

OCEA NEWS

Message from the President

Wow, June is really here and the days until summer break are flying by quickly. We still have so much to do and so little time to get everything done. It's hard to believe after having an active teaching license continuously for almost forty years that my life as a full time educator will be ending June 30th for OCSD and July 6th for OCEA when I finish this year at the NEA RA in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Contemplating what to say to all of you in my final newsletter as your President is a little overwhelming. The time I have spent with our students, community, and all of you has been priceless. Mere words cannot convey my appreciation for your contributions to my personal and professional growth. Every interaction with you has taught me something about myself and I will take many cherished memories with me. I would also like to thank the OCEA Leaders who served with me over many years and especially this past year: Vice President/CMC - Brenda Roland, Secretary - Joel Pearson, Treasurer - Cori Carroll, Membership/Social/ Bargaining/CMC - Brent Leong, our Committee Chairs/teams - Political Action - Megan Christopher, Communications- Jamie Voelker, Insurance - Jan Snyder, CMC- Allan Brown, Dawn Spahn, and Cathy Poppen, and all of our wonderful Building Reps. It has been a pleasure working with each of you! The gifts and skills you bring to representing our colleagues are immeasurable. Many of you have been supporting me since I came to Oregon City and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming our new officers: President- Brenda Roland, Secretary- Rebecca Miller, and Treasurer - LeAndra Isenberger. Brenda is the first President I can remember who actually has an idea of what she is entering into and has diligently prepared to be your President by taking various leadership classes, participating in OEA conferences, TURN, joining me on numerous committees and at various School Board meetings for the past 2 years. Our OCEA leaders have logged many hours beyond the regular work day on your behalf. Please consider joining a committee for the coming year and or being a Building Rep. It is a great way to get to know other members, and extra help is always appreciated. Even if you can't make it to regular meetings, most committees have tasks that can be done independently at home. More hands equal lighter loads.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the members of OCEA for your support and encouragement during my tenure as president. It has been an honor to serve you in various capacities over these many years. I plan to spend time with my family, especially the grandkids, see the world, and find out what my passions are beyond the classroom. I will probably substitute teach after I get tired of waking up when I feel like it in the morning. I will definitely miss all of you. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

With gratitude and a full heart,

Cindy Williams -President, soon to be referred to mostly as; Grammy Cindy

KUDOS

Congratulations to Birdy Puliam-Holcomb and Sarah Dunton Breen- OCHS, runners up for Oregon's Clackamas Regional Teacher of the Year 2018-19.

Tami Reeder-Gardiner, John Pence Award for Service to Middle Level Education. We are proud of you!

Michelle Ramos recently got married; Congratulations!

Join us for the 2018 OEA Summer Leadership Conference

Summer Leadership Conference - July 24-26, 2018 -DoubleTree by Hilton Portland Convention, 1000 NE Multnomah St. Portland, OR 97232 – Register by June 20th

There has never been a better time to be part of a union than right now. At Summer Leadership Conference 2018, we will be focused on elevating and connecting OEA members and our community partners. Our collective wisdom exceeds what any of us can do alone; coming together will make us stronger. Everyone is a teacher, everyone is a learner, and we all contain within us the seed to make change. Please join us July 24-26 for our annual Summer Leadership Conference: **CommUNITY: Our Strength – Our Power.** Click [here](#) for more information.

Jump Start Renewal Seminar- NBCTs

The OEA National Board Renewal Jump Start is an opportunity to get support as you start the renewal process. Designed and led by NBCTs, this one-day seminar is a way for you to learn about the renewal requirements and plan out your year.

August 9, 2018, Parkrose Middle School, 11800 NE Shaver Street, Portland, OR for [more info](#) and to register

INSURANCE: MANDATORY OPEN ENROLLMENT for EVERYONE next year

The OCEA Insurance Committee will meet with District representatives to screen OEGB plans and will decide which plans we can choose from for the 2018-19 school year. The committee will email the plan selections within the next week. We recommend you start thinking about your insurance plan selections this summer rather than waiting for the Open Enrollment period, August 15 – September 10th. OEGB will email you some information during the summer. Please take time to research your options. As always, if employees require help enrolling in insurance, the District business office staff are available throughout the summer during normal business hours. (It should be noted that the office will be closed on Fridays through the summer). In the past we have had computers available at the Welcome Back meeting during our first week back and we do not foresee us changing this practice but we have not had a planning discussion regarding this, yet. It should be noted that the District and OCEA cannot recommend which plan an employee should enroll. Due to the insurance pool we will definitely not know what the payroll deduction will be for each of the insurance plans that will be available (this is the single most asked question/complaint during open enrollment).

Maintaining Your Records

Keeping your records updated, organized and secure is very important. Members should maintain these records in a safe place, preferably not at your work site.

- Certificate/license – You should keep a record of your teaching license's expiration date. It is your responsibility to ensure that your certificate does not expire while you are employed.
- Transcripts of degrees and college credits, plus records of workshop attendance – be sure you send a copy of transcripts to Julie Yoder in HR if you are ready to move over on the salary schedule.
- Letters of appreciation and accomplishment
- Your individual annual contract
- Supplemental contracts for extra duty responsibilities
- Your local Association Collective Bargaining Agreement (contract)
- Yearly salary information and payroll notices – esp. pay stubs for dues information
- Records of leave accrual and leave days used
- All goal setting documents, evaluation and growth plans

Bargaining: Problem Solving

Our first bargaining meeting will be June 13th. Information will be shared as it becomes available so keep an eye on your email this summer.