



## **MESSAGE TO OEA MEMBERS**

Dear OEA Colleagues,

Your elected Board of Directors accepts the duty and responsibility to act with good faith, due care, and in the best interests of OEA members and the Association.

The Board has heard information and concerns regarding OEA President Bridget Donovan over the last several months. As a result of those concerns, a series of meetings were held with Bridget, during which the information and concerns were shared with Bridget and she was given opportunities to respond.

As a result of that dialogue, Bridget and the Board agreed to a temporary leave of absence during which Bridget was relieved of all duties as OEA President.

During the term of this leave of absence, additional information regarding actions by Bridget during her leave caused the Board to lose confidence in Bridget as president. Again, Bridget was given multiple full and fair opportunities to respond to those concerns.

At a special board meeting held today, those concerns were again shared with Bridget, and again Bridget was given a full and fair opportunity to respond. After much discussion and deliberation, the Board determined that there no longer existed the confidence in Bridget to serve as Association president. The Board voted to remove Bridget Donovan from her position as president of the OEA, effective immediately.

In order for our Association to move forward as a vital advocate, it is essential to have leadership supported by your elected board members.

The Board's action, while not taken lightly, was essential to ensure the effective operation and performance of the Association. The Board is confident that this action will instill renewed confidence in our OEA leadership and in our ability to effectively represent and advocate for our OEA members and their students.

OEA is, first and foremost, a membership organization. The Board based its decision on what it believes is best for our members. We are at a critical juncture for education in our school district. Our members, now more than ever, need the OEA to advocate for them and to ensure that their voices are a driving force in decisions being made about teaching and learning in our schools. We will continue to work with our members and partner organizations to create the conditions, capacity, and culture necessary to support our members in providing great teaching and learning for all students.

Under the OEA Bylaws, as your Vice President with seniority, I am called upon to fill the vacancy created by the Board's action and to serve the balance of the president's term (July 31, 2019).

I commit to you that I will work cooperatively and respectfully with all OEA members and the Board. I seek to be transparent in my actions and to ensure a relationship built on trust and doing what is in the best interests of our members.

If you have questions, you may refer them to OEA President Robert Miller at 402-346-0400 or via email at [Robert.Miller@nsea.org](mailto:Robert.Miller@nsea.org)

Thank you again for your commitment to your students, to the education profession and to your professional association, the OEA.

Respectfully,

Robert "Bobby" Miller