

Eugene Education Association

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WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you to all EEA members for your various forms of support and appreciation throughout this school year. At times the year was challenging and it's our unity and strength that got us through. It's time for a good summer of rest, relaxation and rejuvenation. Wishing you all the best for your summer adventures and activities. Dayna

2010-2011 HIGHLIGHTS EEA AND ITS MEMBERS...

- gave away over 400 books to local children
- created a Legislative Contact Team and visited with our local legislators in Salem
- endorsed and elected local pro-education school board candidates
- supported tuition equity for high school students
- supported local ballot measures to assist both 4J and Bethel school districts
- donated books to the Eugene Public Library
- provided over 20 professional development opportunities for members
- co-sponsored and awarded student winners in the Martin Luther King Poetry and Essay contest
- awarded 4 high school scholarships
- settled a Bethel Memorandum of Agreement
- won an arbitration about reprisal and retaliation for a placement decision
- had over 100 attend winter legislative breakfasts
- settled an EAST contract

WE ARE BETHEL

Saturday, June 4th was the annual We Are Bethel celebration. The EEA Public Relations committee organized the book giveaway to children at the event. Children were excited to see what free book they would take home as their own and to enter the drawing for Dr. Seuss books and stuffed characters. Thank you to these EEA volunteers: Russ Wiseman, Sarah Campbell, Gaby Calkins, Tina Leaton, Arwen Krecklow, Peter Bauer, Charissa Nelson, Meredith Deverell, Amanda Forester, Robin Hanson, Courtney List, Alan Pinkerton, Crystal Strege, Alyson Young and Will Vanderbilt. We wouldn't be able to provide these types of events without your time and effort.

END OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE DINNER

At the end of May EEA celebrated its committee members who actively volunteer to carry out the charges and goals of EEA. Thank you to Robin Hanson and Jan Johnson and family for organizing a wonderful luau theme dinner. It really felt like we were in a tropical paradise! Stay tuned for more specific information about EEA committees this fall. Consider joining one or assisting in a project.

EUGENE CELEBRATION

The annual Eugene Celebration will be held August 26-28, 2011. Volunteers will be needed

to give books away to children at the EEA booth on August 27th and 28th. Further information will be coming from the Public Relations Committee by mid-August.

REVISED EEA ELECTION RESULTS

There have been some changes to the EEA election results since last month. An NEA-RA delegate was elected by a write-in vote. Two additional Executive Board positions were filled by appointment and approval of Rep. Council.

- North Elementary Area Director: Lindsay Gietter, Awbrey Park
- South Elementary Area Director: Tina Leaton, Edgewood
- Churchill Secondary Area Director: Subsequently filled by Yvonne Twedt, Kennedy
- EAST Director: Rob Stein
- Bethel Secondary Area Director: Subsequently filled by Jackie Smith, Prairie Mountain
- Sheldon Secondary Area Director: Unfilled
- NEA-RA Delegate: Pete Mandrapa, EAST
- OEA-RA Delegates: Ken Anderson, Sharon Blackwell, Lindsay Gietter, Jason Miller, Pam Reynolds, Tad Shannon, Rob Stein and Mark Thornton

Note: Tad Shannon still remains on the Executive Board as the OEA Board Director.

If you are interested in being an OEA-RA delegate or an NEA-RA delegate, please contact Dayna at EEA.

RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS WHO ARE IN REDUCTION IN FORCE (RIF) OR LAID OFF STATUS

EEA has received questions from members who have been RIFed. We hope these resources will help provide assistance during this difficult time.

•Procedures

Collective Bargaining Agreement language in Article 12.12 outlines procedures and agreements about how RIFs occur as well as state law, Oregon Revised Statute 342.845.

•Information about Unemployment Benefits

The state of Oregon Employment Department administers unemployment benefits and makes all decisions regarding eligibility and payment of benefits. A member may apply for unemployment when the work year is completed. There is a waiting period before benefits begin. For additional information go to: <http://www.employment.oregon.gov/>.

•Legal Assistance

If any legal issues arise regarding your employment after a layoff/RIF or having to do with recall rights, one of the conditions for receiving legal assistance is that the applicant must have been an Active member of the Association at the time of the occurrence and the issue has to be employment related. Should an issue occur, call your UniServ office to speak with the OEA consultant, Jeff Jackson. If attorney services are required, NEA sets a minimum amount of dues for that benefit. If you've maintained a Reserve, Active or Retired membership, those dues would be credited toward the legal dues. For questions regarding legal assistance, call Erika Marion OEA Legal Assistant at 503-495-2172.

•Association Membership

If you have been an Active Association member and are under 45 years of age, you qualify for NEA Reserve membership. This membership is at the NEA level only. The dues are one half of the NEA full-time dues minus Active members' \$10 assessment. You retain the AD&D off-the-job benefit of \$1,000 per year of continuous membership up to a maximum benefit of \$5,000 and the term life insurance of \$1,000. Members eligible for and choosing this option should contact **OEA Membership Specialists Molly McGuire or Becky Nelson at 503-684-3300 or 1-800-858-5505.**

Active Association Membership with Governance Rights

NEA bylaws give active members who have been laid off due to a reduction in force the right to continue Active membership, if you so choose, for as long as you are eligible to be recalled, or for three (3) years, whichever is longer. By retaining Active Membership, you preserve your governance rights (the right to vote and be

counted for NEA and OEA Representative Assembly allocation) and will also be covered under the Educators Liability (EEL) program and the Kate Frank/DuShane Unified Legal Services Program (ULSP). Based on your FTE at the time of the RIF, dues are reduced to half at the NEA level plus the OEA assessments. Should you choose this cash pay option to maintain active membership, you should contact **Julie Otis at 541-345-0338**.

OEA SUMMER CONFERENCE

At the 2011 “We Are One” OEA Summer Conference, discover the power you hold as an OEA member to engage in collective action. Learn to use your own skills to advocate for our schools and students. You’ll network, you’ll enhance your organizing and leadership skills, and you’ll walk away with some expert professional development tools.

It takes place in Bend, Oregon from August 1-3, 2011. Topics will include: Human & Civil Rights, Government/Politics, Education Support Professionals, Communications, Bargaining, New Members, Organizing, Local Leaders, Advocacy, and Professional Issues. To register go to: <http://www.oregoned.org> by June 22nd.

4J COOPERATING TEACHER PROGRAM LIAISON

Thank you to Tom Di Liberto who has worked as the 4J University Liaison this year. He has done a nice job seeing that members receive their credit vouchers in a timely manner and answering member questions. Carissa Boyce will be the new 4J University Liaison for the 2011-2012 school year. She will also continue as the Instruction Committee Chair and Seminar Coordinator. Check your 4J email in August for announcements about credit bank applications.

BETHEL BUDGET REDUCTION DAYS FOR 2011-2012

September 30, 2011 (non-instructional day)
October 3, 2011 (instructional day)

October 14, 2011 (non-instructional day)
October 24, 2011 (instructional day)
December 16, 2011 (instructional day)
January 9, 2012 (instructional day)
March 23, 2012 (instructional day)
May 25, 2012 (instructional day)
June 4, 2012 (instructional day)
June 15, 2012 (instructional day)

EEA/4J BARGAINING UPDATE

For EEA/4J negotiation updates, please see the EEA website (<http://www.eugea.org>) during the summer months. We negotiate next on June 23rd. If we do not settle, status quo will take effect and we will return to the table in August or September. Thank you to the Bargaining Action Team and all the members who have attended sessions.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

The University of Oregon College of Education now offers a program leading to a **reading endorsement**. Looking to add a reading endorsement to your license? The University of Oregon has an innovative new program that offers you a choice of approaches.

The UO Reading Endorsement program, approved by TSPC, offers: cutting edge instruction from a nationally recognized Center for Reading Instruction, hands-on experience in the UO’s Reading Clinic in the Center for Teaching and Learning and the choice of two strands:

- a. **Multicultural/Multilingual** – for those who want to focus on classroom-level skills that include the importance of multicultural literacy in Reading
- b. **Literacy Leadership** – for those who want to focus on classroom-level skills and also want to prepare for district or state-level positions implementing literacy plans.

For more information, see our website at <http://education.uoregon.edu/reading>