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# Newsletter

December 13, 2017

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## From Your President . . .

I keep thinking that this time last year we were in our second snow/ice storm. What a difference a year makes. I am sure you are looking forward to a much-needed break. Let's keep our fingers crossed for sunny weather!

If you find yourself with time on your hands – consider applying to win one of two grants of \$500 each to enhance your classroom and boost student achievement! OEA and your Washington County UniServ Council have prepared a Promising Practices application packet with step-by-step instructions complete with useful tips to help you apply. Applications are due January 19, 2018.

For information and forms go to the HEA website at [www.heaoea.org](http://www.heaoea.org), or contact Jill at [hillsboroea@oregoned.org](mailto:hillsboroea@oregoned.org), or **503-645-6776 X 2507**.

**“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter”**, Martin Luther King Jr.

## OEA/NEA Representative Assemblies

Interested in learning more about our state and national organization? Consider running as a candidate for the state or national assembly. I encourage you to accept his invitation to help represent the best interests for students and for us at either the state level or at the national level. Candidate nominations are open December 13-February 21<sup>st</sup>. If interested, please check in with your HEA Building Representative, or contact me ([hillsboroea@oregoned.org](mailto:hillsboroea@oregoned.org)). Voting is end of February.

OEA RA DATES: April 27-28 at Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR

NEA RA DATES: June 30-July 5 Minneapolis MN

## Watch for HEA Bargaining Survey – Coming later this week!

Your HEA Bargaining Team is preparing for upcoming contract negotiations (first mtg is Feb. 5, 2018). A very important component to our effectiveness at the table is the information and data that we collect from your survey responses. We will send the survey link directly to your home and work email addresses. Thanks for taking the time to answer the survey by January 10, 2018.

## January 5th~First Friday at 4 p.m.

Save the date to socialize and snack with other HEA and HCU members at **Coyote's Bar and Grill** starting at 4 p.m. Light appetizers will be pre-ordered by HEA/HCU and beverages can be purchased on your own. We can't wait to see you there!

## January 10th~Sped Meet (contract dig) @HEA Office, 4:15-5:30 p.m.

## Labor Management: Current Topics

HEA has been working on several issues in our Labor Management meetings. Some of these include:

- Interim Assessment Clarity/consistency
- IA sub jobs not filling
- Period coverage
- TELL survey coming
- Equivalency Credit changes



## Measure 101 – Why a YES Vote is Critical – Ballots due by January 23.

OEA has voted to support measure 101 because it is critical to our students' success! Educators see the impact of access to healthcare in their classrooms every day. We know that **students need healthcare to succeed!** No matter where you work or what your income is you should be able to see a doctor or nurse when you're sick and get medications when you need them. And it shouldn't bankrupt you. Your income shouldn't determine whether you can get the care you need.

### **What would Measure 101 do?**

- Measure 101 protects healthcare coverage for one in four Oregonians, including 400,000 kids and holds down costs for all of us.
- It creates a minimal fee on insurance companies, hospitals and managed care organizations to make basic healthcare affordable and accessible to every Oregonian.
- Most of the institutions who will pay this fee are in favor of it because it smooths their costs too.

### **If Measure 101 passes in the January special election, what happens?**

- There will be no reductions to healthcare coverage or benefits for one in four Oregonians who count on Medicaid.
- We'll have the funding necessary to ensure every child in Oregon has a doctor and receives the care they need to stay healthy.
- And Measure 101 stabilizes healthcare costs by lowering premiums for Oregonians who buy their own insurance by up to \$300 per year.

### **If the measure does not pass, what happens?**

- State funding for healthcare will be cut by between \$210 and \$320 million, resulting in the loss of between \$1-5 billion in federal funding – all of which impacts the State General Fund.
- HSD could lose \$14 million next year (assuming roughly a \$1 billion loss in state general funds).
- Oregon families who rely on Medicaid –including 400,000 children, seniors and people with disabilities – face the prospect of losing healthcare benefits or coverage altogether.

## Contract 101

*It's important to know your contractual rights, and always work with your building rep and your principal to ensure the following is in place.*

### **Educational Program Improvement and Professional Development - Article 7, E., page 15-16 Tuition Reimbursement**

Members that have been employed for less than seven years shall receive up to six (6) quarter hour per year. All such course work must be requested in writing on the established District form and receive advance written approval based upon District criteria. (continue to [www.heaoea.org](http://www.heaoea.org))

Members that have been employed for over six (6) years shall receive up to three (3) quarter hours per year.

Members will be reimbursed at the Portland State University graduate rate or the actual cost of approved courses, whichever is less.

**Article 12, E. Salary, Column Movement, p. 31** "A member submitting...proof of additional professional training qualifying him or her for a higher salary column will be paid at the higher salary;...If proof is submitted by March 1 of any year, the teacher shall be paid at the higher salary for the second half of that contract year.

### **Important upcoming contract dates**

- February 1 - Voluntary Transfer Request must be submitted by this date. You can find the form online at My HSD; Or if viewing this newsletter online [CLICK HERE](#)
- January 10 - First formal observation for Probationary staff must be completed by this date.