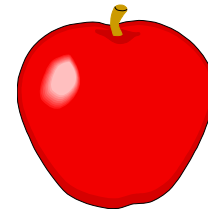


# CHALKDUST



## 2006-2007 NCOEA Leadership Team

Cathy Aleshire	President
Brad Strong	Vice-President
Jen Lepard	Recording Sec.
Kelly Egan Bell	Past President
Patti Dice	OEA Director
Becky Mayer	NEA Director
Chris Swank	Executive Secretary-Treas.

## NCOEA 2006-2007 Calendar

February 1	NCOEA Executive Com.
February 12	Presidents + 2 Meeting Dutch Heritage, Bellville 4:30 pm
February 16	DLC, OEA Headquarters
February 16-17	OEA Board, OEA Headquarters
March 1	NCOEA Executive Com.
March 15	CentWest RCC, Tiffin Office
March 16	DLC, OEA Headquarters
March 16-17	OEA Board, OEA Headquarters
March 26	NCOEA Spring Representative Assembly, Brown Derby RoadHouse, Ontario, 5:00 pm
April 18-19	OEA Board, OEA Headquarters
April 20-21	OEA Spring Representative Assembly, Convention Center, Columbus, 9:00 am
May 10	NCOEA Executive Com.
May 14	NCOEA Awards Dinner, Brown Derby RoadHouse, Ontario, 5:00 pm
June 1	DLC, OEA Headquarters
June 1-2	OEA Board, OEA Headquarters
June 2	NEA Delegate Briefing, Marriott North, Columbus
June 8-9	NCOEA Executive Com. Retreat, Mohican State Park, Perrysville, 3:00 pm
June 14	CentWest RCC, TBD
June 29-July 5	NEA Representative Assembly, Philadelphia
July 29	DLC, TBD
July 29-August 1	OEA Leadership Academy TBD

\*All NCOEA Executive Committee Meetings begin at 6:00 pm, at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, at Route 42 North and Route 30 East in Mansfield. All NCOEA members are welcome to attend. Pizza, salad and snacks are served at 5:15 pm.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – CATHY ALESHIRE

### It's Just the Beginning

It has been a very long time since we've had something to be excited about after Election Day! The election of Ted Strickland and many other Democratic candidates will help us to make necessary changes that are needed in public education.

But we must not think that our work is done. Ted Strickland will have a Legislature who will be reluctant to work with him in bringing about change. It will be our responsibility to continue to lobby our State Legislators and hold them accountable for their voting records on educational issues.

If the Legislature fails to address school funding and curriculum issues, then it is our responsibility to elect public "servants" who are willing to respond to the educational needs of Ohio.

It is also our responsibility to educate local voters about the need for a dedicated revenue stream for public education. In the past we have relied on local property taxes and tangible property taxes from business. The Legislature is phasing out the tangible personal property tax and replacing it with a business activity tax. This type of tax may sound like a compromise, but if businesses experience a dramatic down turn in sales then the revenues available to schools will be significantly less.

As Teachers, we need to be educated about school funding and the impact that it has in our

classrooms. Too often we become involved in school finances when our locals are negotiating a contract or a levy did not pass. Imagine the impact, if every teacher could explain why the tax burden is increasing for the local voter. Many of you are saying I don't have time, I don't like politics or I don't understand finances. We ask our students every day to attempt to understand concepts and gain new knowledge. If we ask this of students then we have no excuse for being uninformed on how our schools are funded.

Many of you worked extremely hard during this last election and all your hard work is greatly appreciated, but we have an opportunity to make some significant changes and our work is just beginning. Thank you for everything that you do on behalf of public education and let's continue to be politically involved.



Cathy Aleshire, NCOEA President