

NEWSLETTER March 2025

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HEA website: <u>heaoea.org</u> Like us on <u>Facebook!</u> From Your President… "We must promote, protect, and strengthen our public schools as they are the foundation of our very democracy!" — NEA President Becky Pringle.

Our public schools are under attack, and silence is not an option. Now more than ever, we must organize, advocate for our students, educate our communities, and mobilize to protect and strengthen our schools. Our voices are our power—we must use them to demand action from our local school board members, state legislators, and federal leaders.

At the state level, join us in advocating for the following:

- Fully funded public schools that meet the needs of every student.
- Lifting the 11% cap on Special Education services.
- Making class size and caseloads mandatory subjects of collective bargaining.
- Pay parity for part-time higher education staff

At the national level help us advocate for **Title I funding**—to ensure every student, no matter their zip code, receives a quality education.

The legacy of Judy Heumann—whose work in shaping the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must not be undone**. Students with disabilities and 504 plans deserve the support they are legally entitled to.

Federal student aid, including Pell Grants, which have been life-changing for so many educators and students. Access to higher education should not be a privilege—it is a right.

This fight is far from over—but you are not in it alone. Join us at local events, stay engaged, and stand in solidarity. Together, we are stronger. Together, we will defend public education with every resource at our disposal.

Let's hold the line—for our students, our schools, and our democracy.

In Solidarity,

Mary Kay Babcock, HEA President | she/her/ella

A Space for Hope and Healing - HEA and HSD are coming together to create a supportive space where members can connect, unwind, and find encouragement. This event is an opportunity to gather with your people, enjoy great music, fun, and games, and access valuable resources to help navigate this challenging time. Join us as we foster community, resilience, and support for one another. To RSVP please go to https://bit.ly/3RftOIT.

Hillsboro Town Hall

Join us as Hillsboro Education Association hosts state legislators to hear from our members and community about the need for school funding. Wednesday, April 23rd located at HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL (GYMNASIUM) from 5:30 TO 7 PM - To register please go to https://bit.ly/4igGKu6.

Oregon Education Association-Representative Assembly 2025 Election Results

Congratulations to the following members who will represent HEA at our state Representative Assembly: Abraham Diaz, Andy Bunting, Angela Adzima, Anne Johnson, Bryttnie Matsuo, Elizabeth Nahl, Ellis Wylder, Fara Cloud-Fitzgerald, Geovanny Tolentino, Graciela Garcia, Jessica Theunissen, Kathryn Pawelko, LeAndre Butler, Lendy Oropeza-Sixtos, Maggie Zamora, MyKenzie Miller, Nicole Genduso, Sally Reyes, Shannon Witman, Tia Ford, Alyssa Meyer, Amber Young, Bonnie Wakeman, Cassie Jolley, Christy Thompson, Jenny Underhill, Lynette Thompson, Mark Van Hoomissen, Mary Kay Babcock, Rachelle Mejia, and Shane Goodwin.

Resources and Upcoming Events

Member Opportunities and Support

- Past episodes (136) of the member-led OEA Grow podcast: https://oeagrow.podbean.com
- Micro-credentials: https://oregoned.org/professional-learning/independent-study/micro-credentials

<u>First Friday, April 4th</u>: Let's celebrate and unwind together! Join us for an **HEA-HCU Happy Hour**. It's a great chance to connect, reflect, and recharge with colleagues. Hope to see you there!

Contract 101 Important Opportunities and Deadlines

Article 12 - Vacancies and Transfers

A.2. When a vacancy occurs after May 1st, the District shall post such vacancies on the District website. Unit members can elect to receive notification of such vacancies as they occur. Excluded from this required posting are temporary positions.

Article 12.B. Voluntary Transfers Between Buildings A voluntary transfer between buildings is one that is initiated and requested by the employee. Unit members may submit a written transfer request for the following year to the Human Resources Department by March 1st. The District shall consider transfer requests and notify unit members by May 1st. When an opening occurs after May 1st, the District will consider unit members with a pending transfer request prior to filling the position. Transfer requests expire August 15th. No hires from outside the bargaining unit, including interns, will take place until all in-District transfer requests have been considered, except in the case of hard-to-fill positions. Hard-to-fill positions are those for which there are no in-district transfer requests. Temporary employees are not eligible for voluntary transfer but may be considered for vacancies pursuant to this article.

HEA Office Hours Join us on Thursdays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., for virtual HEA Office Hours. Get to know your executive board leadership, learn more about your contractual rights, get updates, and find connections. Zoom Link

Visit the HEA Website and Join Us! HEA prides itself on our regular and transparent communications. Please visit us at heaoea.org to become a member, access your full contract, learn how to locate extended contract forms, the sick bank leave application, and so much more!