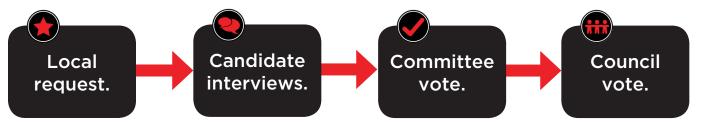
More Than Our Votes Contributing to the FCPE

Every major policy decision affecting education is made by a politician, whether it's the governor, the Oklahoma Legislature or your local school board. That's why many Oklahoma Education Association members choose to make voluntary contributions to OEA's nonpartisan **Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE)**.



An OEA member or a local affiliate requests FCPE involvement in a particular race. OEA leaders and the staff legislative team begin the process of forming an interview committee.

An interview committee is created with FCPE donors who live and/ or work in that House or Senate district. The committee requests interviews with all candidates in that race.

The interview committee decides on a candidate recommendation (or no recommendation). The interview committee also decides whether to give the recommended candidate money and/ or assistance.

The FCPE Council votes on whether to accept the interview committee's candidate recommendation.
The council is made up of OEA members who are elected by the organization membership.

FCPE Facts

- No dues dollars are involved. Dues dollars NEVER go to the Fund for Children and Public Education. All donations are voluntary, and all donations come from OEA members.
- Participation doesn't require big donations. To sit on these committees doesn't require a
 large contribution. In fact, the FCPE guidelines recommend \$10 annually.
- **FCPE policy outlines how to treat incumbents.** OEA will not endorse someone against an incumbent unless that incumbent has "taken action to harm the OEA as an organization, public education or its employees," according to FCPE policy.
- **OEA members who are candidates receive donations.** OEA members receive automatic campaign contributions based on the office: \$250 for a House of Representatives seat, \$500 for a Senate seat, or \$750 for a statewide seat. This does not constitute a recommendation.

On average, OEA members vote at a rate 20 percent higher than the general public, but **voting isn't enough.** Electing good candidates costs money. To contribute to the FCPE, go to **bit.ly/OEAfcpe**.