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son, Carpenter, Ranchwood, Stadium, and the Central Office) and reconfigure the remaining buildings. Our new structure would be: 4 - Pre-K - 3 buildings; 3 - 4th - 6th buildings; 1 - 7th - 8th building; and the high school. The reduction of 100 teachers would represent over 20% of the teaching staff in Mansfield. Next our Curriculum Director announced that she was going to be retiring. Next, the BOE posted four administrative positions which included the Treasurer, Curriculum Director, Technology, and an assistant to the Personnel Director. The MSEA leadership met with the superintendent and told him this was not the time to add an administrator;

the superintendent agreed and pulled the new job, leaving just the replacement positions. As I am writing this we are in discussions of how the RIF and building closure process should happen. We have a membership meeting scheduled with an OEA attorney to discuss this. Our LRC is working on a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the RIF and building closure. We are also having problems with our BOE granting continuing contracts and have 8 cases assigned to OEA legal at this time, with more to come.

So why did I inform (or remind) you of all this? That reason has many answers as well. First, you could be next. These issues aren't limited to Mansfield

alone. Every district is facing tough times; we are just leading the way. This brings me to my next point, watch who you vote for. Identify politicians who are educationally friendly & support them!!!! Finally, I could not imagine going through all I listed above without the support of the OEA & NCOEA leadership. They have been there working for the MSEA and all of our members. They have given great advice and listened when the MSEA leadership did not know what to do next. It's easy to be critical in good times, but thank God the leadership in this organization is as knowledgeable and caring as it is. **Thanks NCOEA, OEA, & NEA for all you do for our members.**

NCOEA Spring Representative Assembly

As one of his first duties as the new NCOEA President, Brad Strong presided over the Spring Representative Assembly of the NCOEA which was held on Monday, March 26, 2007, at the Brown Derby Road House in Ontario. There were sixty people in attendance including delegates, guests, and exhibitors.

The changes in the NCOEA Constitution and Bylaws were voted on and approved. The proposed changes were printed in the February-March issue of Chalkdust, and were basically to make the NCOEA Constitution and Bylaws align with those of OEA.

The following elected positions were also filled:

For 2 year terms -

NCOEA President – Brad Strong, Mansfield City Schools;

NCOEA Vice-President – Donna Christman, Cardington-Lincoln Schools;

For 3 year terms representing NCOEA on OEA Committees -

OEA Legislative Committee – Rob Feters, Mount Vernon City Schools;

OEA Resolutions Committee – Donna Christman;

Collective Bargaining Core Function Committee – Tina Adams, Mansfield City Schools;

Local Development and Training

Core Function Committee - Paul Kauffman, Mid Ohio Educational Service Center;

Organizing Strategy Core Function Committee – Perry Brokaw, Mansfield City Schools.

We also need the following positions filled for 2 year terms on the NCOEA Executive committee:

1 representative from Crawford County;

2 representatives from Huron County;

1 representative from Morrow County;

2 representatives from Richland County;

1 Higher Education representative; and 1 Student Representative.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact Chris Swank at 330-674-9391 or cswank44@earthlink.net.

Mansfield City has 3 representatives that serve for 1 year at a time. If you are from Mansfield City and would like to get involved, contact the MSEA President and volunteer your services.



Delegates take a break from business to chat and eat dinner at the NCOEA Spring 2007 Representative Assembly.