



Improving the future through quality education today.

# Newsletter

February 18, 2015

## Giving Direction to OEA and NEA for the Next Year

OEA holds an annual representative assembly at which delegates representing every local in the state come together to give direction for next year's OEA policy, leadership and budget. Each year approximately 700 delegates convene to make these important decisions. This year the assembly is on April 17 and 18 in Portland. We already have several candidates and are seeking additional delegate candidates for our 26 allotted positions. Please vote, and do consider serving as a delegate by inviting the members in your building to write in your name **and vote** for you. (Simply writing in the name does not count as a vote!)

Similarly, the NEA holds an annual assembly, this year July 1-6. This is the world's largest body gathered to make decisions using a democratic process. There is **limited** funding to support the travel to this year's Assembly in Orlando.

**Please watch your mail for ballots from OEA, and consider voting for our HEA candidates to the NEA Representative Assembly!** Ballots should arrive on or about **February 20**, and are postage paid.

## OEA Assessment Cadre puts learning first in looking at Student Assessments

Starting from the assertion that Improving student learning and fairly assessing teacher quality should be based on a more broad assessment process, the OEA is working with the ODE to bring useful assessment practices to the State of Oregon. The vision:

- Develop a system of *Assessment for Learning* that inspires students' natural curiosity and supports their desire to learn.
- Weave assessment more deeply than ever before into the teaching and learning process to more effectively meet the needs of each learner in real time.

Some preliminary recommendations include offering a model of assessment that will increase time for learning, emphasize the use of assessment to support that learning, increase assessment literacy among all educators, and make assessment more efficient by ensuring that assessment and instruction are aligned.

Over the course of the next few months OEA will be engaging extensively with our members and other stakeholders across the state seeking feedback on the preliminary recommendations and a proposed timeline for implementation. Visit the website: <http://www.oregoned.org/action-center/lets-put-learning-first> to find the locations and dates of several forums and webinars to give input, and a toolkit about assessment. A February 24 forum is scheduled for the Washington County office.

**HEA Scholarship Applications Due at the HEA office  
March 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. Ask your building rep for more information.** 



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## Labor Management Issues Update

Twice monthly HEA and HSD engage in a Labor Relations Meeting. Our goal is to raise issues that have been brought forward by reps and/or members, and listen to concerns or thoughts shared by HSD, all in an effort to problem solve before those concerns reach a more significant level. Some highlights of issues recently discussed are:

- Workload including new assessment demands, report cards, split classrooms, music/PE specialist grading, class size, collaboration time and more.
- Stipends of various types and for various roles are often raised as an issue to resolve (who got paid what when).
- Transfer concerns and questions
- How to implement new full day Kinder with respect to contractual and staffing concerns
- Disciplinary or behavioral student challenges in a few buildings
- Student and staff safety related to behavioral concerns
- Use of flex time
- Sub shortage
- Cover teaching (when a specialist is gone)

We recently filed grievances related to the Interim Assessment workload and the new report card workload. HEA and the District are currently working through these and seeking solutions to these contract concerns. Stay tuned for more on that soon.

**OEA Lobby Day: Help inform your legislators on March 23, 2015, in Salem.**  
**Watch for Details.**

## HSD Classroom Technology Innovation Grants

The Hillsboro School District is pleased to announce the continuation of the Classroom Technology Innovation Grants program. A portion of Hillsboro School District's 2015-16 budget was set aside specifically to help fund innovative classroom projects that focused on putting 21st century tools into the hands of students. All HSD licensed staff are encouraged to apply.

The ultimate goal of these grants is to help educators increase student access to 21st century tools while narrowing the achievement gap for all learners. Grant money may be used to purchase hardware, software, peripherals, student subscriptions, or whatever else a teacher finds to be an innovative and engaging 21st century tool to help their students succeed. Do you have a dream about how technology could impact your students' learning? Apply today and turn that dream into a reality!

For more information visit <https://sites.google.com/a/hsd.k12.or.us/cti/>. Please direct any questions to [innovate@hsd.k12.or.us](mailto:innovate@hsd.k12.or.us)

## Emotional Wellness Resources, Counseling: Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Confidential support is offered through OEBC at **no cost** to you or anyone dependent on your income regardless of address or age. During a crisis, you can call to speak with a counselor 24 hours a day: 1-866-750-1327 Online: [www.myRBH.com](http://www.myRBH.com) (Access Code: OEBC)



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