

OREGON CITY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Message from the President

Wow, it is hard to believe we have entered 2016 already. This has been a busy year with no slow down in sight. I wanted to be sure that I started out this New Year by letting you know how much we appreciate the time and effort many of you are contributing by working on various building and district committees. You do this without special perks or acknowledgement and we all benefit as a result. While many have given of themselves, there is room for others to join in and get involved, please considering answering this special request.

There are two very important District committees that have been working hard this year on issues that will impact us all. We invite you to come to the following meetings to hear first hand what is being considered.

- The Long Range Facilities Advisory Committee –LRFAC – 1/27, 2/17, 3/16, 4/20, 5/4, 5/18, 6/15, 8/8. All of the meetings are 7-9 pm and the meeting place varies monthly. [Contact me](#) if you want to attend and need the location of the meeting.
- Strategic Planning/Visioning–for future of OCSD and projecting years into the future. These meetings will be held Wednesday nights from 7-9p.m. The preliminary meeting dates are 2/10, 2/24, 3/9, 3/30 and 4/20. I also hope you had a chance to take the survey related to the Strategic Planning that was provided in the December OC Update email from Larry Didway.
- The next School Board meeting is February 8, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the School Board mtg rm – Jackson Campus.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings mentioned here. Thank you for all you do, I hope you stay healthy and remember to take care of yourself as you serve our students and community.

–Cindy Williams

– Phone: 7838 Email: cindy.williams@orecity.k12.or.us

It's Tax Time Again... Already?? Here's Your Tax Prep Info:

We (OCSD and OCEA-OEA) cannot and do not give tax prep advice. We can only help guide you to where you can find your dues amount. OCSD paychecks show all dues and contributions as one amount, as OEA dues. That amount is tax deductible as "dues". **Full time employees**, will need to add OCEA dues, \$120.00 to the OEA Dues amount for your total dues amount. Part time employees will need to do some math (see below for dues amounts) Only a tax professional can advise whether to try taking the PIE contribution and Foundation contribution off the total amount your pay stub shows. It is quite likely, a tax professional would use the entire amount as dues and then further deduct PIE and Foundation with you receipts. You should look to see if your December check stub for your annual amounts.

Remember:

Everyone who contributes to PIE gets a receipt . Anyone who donates to the OEA Foundation can request a Foundation receipt from OEA at 503-684-3300.

2015 Dues info:

Per OCEA Contract, OCEA annual dues are \$120.00 per year and are paid in two equal payments, as reflected on the September and October pay checks. OEA/NEA dues are then pro-rated throughout the rest of your checks (Nov-June). The exact amount on your pay stub may be unique because our district does not separate our PIE < OEA Foundation, or other such donations from the dues collected each month.

Example: \$\$\$ divided into 8 payments would be \$\$ per month, but an additional donation for OEA Foundation of \$2.00 a month would make your amount \$\$ + \$2.00 and so on. Any employee who is hired at a later date will have their dues pro-rated accordingly.

Remember, when you file your taxes, you are using the amounts from your DECEMBER pay stub. Please contact OEA if you have specific dues questions.

More detailed information will follow within the next few weeks.

No Child Left Behind is changed to ESSA - the Every Student Succeeds Act!

Recently the U.S. Congress & President Obama brought forth the end of NCLB. Read about this exciting development through the link below!

[read summary](#)
NEWS / Politics K-12 Blog
<http://www.edweek.org>

TSPC License Renewal Transitions to Online System

TSPC new fees, new online system, and new teaching licensing rules took effect THIS MONTH.

The TSPC application process is transitioned to an **online-only system on Jan. 19**. Paper applications and payments were only accepted until DECEMBER 31, 2015.

For more information about the changes, click here: www.oregon.gov/tspc

A Better Oregon – Have you signed a signature sheet yet?

Let's be proactive & help seniors, health care & education in Oregon. Oregonians need 88,000 signatures to get on the ballot and make sure big, out-of-state corporations pay their fair share. OCEA's goal is to **collect 1200 signatures including 100% of OCEA members**. Contact your bldg reps or the OCEA office for petitions. **We have approx 450 signatures** so far. Our next due date is Feb. 20. Please help us

Input Needed for Contract Maintenance/Upcoming Bargaining Regarding Financials and Benefits.

We have a few main ways that OCEA utilizes to gather member input, Building Reps, emails, phone calls, and the newsletter seem to be the most obvious. Please be open and share your true thoughts when you are asked, "How are things going?" **We will be visiting your building soon to ask three important questions:**

1. Who is your "go to person", someone you trust and respect in your building other than your Building Rep?
2. What professional support do you need to do your job well? (PD priorities, etc.)
3. What improvements can be made for improved teaching and learning conditions/bargaining priorities?

Remember: We can't help if we don't know about your concerns and suggestions for solutions.

Great Ideas & Funding? Grant Deadline Approaching!

The Oregon Education Association (OEA) is committed to achieving educational excellence through enhancing teaching & learning. The Barb Drennan Promising Practices grant program supports innovative efforts by OEA members through their local associations to enhance classroom skills and educational activities that will improve student achievement.

Four \$500 grants will be awarded to members in our UniServ area. All applications need to be turned in to Karen Spies OEA Consultant, at the Willamette Falls UniServ office.

Applications are due to the UniServ Office by February 1st! You can find the application here: <http://www.oregoned.org/whats-new/explore-these-grant-opportunities>

Save the date: OEA PIE CONVENTION

March 4 & 5, 2016. Eugene's Valley River Inn

At the Convention, we will work together to identify pro-public education candidates who will support our students and public education. The number of votes each delegation is able to cast is determined by the number of their members who contribute to the political fund. For example, Beaverton has 877 members who contribute which makes them an influential voice at the Convention.

Offices for consideration include:

US President | US Senate seat | All 5 US House of Representatives seats
Oregon Governor | Secretary of State | Attorney General | Treasurer

The only requirement to attend this OEA event is a minimum OEA-PIE contribution of \$5.00! If you haven't contributed to OEA-PIE, you can make an on-line contribution here. https://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/51077/donate_page/oeapie

WANT TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

OEA Rep Assembly Delegates Needed

Nominations for delegates to the OEA Representative Assemblies are open and due to Cathy Poppen this week. We need at least 6 nominees. The following is a brief description of this event:

The OEA Representative Assembly is the yearly meeting in which elected delegates debate and vote on governing documents and new business items, which will guide the direction of our state organization. OCEA has a great history of involvement, resulting in positive changes at the state level and benefits to our members. The OEA RA will be April 15 – 16 in Portland. Please nominate yourself or a colleague to be one of our delegates. We will post the nominee names from Feb 4-10. The election will be Feb. 11-16. Please let your Building Rep or our Membership/Social chair know you want to be nominated. We need you and this is a fun way to help your colleagues. If you wish to run for OEA/RA or have questions, please contact [Brent Leong](#) at 8900 or drop him an email.

OCEA OFFICERS

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Political Action- Alex Foz & Dillon

Daniel-Hoffman

Contract Maintenance Committee

Allan Brown, Dawn Spahn, Cathy

Poppen, Cindy Williams, Karen Jenkins

& Brent Leong.

Bargaining Team

Karen Jenkins, Dillon Daniel-Hoffman,

Allan Brown, Brent Leong, Cindy

Williams, Rachel Engstrom

CONTRACT TRIVIA

Congrats to Michelle Blanchard of

Redland who found the correct answer to last month's question: *In inclement weather or other emergencies which require that schools be closed, teachers will not be expected to appear in the buildings and this will not be charged against other paid leaves nor will pay be docked. However, the school calendar may be adjusted to make up the days lost without additional compensation of teachers if such make-up is necessary to meet state standards.*

Here is January's Question: How many subject area preps are there at the middle and high school levels?

Be the first to email [Cindy Williams](#) with the correct answer and you could win a prize.