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# Newsletter

April 20, 2016

## Annual Washington County OEA 5K Fun Run/Walk – May 1 *TEAM UP for Students!*

Washington County Educators in Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Banks and Gaston invite you, your friends and your family to *TEAM UP for Students!* Join us from 9 am to noon at Echo Shaw Elementary (914 Linden St, Cornelius) to run or walk on Saturday, May 14 for **W. L. Henry Elementary**. We are also seeking sponsors and groups to help at the event—service clubs, honor societies, etc. Put together a team of your own family, social group, or building. Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WaCoEducators](http://www.facebook.com/WaCoEducators)

Register online at [www.teamupforstudents.com](http://www.teamupforstudents.com). Pre-order your shirts by April 22!

## Reimagine Education in Oregon

ODE recently asked the public to re-imagine the ideal education for Oregonians. This is our opportunity as teachers, and in some cases parents, to express what we know to be best for students.

The Oregon Department of Education says they want to hear from YOU about how to "Reimagine Education in Oregon". They are holding a series of meetings around the state AND taking input via email.

The three focus questions at the state meetings for which they are seeking input are:

1. What school characteristics are most important?
2. How should we measure school success?
3. How do we ensure all students are successful?

Please send your input to [ESSA.Oregon@state.or.us](mailto:ESSA.Oregon@state.or.us). There are also scheduled meetings around the state for input. There are 2 planned for Portland, locations TBD, on May 12 and May 16, 6 p.m.

## HEA Delegates Bring Concerns to the OEA Representative Assembly

Hillsboro members successfully brought legislative focus to the OEA Representative Assembly:

Katherine Nelson (EMS) successfully passed a Legislative Objective, directing OEA lobbyists and the OEA Legislative Action Committee (LAC) to focus on improving the physical security infrastructure of Oregon public school buildings, as well as bringing much-needed supports for mental health services to prevent violent behavior.

Angela Vargas, (Henry ES), successfully advocated for transportation for Title I schools, to change the required distance from 1.0 to 0.5 miles. In Title I schools, which are in lower SES neighborhoods, many families have to choose between their jobs and safe transportation for their children.

Working with colleagues from other locals, Angela also helped pass expansion of the online OEA Toolkit to more broadly share parental rights regarding the high-stakes standardized tests and the right to opt-out. Information regarding the costs of implementation (devices used, time from instruction, bandwidth requirements) will also be publicized.



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

## Have You Visited the Employee Assistance Program Website?

There are resources on this site beyond confidential counseling and crisis support. The access code is *OEBB*.

An example from the newsletter:

### ***Have a Plan to Manage Worry***

*Studies have shown that worry can take years off your life. Lack of sleep, for example, can be a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. Personal strategies for managing worry are therefore as important as diet, exercise, and not smoking.*

For the rest of this plan from the January RBH newsletter, or for webinar options around anger management, transitions, stress and burnout, and healthy eating go to [www.MyRBH.com](http://www.MyRBH.com)

## Gym membership

If you receive health benefits through the HSD (and don't opt-out), OEGB's new Fitness Rewards program will reimburse eligible members up to \$15 per month for exercising at a qualified facility.

<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEGB/Pages/Wellness-Resources.aspx>

## HEA Book Swap and Adopt—Keep Kids Reading Through the Summer!

Want a summer opportunity to be the object of adoration? Spend a summer Saturday (8 am to 1 pm) at the Hillsboro Farmers' Market at the Civic Center. Meet and greet children and parents who are excited to come by our booth for free books. You can take a break and wander the Market—it's a casual morning. Your kids can join us, or play in the nearby fountain. The success of this program has been through the generous donation of books from our members who have retired or changed positions. It has been further sustained through donations from the community, who truly appreciate this resource for their children.

## Opportunities for Involvement in Your Association

The Washington County OEA UniServ, representing HEA, Forest Grove, Gaston and Banks members, will be electing officers to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Contact Maureen Barnhart ([HillsboroEA@oregoned.org](mailto:HillsboroEA@oregoned.org)) for more information.

HEA Building Reps and alternate reps have not yet been elected in some of our buildings. Please contact your current rep if you are interested in that position.

## Linda Ellsworth Award—Nominees Sought

In 1994 the original HEA created a special service award when longtime member Linda Ellsworth retired after a 30-year career. Linda had served for all her career in virtually every capacity at the local level as officer, rep, bargaining team member, OEA RA delegate, etc. She literally became the bargaining historian because of her involvement. In recognition of her long term commitment to her local association and OEA members, HEA named the "HEA Special Service Award" after Linda, and she was the first recipient. If you would like to nominate a member for this award, please send an email explaining why your nominee deserves this honor. Send your email to Mark Coleman by Monday, May 9. The award will be presented at the HEA Retirement Dinner on June 3.

### **Unsung Heroes Grant: Two Offered per State (\$2,000 each, Potential of More)**

Although there are two guaranteed per state, Oregon teachers do not seem to apply for these grants. Deadline is April 30.

<http://corporate.voya.com/corporate-responsibility/community-investment/childrens-education/voya-unsung-heroes>

### **California Casualty School Supplies--\$2,500**

Win \$2,500 for your classroom:

[www.teachersacademicaward.com](http://www.teachersacademicaward.com)



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