Happy Thanksgiving! Before you set off to spend time with family and friends and getting some well-deserved ‘rest and relaxation,’ I wanted to share with you some information.

1. **OEA is thankful** for your dedication to our profession and your commitment to the OEA.

2. At the last AR meeting, I stated that a document was being created to assist in determining the impact of the recent released EHA rates to your paycheck for the 2020/2021 school year. If you go to the OEA website and click the “Membership Center” tab, you will find the directions on how to complete the needed information. That direction page will then lead you to the actual sheet where you can enter your own information that is needed. We hope this helps in answering some of your questions, however if you have further questions, please call the office or email me.

3. We have received many calls around the “class coverage calculator.” So, I have also added this piece of information on our website under the “Membership Center” tab. This form was created by OPS and was shared out to secretaries last year and again this year. It is critical that you also **keep track** and **check** your **paycheck every month** to make sure you are being paid for that coverage. I have reached out to Payroll and asked what the “turn in” date is. That date is the 25th of the month to be paid on your next paycheck, the following 15th. This is a process; however, you are entitled to be compensated if you have done additional coverage or loss of plan time! It is your responsibility to keep track!

4. **JOIN A COMMITTEE!** Please consider joining an OEA committee, we continue to do great things, but need our members to participate. We value your time; the meetings are kept to an hour and are all on a specific day of the week. The committees are: PACE (Political Action Committee for Education), Instructional Advocacy, Membership, PCR (Professional and Community Relations), EMAC (Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee), Comp and Benefits, Retirement and Governance (Elections/Bylaws). Contact the office to see when they are meeting! It is also on the calendar on the website.

There are many reasons to be thankful during this holiday season. I am truly blessed to be serving as your OEA President and thankful for your support as, we continue to advocate for our students and our profession. We are **STRONGER** with you! Enjoy the time with your loved ones, the great food and some great sporting events that will be taking place.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Robert
OEA President