



Nov. 2023

President's Corner

End of the first quarter is always a good time to reflect and adjust. I always thought of it as that first hurdle towards summer break!!

As I visit buildings and talk with members, I'm constantly amazed and impressed with the dedication and passion I see and feel from everyone! This dedication and passion is also what contributes to our well being being sapped dry. So, please make sure you take advantage of any opportunities to refill your tank, even if it's a 5 minute break to look at the pictures on your wall, pop by someone's room, close your eyes and mind. Celebrate November 5th!!



November 5th:

[Zero Tasking Day!!!](#)

OEA Night with the Blue Jackets

December 16th, grab your family and head out to Nationwide Arena!!

Click on [this link](#) for more information and purchase tickets!!

November 7th: ELECTION DAY!!

WEA has endorsed 2 candidate for the WCS Board of Education:

- Louise Valentine
- Jen Aultman

Both candidates earned our endorsement through our screening process with members of WEA on the committee.

WEA Wins:

Library Media Specialists can use the OELMA in their evaluations!

KEY DATES

WE Day - Nov 7

Election Day - Nov 7

Thanksgiving Break: Nov 22-24

GRIEVANCES

With the change from being compensated through PDI to Schedule S, we've started the grievance process with a number of WEA members. If you feel that you've been wrongfully denied payment for a completed activity after Aug 1, please reach out to your Fac Rep to see whether or not you should start this process for yourself. Refer to pg. 23-26 of our CBA for the process.

Any name and address changes need sent to Andrea Gaul, the WEA Membership Chair

RETIRING THIS YEAR???

Things you need to know:

- Your retirement needs to be accepted by the BOE by Dec. 1 to opt out of OTES for this year
- During Open Enrollment for insurance (Oct), make your HSA contributions over 6 months not 12
- If you're on district insurance and want to keep it through next summer, your retirement letter/email must be submitted to HR by March 15th AND state that you want to keep your insurance through August
- Make your retirement date the last work day in May or one of the last days in May. This way your first STRS check will be June 1
- Work with STRS as to when to start the online process for retirement

OTES Evaluation Reminders:

The pre-conference is a conversation, not an interview! You do not have to type in answers to EVERY question on the OhioES website. However, you should be ready to have a conversation about the information being requested from those questions. I recommend you refer to the [Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession](#) and touch on those in your answers, and demonstrate those in your observations!!!

FYI: WEA has negotiated a pre-conference form that you may use, as well.

FAC REP Spotlight: **Kelsie Seders**

Thank you for all your hard work on filing our first Schedule S Grievance!!
What a learning curve for all of us!!!



WEA Officers:

President- Kelly Modlich
(614-407-4843)

Vice President- Thomas Cook

Treasurer- Molly Wassmuth

Secretary- David Grimes

Fac Rep At-Large

Brandon Allen Brooke Smith

Mark Brugger Sarah Painter

Emily Winship