



OEA MEMBERS-

I hope you are all enjoying the warmth of July and getting the chance to relax and spending time with those around you. Summer has looked different for many of us, but hopefully you are able to find something that makes you happy.

I know many of you have concerns and questions as we gear up for the Family 3:2 Plan. I have received hundreds of emails with concerns, questions, and solutions with the plan. At the OPS BoE meeting on June 29th I made a public comment around collaboration and offered a 6-page document with all the questions that was gathered. It was sent to the Board and many of them asked a few questions during the presentation that was given.

I want to make something very clear, there is a big difference between “informing” and “collaborating.” OEA was informed on the starting date moved up a week and the addition of a week to winter break. During the conversation I offered to have two P/T Conference the same week to eliminate the need for additional shorten week and was told that Parents and Teachers have been surveyed and they don’t like having two conferences. OEA was informed of the final Plan and the letter just hours before it was sent out to staff.

I am waiting for a response from the district on the questions OEA submitted to them. Once I receive these, I will send them out to the membership. In the meantime, there are two things I want to bring to your attention.

- 1. You received an email from the district to your school email about a presentation on the “Preparing for a Responsible Return to School.” This will be delivered by OPS staff on Thursday, July 9th at 3:00. This will be a virtual meeting and questions will be answered using Microsoft Teams. To log in you will be required to use your OPS credentials.**
- 2. An email was also sent out to staff regarding “Safe and Responsible Return to School” and around your ability to return to work for various reasons. You will be asked to click a link and fill out the needed information. You will hear back from Tiffany Tate Collins for further steps or needed paperwork. I would suggest you to fill out the survey and send Tiffany an email detailing your concerns as well as what you would like to have happen.**

This is new territory and with it brings several emotions, questions and hurdles that must be addressed to have students and staff return safely. It is times like these where we need to work together to make the best decision and identify a path to move forward for all individuals involved.

A resource you can reach out to is the EAP at 1-866-440-6556, being employed by OPS you are able to utilize this program. The phone is answered 24/7, take advantage of this resource.

OEA continues to share your concerns and we are seeking answers, as we begin to look forward to the start of the new year. Unsure of what that may look like. Enjoy the rays of sunshine, get lost in a book and time spent with your loved ones, safely and cherish the moments.

Be well,

Robert
OEA President
