

FCPE Questions and Answers

Q: What is FCPE?

A: The Fund for Children and Public Education is funded by voluntary contributions of OEA members. It is used to offer financial support to pro-education candidates for political office.

Q: Why is FCPE important?

A: Practically every aspect of our school day is impacted by a political decision – curriculum, testing, pay and benefits, contractual rights, etc. Getting pro-education candidates in office can help us get better funding for public education and better policy decisions for educators and students.

Q: Who decides which candidates are endorsed?

A: OEA members make decisions about who to support through the screening process.

Candidates from both parties are invited to attend screenings. Candidates must participate in screenings in order to be endorsed.

Q: Doesn't OEA support only one party?

A: Pro-public education candidates from both parties are endorsed. This is not about a political party, it's about who supports our issues, our members and our students.

Q: Isn't this why we pay dues?

A: Dues dollars cannot be used to make political contributions. Donations to FCPE are voluntary.

FCPE fundraising helps us accomplish the following:

- Defeat anti-education officeholders who voted against our schools (SB5, funding cuts)
- Elect pro-public education friends who understand our issues and have students' interests at heart
- Help elect OEA members to office
- The enemies of public education are active, they push their agenda and offer financial support to their chosen candidates. OEA members may not be able to write big checks, but as a group there is power.

Currently, only about 11% of OEA members contribute to FCPE.

40.3% of TAWLS members contribute to FCPE (201 out of 499 members, an average contribution of \$22.27, average of \$8.97 per member, total \$4,476.70), ranking us 6th in NWOEA out of 100 locals.

FCPE top five NWOEA Locals

Liberty Center – 64.7%, 44 out of 68 members
average contribution of \$40.30
average of \$26.07 per member
total \$1773.00

Seneca East – 59.7%, 40 out of 67 of members
average contribution of \$28.43
average of \$16.97 per member
total \$1,137.00

Margaretta – 57.9%, 44 out of 76 members
average contribution of \$20.80
average of \$12.04 per member
total \$915.00

Pandora Gilboa – 53.8%, 21 out of 39 members
average contribution of \$29.32
average of \$15.79 per member
total \$615.75

Bath E.A. – 47.5%, 19 out of 40 members
average contribution of \$26.07
average of \$12.68 per member
total \$507.00

Tiffin – 47.3%, 78 out of 165 members
average contribution of \$21.83
average of \$10.32 per member
total \$1,703