



All,

Greetings to each of you on this rainy Thursday, where teachers are teaching and students are learning from various platforms. I am sure each of you are missing your students but they are missing you even more!

I would like to give you a few updates, but things are changing so fast. By the time I push send, new information will need to be shared.

Here is what I can tell you...

1. Teachers will continue to be paid during this closure. OPS has taken the lead to pay all permanent staff during this time as well. Extra duty pay for coaching (spring sports) or overage will also be paid. Loss of plan time or any duties that has NOT happened will NOT be paid.
2. If you are out on any kind of medical or child rearing leave, these days will count toward your FMLA leave. You should not attempt to cancel medical leave *just because* of the school closure. The district can call teachers into the buildings at any time regardless of whether or not students return, and you would be required to show up.
3. The expectation is that teachers are accessible during their contracted hours for students and parents. You should not be advertising to tutor or babysit during this time. This is looked at as though it is a second job and you are still getting paid during this time, there is a district policy, which is 4004 section D.
4. If there are stacks of ungraded papers on your table, I would advise you to grade them. Any work that is assigned via e-learning should not be used for grading purposes.
5. OEA is working with NSEA to assist with the “Nebraska Strong Learning Labs” to continue the academic learning for our students. Stay tuned to for further information.
6. Business is still happening as usual on the OEA front. We are allowing staff to be in the office for a short time and then working from home. We are still handling calls that come in and emails are being answered.

I know there are several questions out there, and many are being addressed as they come in! This is new territory and we are all doing our best to make sure the learning continues during this time. Continue to be AMAZING and do what you were trained to do...EDUCATE the students of OMAHA!

Reach out if you have specific questions!

Be well,

**Robert**  
**OEA President**