

WEAthervane

March 2024

President's Corner

Three more weeks! We can make it to Spring Break!! I hope you all have some time to refresh, renew and prepare for that last quarter of educating. March also includes St. Patrick's Day and the first day of spring. But, most of all, this month's full moon is NOT a school day!!! Much to look forward to and celebrate.

As always, I'm here to represent you and advocate on your behalf. If there's an issue that needs to be addressed, feel free to let me know! "Together We Can"
Kelly

WEA Spring Reception! May 1st

Vila Milano Restaurant

4:15p - 6:00p

\$5 donation to our Scholarship Fund

Come celebrate our Educators of the Year and Retiring members.
Appetizers and soft drinks provided.



KEY DATES

St. Patrick's Day March 17th
Spring Break March 25th-29th
Officers' Elections April 2nd
WE-Day April 8th
Fac Rep Elections April 23rd
WEA Spring Reception May 1st

Bargaining

On Feb 28th, WEA conducted a General Membership Meeting to discuss a 1 year extension of the current contract. Today, Feb 29th, is the last day to vote. It'll take a couple days for the Elections Committee to count the votes. A *Flash* will be sent with the results as soon as it's possible.

If you are not getting the *Flash*, please let me know. If you "unsubscribed" from receiving the PDFs, this will also prevent you from receiving the *Flash* emails.

No matter which way the vote goes, we will need **EVERY WEA MEMBER** to be ready to engage in **ALL bargaining activities**. This includes surveys, showing up for events, meetings, wearing WEA tshirts (more coming on that), etc.

Our strength and power in bargaining come from **ALL OF US** physically showing the BOE and district **WEAll care** about the contract. Our Negotiations Team is only as effective as our **collective ACTION** shows.

REQUEST: If you have great ideas on actions/activities WEA members can engage in to show the BOE that we're united, engaged and ready to support our Team's negotiating demands, please let me know those activities/actions!! If you're willing to be part of the team that coordinates those events/activities/actions, even better!!!!

BECAUSE WE CARE

Births

Mark Twain- Natalie Hostetler - Baby Boy

Blendon- Alyssa Pride - Baby Girl

Condolences

Wilder- Maria Zahran - Mother

Heritage- Molly Miller- Mother

Genoa- Ryan Borland- Father

Legislative Update:

So much of our daily work lives is influenced by the people at the statehouse, in some ways more than ODE: New training requirements, new course requirements, OTES, the list goes on. If this is a 2nd career for you or you came to education a little later (like me), ***your Social Security benefits will be greatly reduced.*** OEA is working and advocating to change that.

[READ MORE about repealing GPO and WEP!!!](#)

We need ProPublic Education candidates elected because.....

State Bd of Education powers and duties have been transferred to Governor's cabinet position. Our dues dollars do NOT (by law) go to political action.

An easy/painless way to be politically active is to donate \$1/pay to the OEA Fund!!!!
Email me or see your fac rep for information!

NEA RA

Thank you to the following people who will be representing both WEA and OEA this summer at the NEA Rep Assembly:
Mark Brugger, Jeff Miltko and Kelly Modlich

RETIRING????

1. Familiarize yourself with Chapter 15 in the Contract.
2. **Notify HR by MARCH 15th if you intend to continue your health insurance** through Aug 31. Otherwise, after that date, your insurance will stop on May 31.

Fee Waiver Deadlines

Summer 2024 - April 19, 2024

Fall 202 - August 2, 2024

[Application](#)

WEA Officers:

President- Kelly Modlich

Vice President- Tom Cook

Treasurer- Molly Wassmuth

Secretary- David Grimes

Fac Reps At-Large:

Brandon Allen Brooke Smith

Mark Brugger Sarah Painter

Emily Winship Amanda Oakes



Spring