



The purpose of the OCEA shall be to represent its members in collective bargaining, serve as the local voice for education, promote professional excellence among educators, gain recognition of the basic importance of the teacher in the learning process, protect the rights of the educators and advance their interests and welfare, secure professional autonomy, unite educators for effective citizenship, promote and protect human and civil rights, involve as many members as possible in the operation of the Association and to otherwise act for the common good of the members.

Listening Campaign Update:

We listened to staff from Redland, Ogden, Holcomb, Gaffney Lane, and McLoughlin. We were not able to make contact with every person in those buildings, but we were able to get a good sampling and get the gist of what members think about a variety of issues. There were a lot of comments made that are not reflected here but for the most part, our listening campaign revealed some of the following:

Positives:

Curriculum is ok, teammates and/or PLCs, full school year, IA support, collaborative staff, beginning to have relevant Prof. Dev. opportunities, & an appreciation for administrators' hard work.

Challenges:

Dealing with integrating IEPs/challenging/aggressive students, prep time, communication glitches (with admin types), lack of inconsistency with support for students with behaviors, trust issues, need more support for new to profession or bldg colleagues, etc.,

OCEA:

Doing ok, but needs to help more with Prof. Dev. choices and garnering some prep time for people & limiting bldg meetings.

Trusted Colleagues:

Wow, good news, we work with great colleagues and trust among colleagues is real in all the buildings we visited.

We will continue our Listening Campaign efforts next year. Please send us suggested times for the listening to occur.

Bargaining Update

Your Negotiations (Problem Solving) Team has been working diligently on your behalf to secure a Tentative Agreement for the 2016-2017 Collective Bargaining Agreement. We will send you an email with a detailed update as soon as the details have been hammered out. It may be after work is out when we know, so keep watching your email. We will have hard copies available to review the Tentative Agreement and have a ratification vote in the fall.

OCEA Leadership Voting Results

The people listed below have been elected as OCEA Officers effective July 1, 2016.

- OCEA President: Cindy Williams
- OCEA Vice Pres: Brenda Roland – Redland Elem.
- OCEA Secretary: OPEN
- OCEA Treasurer: Cori Carroll – McLoughlin

Appointed for next year:

- Secretary – Cathy Poppen, Ogden
- Communications Chair – Jamie Voelker – Gaffney, ERC
- Political Action Chairs – Heather Brown – Holcomb, Alex Foz – Gardiner, Dillon Daniel-Hoffman – OCSLA
- Membership/Social – OPEN
- Insurance- OPEN
- Negotiations Chair - OPEN

Please join us in thanking our Leadership Team for volunteering much of their time for the OCEA. Your work is appreciated!

President's Message for May & June 2016

Wow, can you believe the end of the year is here? This year, like so many before it, seems to have flown by and I bet some of you are thrilled that we have finally made it through. If you're anything like me; you're probably going to nap for a week and then get on with enjoying your summer. As you wrap things up, take time to reflect on the accomplishments of this year: the positive relationships built with students & colleagues, watching students grasp a new concept, seeing a child smile as they complete a challenge, or simply making it through another year. The time and energy you have put in has been worthwhile. No matter what stressors you faced, I hope you remember, YOU made a difference in the lives of students and colleagues. Your summer is well deserved. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our students, colleagues, and community.

Take time during your summer to relax, recharge, and enjoy your friends and family. Take care and see you next fall!

– Cindy Williams

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BITTER SWEET NEWS !!

Our OCEA family is losing some amazing people this summer. Many are moving on to other districts and some are retiring. Our district has benefited from the contributions of all of those leaving us this summer. I wish we had room to highlight and thank each person moving on to a new adventure, but time and space limit what I can do in this newsletter. Congratulations to those of you that are moving on to a grand adventure, working closer to home or your dream job. Please know that ALL of you have meant a lot to your students and colleagues and you WILL BE MISSED !!

Big Changes in OCEA - PLEASE THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHEN YOU SEE THEM .

A special send off and a big THANK YOU to our Communications Chair, Michael Haliski. Our district, students, and colleagues have been enriched by Mike's involvement here in OC. This newsletter and our communication stream would not have happened for the last 5+ years without Mike's amazing attention to detail, his willingness to edit and revise my input, and his technical media skills. We wish Mike the best and want him to know how much we have appreciated all he has done for OCSD, our students, community, colleagues, and OCEA. Mike leaves a big hole that is not easily filled. THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES.

Jan Snyder works at IMC and has been our go to person for insurance for 34 + years. Jan thought she retired from being our OCEA Insurance Chair over the last year or so, but she was kind of wrong (we didn't let go) and she was also gracious and came back to help us out this year when Heidi Dahlin (our current Insurance Chair) got hurt. However, Jan is officially finished being our Insurance Chair. Her expertise, dedication, and hours of research spent making sure all of us have the best insurance coverage at the most affordable price possible for all of these years will definitely be missed! Thankfully she will still be working at IMC for one more year so she will be available to help answer questions and transition in a new Insurance Chair. Jan has agreed to help inform us – (look for an informational letter this summer) during the Open Enrollment period when we re-enroll and sign up for new insurance. THANK YOU JAN

Last but not least, we also give a special THANKS and Good Bye to Karen Jenkins. Yes, she is finally closing this chapter of her life and actually retiring. Karen has been involved with writing and interpreting the Collective Bargaining Agreement between OCEA and OCSD for over 30 years. Her expertise with speech and all things SPED and her work with OCEA members, our students, and district has benefited all of us greatly! Words cannot express our true appreciation of Karen. The void her retirement leaves is beyond measure and saying, "she WILL BE MISSED is an understatement"!!! Karen has earned time to do what she wants when she wants to do whatever her heart desires. We hope retirement brings her pleasure and the fulfillment of all her retirement expectations. Best Wishes Karen.

Everyone will need to re-enroll in insurance – But wait !!

The OCEA Insurance Committee recommends you start thinking about your insurance plan selections this summer. Please wait to sign up for your new insurance until you receive a letter outlining the new options from OCEA. Open Enrollment is August 15 – September 9. If you participated in “Healthy Futures” as part of your insurance this past year you will need to report your activities when you enroll. **IMPORTANT: DO NOT** report your activities prior to your enrollment or your information will be lost.

Thank Your Building Representatives!

Your reps, their time, big results...for YOU!

Do you know how many of your colleagues volunteer their time for you? Your Association Building Reps, Executive Boards, Bargaining Teams, Political Action, OEA-RA Delegates and numerous other committee members volunteer many hours on your behalf.

Here are some of the many things your Association Reps do for you:

- Communicate OEA and local information to you
- Gather info from buildings to bring to Rep Meetings
- Update membership rosters
- Attend and run trainings
- Advocate for and advise members of their rights and responsibilities
- Provide support to members to resolve issues within the building
- Work with the building administrator to communicate the climate and morale of the building membership

And the list goes on. . . .

They've worked hard for you all year. Please take a moment to thank your Association Building

Renewing Your Teaching License with TSPC:

Summer may be a good time to check your license and make sure you are on track for renewal. As many of you have experienced, renewing your teaching license with TSPC can be frustrating. In an attempt to make this process easier, here are answers to commonly asked questions as well as some helpful tips. Please plan well in advance so there are no surprises and/or time to address any difficulties. Please remember this very important tidbit – IF TSPC sends information to the district regarding licenses that are expiring, the district will send you a reminder, but it is the responsibility of the employee to be sure his/her teaching license is renewed. There's always the possibility that TSPC will not notify the district, so no one should rely on that notification. Remember, Teresa Ferrer at OEA Headquarters in Tigard is a great resource and always has the up to date information: – 503-684-3300 or email at teresa.ferrer@oregoned.org.

CONTRACT TRIVIA

Congrats to Lindsey MacKender of McLoughlin who found the correct answer to last month's question. Here are the 10 rights of Management as listed in the contract:

1. The right to determine location of the schools and other facilities of the school system, including the right to establish new facilities and to relocate or close old facilities.
2. The determination of the financial policies of the District, including the general accounting procedures, inventory of supplies and equipment procedures, and public relations.
3. The determination of the management, supervisory, or administrative positions.
4. The maintenance of discipline and control and use of the school system property and facilities.
5. The determination of safety, health and property protection measures where legal responsibility of the District or other governmental unit is involved.
6. The determination of the size of the working force, the allocation, and assignment of work to employees.
7. The determination of the layout and the equipment to be used.
8. The right to control school activities.
9. The right to schedule classes and assign workloads.
10. The right to make assignments for all programs of an extracurricular nature

Due to unforeseen circunaces (lame duck Communication Chair), there will not be a trivia question this month.

OCEA OFFICERS

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OCEA Chairs

Communication- Mike Haliski

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Contract Maint.- Cindy Williams

Insurance- Jan Snyder

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Membership/Soc.- Brent Leong

Phone: 8900

Political Action- Alex Foz & Dillon

Daniel-Hoffman

Contract Maintenance Committee

Allan Brown, Dawn Spahn, Cathy Poppen, Cindy Williams, Karen Jenkins & Brent Leong.

Bargaining Team: A. Brown, D. Daniel-Hoffman, B. Leong, L. Flood, E. Mathiot, J. Lee-Barr, T. Buckner, C. Williams & Chair-K. Jenkins

OEA Rep Assembly Held in April

OCEA recently sent 10 delegates to the Oregon Education Association Representative Assembly held April 15-16. The meeting was well attended and eventful. Among the attendees from associations around the state were OCEA's very own Rene' Barnhardt, Alex Foz, Bethany Taft, Brenda Roland, Cindy Williams, Cori Carroll, Dawn Spahn, Dillon Daniel-Hoffman, Joel Pearson and Sarah Black. Many thanks go to the OCEA delegates for your time and dedication! Our representatives gave an entire weekend plus a day at the Pre-RA training to ensure that your voice was heard when it came time to adopt our state association's By-Laws, Policies, and Resolutions, which will guide the work of the Association throughout the year. Visit [this website](#) if you are interested in reading more about this year's RA and/or the direction of OEA.