

# From OCSEA President Eddie L. Parks



EDDIE L. PARKS  
PRESIDENT  
CHRISTOPHER MABE  
VICE PRESIDENT  
KATHLEEN M. STEWART  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

## Welcome to the OCSEA\AFSCME Local 11 29<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention!

Every two years delegates representing OCSEA's chapters, districts and assemblies come together to set the future path of the union. The OCSEA Convention is a showcase of democracy in action. As a delegate, you will be asked to make challenging decisions, including whether or not to amend our Constitution and which policy statements OCSEA should make through the adoption of resolutions. You are encouraged to brush-up on your "Robert's Rules of Order" knowledge to better follow the actions of the Convention. Clearly, you have some important responsibilities over the next three days.

Throughout Convention, we will hear from speakers who will inspire and motivate us in our fight to protect collective bargaining rights and support Ohio's middle class. Take time to stop by the exhibit booths to learn about what OCSEA is doing to fight these fights as well as the services OCSEA has to offer. Additionally, a PEOPLE coupon can be found in your Convention packet. Use it at the PEOPLE booth to redeem a commemorative PEOPLE pin. And finally, show your support against Senate Bill 5 by purchasing a t-shirt and other items on sale in the booths area. All proceeds go toward repealing SB 5.

While you will have important and challenging work to do at Convention, I encourage you to find time to relax, have fun and recharge for each day's business. The Convention offers several entertainment activities for you to enjoy. The PEOPLE Red Carpet reception will "jazz up" your Thursday evening with some live jazz music. At Friday night's banquet, members are encouraged to show their solidarity by wearing their "oldest" or "best" union t-shirt. Prizes will be awarded. And, finally, on Saturday, the last day of Convention will feature the always energetic and important PEOPLE fund-raiser, the annual "Fun Run and Walk."

This year's Convention theme is appropriately *"Coming Together for our Future."* Our future will be determined by the choices we make. On Nov. 8, the citizens of Ohio will have a choice of whether to veto Senate Bill 5 or not. And, between now and November, we have no other choice but to come together in solidarity and put all our available resources into rescinding this mean-spirited, anti-union legislation. Our future as a union depends on it! OCSEA is a great union that has the spirit and motivation to lead the fight to win in November. At this Convention, let's show Ohio that we are a strong and proud union and that we will stop at nothing to fight for our rights and for Ohio's middle class. I am confident that we will be successful and Kill SB 5 once and for all!

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Eddie L. Parks'. The signature is stylized with a large, looping 'P'.

Eddie L. Parks  
President

