and carrying out the political and legislative agenda of the Ohio AFL-CIO. We will continue to build on the good work we have done in conjunction with all the unions that represent the state federation's 650,000 members to strengthen and grow the labor movement in Ohio,"* Rugola said.

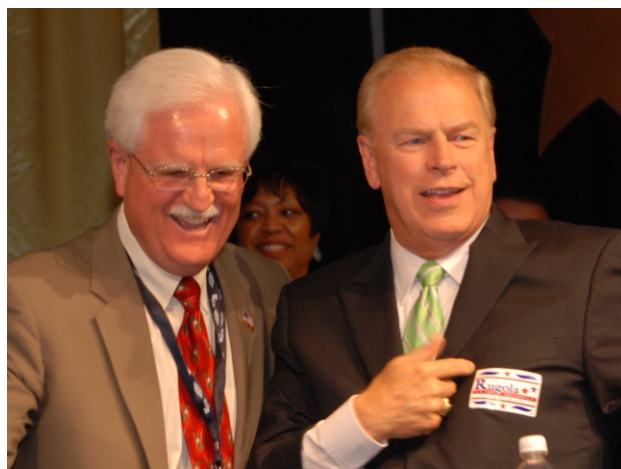


Photo Credit: Kathy Malone, OAPSE/AFSCME

Even Governor Ted Strickland sported a "Rugola for President" lapel sticker while addressing the delegates to the 2010 Ohio AFL-CIO Convention

Also elected without opposition was Secretary-Treasurer Pierrette "Petee" Talley. Returning to the Ohio AFL-CIO Executive Board are OAPSE State President JoAnn Johnntony; State Vice President Davida Russell, representing the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW); and Gary Martin, OAPSE's Associate Director. □



AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka brought the delegates to their feet on the first day

OAPSE EB Members Mary Blevins (SW) and Tommy Sue Adam (C) showed who they are supporting

U.S. Senate Candidate Lt.-Governor Lee Fisher urged delegates to keep moving Ohio forward

OAPSE EB Member Betty Simmons-Talley showed her support for Attorney General Cordray

AFSCME Sec.-Treas. Lee Saunders fired up the crowd in his address to the delegates

## Why Should I Vote Early?

Since Ohio law allows all registered voters to vote early – beginning 35 days before Election Day – OAPSE is encouraging members who can vote early to do so. Once you vote, resources can be used to talk with other members about the importance of this election. Early voting is completely safe, and more and more Ohioans are using it because it is proven to work well. Those who want to vote in person can still vote early by going to their local County Board of Elections, filling out the absentee ballot request form and voting!

To request an absentee ballot for this November's General Election, visit the Ohio Secretary of State Office link below. Once you fill out the application, print it out and sign it. Use the second link to find the address of your local County Board of Elections and mail the application. Your ballot will arrive within a few days.

Link for absentee ballot request:

[www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/upload/forms/11-A.pdf](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/upload/forms/11-A.pdf)

Link to find your County Board of Elections:

[www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/boeDirectory.aspx](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/boeDirectory.aspx)



# Memorial Scholarship Foundation Awards Thirteen Seniors



**Hannah McClain**

Hannah is the daughter of Dawn McClain, New Albany Plain Local Schools, Local 303. She plans to attend Bowling Green State University and will major in Business and Film.



**Cory Lappin**

Cory is the son of Eugene Lappin, New Philadelphia City Schools, Local 391. He received the Janet Ledger Memorial Scholarship. Cory will attend Miami University to study Pre-Med.



**Kara Bobka**

Kara is the daughter of Kathy Bobka, Bellaire Local Schools, Local 250. She will be attending Wright State University where she plans to major in Medicine.



**Ashley Brown**

Ashley is the daughter of Paul Brown, Crestview Local Schools, Local 775. She will attend The Ohio State University and will major in middle school Education, Math and Social Studies.



**Arkida Merizaj**

Arkida is the daughter of Fatbarda Merizaj, Rocky River City Schools, Local 381. She received the Doug Murdock Memorial Scholarship. Arkida will attend The Ohio State University where she will major in Medicine.



**Gabrielle Cardamone**

Gabrielle is the daughter of Charlene Cardamone, Midview Local Schools, Local 544. She received the Pete Christopher Memorial Scholarship. Gabrielle will attend Gannon University to train as a Physician's Assistant.



**Ross Hazzard**

Ross is the son of Kristin Hazzard, Port Clinton City Schools, Local 199. He will be attending the University of Toledo where he plans to major in Biochemistry.



**Heaven Lee Burns**

Heaven is the daughter of Robin Burns, Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Local 538. She will be attending Kent State University and plans to major in Biology.



**Robert Jones**

Robert is the son of Ann Jones, Bluffton Village Exempted Schools, Local 395. He will be attending Bowling Green State University and majoring in Education.



**Molly Carroll**

Molly is the daughter of Karla Carroll, Gallipolis City Schools, Local 349. She will be attending Rio Grande University and plans to major in Radiology Technology.



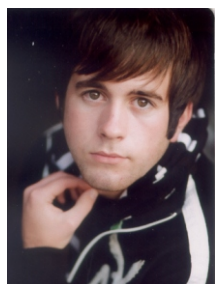
**Victoria Locke**

Victoria is the daughter of Julie Pray, Loveland City Schools, Local 363. She will be attending The Ohio State University, majoring in Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife.



**Laura Massa**

Laura is the daughter of Donna Massa, Mad River Local Schools, Local 342. She will be attending Sinclair Community College to obtain her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing.



**Alexander Ashbrook**

Alex is the son of Molly Ashbrook, Mount Vernon City Schools, Local 470. He received the Lianne Vernell Memorial Scholarship. Alex plans to attend Columbia College to major in Film.

Each of the thirteen  
2010 OAPSE/AFSCME  
Memorial Scholarship  
winners received a  
\$1,500 scholarship from the  
OAPSE/AFSCME Memorial  
Scholarship Foundation, Inc.  
"Congratulations" and "Best  
Wishes" for  
Success to All! ☐

## Ohio Schools Get \$361 Million to Save Jobs

Ohio will receive \$361,179,690 as the result of passage of HR 1586. The bill created the Education Jobs Fund (Ed Jobs) program, which will provide \$10 billion nationally to states to save or create education jobs for the 2010-2011 and/or 2011-2012 school years.

This money is not the same as the "Race to the Top" dollars that some school districts received as part of a grant application. While some school districts opted out of "Race to the Top," all school districts in Ohio will receive Ed Jobs funds.

Local school boards and administrators will determine how the Ed Jobs funds are spent. To find out how much your district will receive, go to this link: <http://www.oapse.org/pdfs/EducationFunding2010.pdf>. School districts are listed in alphabetical order by county. ☐

**OAPSE's Recommended  
Candidate Endorsements**  
- Pages 3-9

**2011 OAPSE Memorial  
Scholarship Application**  
- Page 9

**Rugola Re-Elected as  
President of the Ohio  
AFL-CIO**  
- Page 10

**2010 OAPSE Memorial  
Scholarships Awarded**  
- Page 11

OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO  
6805 OAK CREEK DRIVE  
COLUMBUS, OH 43229-1591



**Address Service Requested**

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Westerville, Ohio  
Permit No. 381



## Union Plus Enhances Scholarships for 2011



**T**he Union Plus Scholarship program, sponsored by the Union Plus Education Foundation, helps union members and their families defray the cost of higher education. Since 1992, the program has awarded over \$3 million to deserving students.

Current and retired members of our union, their spouses, and their dependent children (as defined under IRS regulations) are eligible. Members must have at least one year of continuous good-standing membership in AFSCME in order for spouses and dependents to be eligible. Members do not have to purchase any Union Plus program product or participate in any Union Plus programs to apply for the scholarship. Scholarship awards are not based upon participation in a Union Plus Program.

The amount of the award ranges between \$500 and \$4,000. This is a one-time cash award sent to individual winners for study beginning in the fall of the same year.

The scholarship program is open to students attending or planning to attend an accredited college or university, a community college or a recognized technical or trade school. (*Graduate students are now eligible.*) Applicants for scholarships are evaluated according to academic ability, social awareness, financial need and appreciation for labor. All requirements must be met in order for the application to be considered.

Members can request an application by calling AFSCME Advantage at (800)588-0374 or by downloading the form at: [www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship/](http://www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship/).

Completed applications with all required materials **must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2011**. Mail to: Union Plus Education Foundation, c/o Union Privilege, P.O. Box 34800, Washington, D.C. 20043-4800. Only scholarship recipients will be notified. These notifications will be sent on May 31, 2011. □

## 2011 AFSCME Family Scholarship Program

**T**he AFSCME Family Scholarship Program is available to any graduating high school senior who is a daughter, son or financially dependent grandchild of an active or retired full dues-paying AFSCME member, and an applicant to an accredited college or university and subsequently accepted full-time student in a four-year degree program. The scholarship may be used for any field of study. Scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded. Once awarded, the scholarship will be renewed for \$2,000 each year, for a maximum of four years, provided the student remains enrolled in a full-time course of study.

To request an application or to download the application, go to: <http://www.afscme.org/members/880.cfm>. Make sure your complete application, with all supportive documentation (essay, transcripts, letters of recommendation, SAT or ACT scores, proof of AFSCME membership, etc.) is mailed together in one envelope and **postmarked no later than December 31, 2010**, to:

AFSCME Family Scholarship Program  
ATTN: AFSCME Advantage  
1625 L Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036-5687

Winners will be announced by March 31, 2011. □

### OAPSE News

Official Publication of the Ohio Association  
of Public School Employees  
OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO

### MANAGING EDITOR:

Joseph P. Rugola, Executive Director

### SENIOR EDITOR AND STAFF WRITER:

Veda M. Rugola

### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:

Kathy Malone  
Randy Weston  
Alix Marlow  
Amanda Haseley

### Postmaster send address changes to:

OAPSE News, 6805 Oak Creek Drive,  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-1591

### OAPSE/AFSCME STATE OFFICE

6805 Oak Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43229-1591  
(614)890-4770 / (800)78-OAPSE / (800)786-2773

### OAPSE/AFSCME FIELD OFFICES

Athens Field Office  
114 North Plains Road, The Plains, OH 45780  
(740)797-3090 / (888)594-3221  
Canton/Akron Field Office (Belden Village Tower)  
4450 Belden Village Street NW, Suite 306, Canton, OH 44718  
(330)492-8894 / (800)422-1456  
Cleveland Area Field Office  
3690 Orange Place, Suite 550, Beachwood, OH 44122  
(216)292-7080 / (800)940-7080  
Franklin Field Office  
4127 E 2nd Street, Suite 2, Dayton, OH 45403  
(937)253-5100 / (800)730-3623  
Toledo Area Field Office  
1910 Indian Wood Circle, Suite 201, Maumee, OH 43537  
(419)887-5758 / (800)265-1810

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joseph P. Rugola

### STATE OFFICERS

State President, JoAnn JohnTony  
State Vice President, Davida Russell  
State Secretary, Sandra Wheeler

### STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Central District, Betty Simmons-Talley  
East Central District, Rosella Tope  
Eastern District, David Hamilton  
North Central District, Mary Beth Thompson  
Northeast District, Sylvia Holmes  
Northwest District, Brenda Wilson-Wright  
Northwest Central District, James Haller  
Southeast District, Hoberta Roach  
Southwest District, Mary Blevins  
Western District, Ken Nance