



Improving the future through quality education today.

# Newsletter

October 15, 2014

## Oregon Education Association Week of Action – this Sunday, October 19 – Pioneer Square in Portland

Invite your community to join celebrations of public school progress along with discussions of what else can be done to make our schools the best possible learning environments for our students. The state is funding is currently only 75 percent of what lawmakers have agreed is necessary to provide an adequate education.

Oregon has the 49th lowest corporate tax rate in America; we have the second-largest class sizes. As in many districts, Hillsboro schools also are an important link to social services for lower-income families, who can't afford to make up for what has been cut.

From kindergarten to college, OEA and affiliated teachers' unions across the state say years of state budget cuts and standardized testing have forced classroom changes for the worse. This week we ask that you "Wear **Red** for Public Ed," in support of creating "Schools Our Students Deserve."

## Ballots are on the way for the November 4 elections

Please turn in your ballots as soon as possible, and remember that we have two educators running for the State Legislature, as well as a candidate for State Senate who has always been a staunch advocate for the public education in the state, and for the Hillsboro and Forest Grove Districts in particular.

## Please join us at the HEA office on Monday, October 20, for phone calls to our members to get out the vote in House Districts 29 and 30

We start at 4 pm, and will be finished by 8 pm.

- HD 29: Susan McLain is a newly retired HSD teacher of speech and debate. Her experience as a Metro Councilor makes her a candidate with a global perspective on the issues.
- HD 30: Representative Joe Gallegos is a Hillsboro patron and a retired professor of social work (University of Portland). He understands the how social services and public education have always been intertwined.
- Senate District 15: Representative Chuck Riley served as a state legislator in HD 29, and proved himself an advocate for education and for a strong Washington County community.

In addition to the Hillsboro area recommendations (McLain, Gallegos, Riley) you can find the link to the OEA recommendations for the metro area, and for those measures on which OEA has weighed in.

Check out this HEA web information from our Political Chair, Sarah Coyle: <http://heagetinvolved.weebly.com/>



20450 NW Amberwood Drive, Suite 125  
Beaverton, Oregon 97006  
President: Maureen Barnhart (503) 645-6776 Ext. 2507

[www.heaoea.org](http://www.heaoea.org)

## Thoughtexchange – feedback to the HSD

Partnering with this program is part of the work HSD is doing to improve and maintain a feedback loop. The program was presented at a school board meeting last summer, and has been used in the Spokane School District. The survey includes three open-ended questions, so offers the opportunity to communicate regarding the issues that matter to you. Regarding anonymity of responses: Please know that all responses are collected and moderated by Thoughtexchange staff, not District staff. While Thoughtexchange could match responses with e-mail addresses, that is not part of their process.

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

Confidential support is offered through OEGB 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: OEGB)

## High School Athletics Program Grants

Is your public high school athletics program in jeopardy due to budget cuts? The California Casualty Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant Program is designed to help. Grants in the amount of \$1,000 to \$3,000 will be awarded in 2015. The application deadline is January 15, 2015. The application website is: [www.calcasathleticsgrant.com](http://www.calcasathleticsgrant.com)

California Casualty has been endorsed by OEA for 40 years. Working to protect American Heroes, the Property Casualty insurance including auto, home, renters, rental property, RV, Boat and motorcycle, is available to Educators, Peace Officers, Fire Personnel and Nurses.

For more information contact Sr. Field Manager, Sherry Hanacek, [shanacek@calcas.com](mailto:shanacek@calcas.com) or call 1-877-626-2871 to receive a quote.

## Upcoming Dates

Sunday, October 19, noon to 3: QUALITY EDUCATION FESTIVAL, Pioneer Square, Portland

Monday, October 20, 4 pm to 8 pm: GOTV phone calls to our colleagues, HEA office

Wednesday, October 22, 4 pm: NEW TEACHER SOCIAL/STUDENT TEACHER SOCIAL, mentors and building reps are invited as well! The Rock Wood Fired Kitchen, 2295 Allie Avenue in the Streets of Tanasbourne.

Wednesday, November 5, 4 pm: HSD TEACHER LISTENING SESSION at Mooberry

### **\*Workshops**

Wednesday, November 5, 4:30 pm: "HOW NOT TO GET FIRED", HEA office

Thursday, November 13, 4:30 pm: "AVOIDING POWER STRUGGLES IN THE CLASSROOM", HEA office

Tuesday, November 18, 4:30 pm: "HOW CAN I RETIRE?", HEA office

*\*Register for workshops online at [www.heaoea.org](http://www.heaoea.org), click on Workshop/Grants, then HEA Workshop Registration*



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