

TNOTA Board Meeting Sept. 15, 2024
Annual Business Meeting at the 2024 TNOTA Conference

Note: These minutes are slightly different in format and content than the August Board Meeting minutes, as September's meeting took place simultaneously with the Annual Business Meeting at the 2024 TNOTA Annual Conference in Nashville, TN.

Please share the information in the box below with your personal network(s)

- **Now through November 10** – TNOTA is accepting nominations for our 2025 Philanthropy Partner. Priority will go to organizations whose work impacts Tennesseans and is related to occupational therapy as well as to the vision and mission of TNOTA. You can [submit nominations here](#).
- **Now through November 10** – TNOTA is accepting nominations for three upcoming vacancies on our Executive Board. The positions for which nominations are being accepted are:
 - *President Elect* (one year beginning in Jan. 2025 followed by a two-year term as President)
 - *Vice President* (two year term starting in Jan. 2025; primary responsibility is Conference Committee Cha)
 - *Treasurer* (two year term starting in Jan. 2025; duties include maintaining financial records and budgeting)
- **September 12-14, 2025** – TNOTA's 2025 Annual Conference will be held at the J. Walter Barnes Conference Center in Jackson, TN. Save the date and plan to attend!

Action Items for TNOTA Board members

- Please submit any district, committee, or CEU events ASAP for 2024 using the [Executive Board webpage](#)
- November Newsletter submissions are due **October 20th**. You can submit on the [Executive Board webpage](#)
- Please send a notice of any leadership changes - personnel and roles - in your district or on your committee to admin@tnota.org
- Please continue to engage with TNOTA social media posts.

Upcoming Events

- **October 16** – *The OTD Doctoral Capstone* – Participants will earn 1.0 CEU hour. This event is free for members and \$20 for non-members.
- **October 22** – *State and Federal Advocacy Update 2024* – Free advocacy CE event to members and non-members at 7:00 pm CDT (virtual).
- **October 30** – *QPR Training* – Virtual suicide prevention training provided by the TNOTA Mental Health Committee

- **November 12 – Assistive Technology and Inclusion** – This is a special CE event offered by TNOTA in partnership with the Alabama, Louisiana, and Georgia OT Associations, open to members of those associations only.
- **Date TBD** – The DEI Committee still working on getting a firm date in place for the speaker from NBCOT
- **Please watch our social media and website for announcements and information about continuing education events as more learning opportunities are planned.**

Announcements

- Advocacy Committee
 - Planning an annual CE event to update members on Tennessee specific legislative topics (see above for the Oct. 22 event)
 - Plan to organize school & community outreach to advocate for the profession of occupational therapy
- Continuing Education Committee
 - Maintaining the rate of 1-2 courses being approved per month
 - Certificates from the conference have been distributed to attendees and speakers as of 9-20-24.
- DEI Committee
 - Goal to increase committee membership, and to continue representing a diverse cohort of OT practitioners
 - Planning to have monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each Month via Zoom from 7-8 p.m. CST. (NOTE: future meetings may be in-person meet ups, quarterly chats, community activities, and journal club discussions)
- Mental Health Committee
 - 2 new QPR trainers have been certified
 - Committee has arranged to have a Belmont University capstone student in 2026
- Mentorship Committee
 - Looking to gain clarification from the licensing board on CEU credits given to mentees and practitioners mentoring students
 - Developing video recordings for information and FAQs to use in future cycles
 - Continuing to seek increased participation and expanded mentorship opportunities across Tennessee OT practitioner community
- OTA Connect Committee
 - Continuing to host quarterly meetings (via Zoom)
 - Continuing to look for unique methods to promote successful relationships between OTs and OTAs
- Student Involvement Committee
 - Looking to increase student representation and involvement within TNOTA
 - Continuing to host quarterly meetings (via Zoom)
 - One year of free membership in TNOTA for elected student representative from each school program
 - Hosted the first Student Lounge at Annual Conference (sponsored by Belmont)

- TNOTA Annual Conference Updates
 - A total of 236 individuals registered for the conference in total
 - We had 9 sponsors/exhibitors
 - We are still collecting evaluations but overall the feedback is very positive (summary to come later in October)
 - The 2025 Annual Conference will be held September 13-14, 2025 at the J. Walter Barnes Conference Center in Jackson, TN, with pre-conference on Sept. 12.
- Membership updates
 - 1st Yr. OT – 25 (-13)
 - OT – 362 (+3)
 - 1st Yr. OTA – 4 (-7)
 - OTA – 81 (-2)
 - Retired – 2 (-1)
 - Student – 353 (-29)
 - Total members – 839 (-40)
 - Total audience – 3,096 (+109)
 - At this time last year, we had 879 (2987 including prospects) active members compared to 839 (3096 including prospects) active members as of 8/31/2024.
 - Key takeaways about membership shared at the Annual Business Meeting membership report:
 - In general, year over year growth is steady, with a slight to moderate increase in the months leading up to the Annual Conference
 - OTs and Students are the largest membership categories, suggesting there may be room for growth with OTA-specific content and opportunities
 - With the addition of staff, there will be greater capacity to look into the factors that help someone move from “Prospect” to a TNOTA membership
 - Understanding membership value more precisely (especially from the perspective of new and younger professionals) is a goal for the months ahead
- Legislative updates
 - The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published the CY 2025 Home Health PPS proposed rule in the Federal Register on July 3, 2024. The proposal will affect OT practitioners who work for home health agencies, as it includes payment updates, changes to quality measures in Home Health (HH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) and HH Value- Based Purchasing, Program (HHVBP), and changes to the Conditions of Participation (COPs). The COPs are the minimum health and safety standards that home health agencies must comply with to qualify for reimbursement under the Medicare program.
 - You can read more about this rule change here: https://www.aota.org/advocacy/advocacy-news/2024/key_issues_from_the_cy2025_hh_pps_proposed_rule
- West District

- Hosted 4 CE events in the past year:
 - **Ethics and Jurisprudence in Occupational Therapy** (in person, presented by Dr. Stephanie Lancaster)
 - **Ethics and Jurisprudence in Occupational Therapy** (live webinar, presented by Dr. Stephanie Lancaster)
 - **TNOTA West District Social Event at the Half Shell** (hosted by West District Co-Chairs)
 - **The Role of Occupational Therapy in Oral Hygiene** (presented by Kim Musicante, OTR/L)
 - **Human Trafficking, Immigration, and the Emerging Role of Occupational Therapy Practitioners** (presented by Dr. Toni Thompson)
- Delivered CEUs to 174+ individuals
- Rural West District
 - Held 3rd annual compliance day during first Saturday in November 2023
 - Hosted PAM's course in early November 2023
 - Local CEU Events:
 - When Pharmacotherapy Meets OT (Presented by Bethany Murphy, PharmD)
 - A Primitive Look at Reflexes (Presented by Sandra Dicks, OTR/L)
 - The Weight of Caring: Understanding Emotional Distress In Helping Professions (Presented by Sara Amos, LCSW)
 - Participated at Union University MakeAble Challenge
- Middle District
 - Looking to facilitate in person meetups for OT practitioners & students
 - Coordinating virtual continuing education courses in innovative areas of practice
 - Build a student community of support for occupational therapy students in the greater Nashville area
 - Filled roles of Vice Chair & Secretary
- East District
 - Continuing to advocate for greater East TN District Membership and Involvement.
 - Looking to facilitate networking and professional development for occupational therapists in addition to education events
 - Hoping to coordinate 1 service-related community event by East TN District Members this coming year
- Northeast District
 - The OTD Doctoral Capstone (virtual CEU)
 - Student Connection and District Meeting
 - Virtual District Meeting and Planning for 2025
 - Dec TBD – In-Person District Meeting and CEU at local hospital
- Southeast District
 - Hoping to increase district leadership involvement for open positions (Secretary & Treasurer)

- Created a regional Facebook page to build connections with OTPs and students for jobs, questions, education, and more
- Representing TNOTA at UTC Health Professionals Career Fair (Oct. 2024)

MSC Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting is taking place via Zoom **October 10 at 7:00 pm Central**

Action	Date	Who
Please submit any district, committee, or CEU events ASAP for 2024 using the Executive Board webpage	ASAP	Board
November Newsletter submissions are due October 20th . You can submit on the Executive Board webpage	October 20	Board
Continue to engage with TNOTA social media posts	Rolling	Board