



Colleagues,

I want to bring to your attention some key things...

1. You should have received a survey Monday afternoon; it is a similar survey to the one that was sent the first week of school. It was suggested that it was too early to identify if virtual learning is being successful. We wanted to offer our members another opportunity to provide input. If you are unable to locate the survey, check your spam/junk folder. If you can not find it, please let me know. The survey will close on Wednesday, September 16th at 5:00.
2. **You should have received an email this afternoon regarding COVID testing provided by the school district. We are checking with NSEA and legal counsel and are anticipating a response in the next days for those who are concerned.**
3. On September 15th the new salary schedule took effect. It is important for you to look at your pay stub and make sure you are correctly placed on the salary schedule. You can take your pay rate and multiply it by 12 to get your salary. [CLICK HERE](#) for the salary schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. If you are getting an LSI, you will need to subtract that to identify your placement. If there are errors, please reach out to your OS and they will walk you through the process to resolve this issue.
4. **September also brings a change in health insurance premiums. As you recall, the increase for health insurance this year was 6.99%. In the Master Agreement, the district pays a specific dollar amount based on your designated coverage. If you are a dual employee for the district, you will now pay an amount for health insurance. During negotiations, we reached a multi-year agreement. In multi-year agreements, it is difficult, if not impossible, to anticipate EHA rates for the coming years. We will request that the district continues to pay for full health coverage for dual employees. [CLICK HERE](#) to see the graph of increase in health premiums. There is one additional step, you will be asked to either 'open' or 'save' the document.**
5. The end of the quarter is approaching. What will second quarter look like? The district is actively trying to get students back in the classrooms as soon as possible. The district has announced a phased in approach to return to school and has reached out to the OEA. We are advocating for a safe return and have insisted that teachers be involved in the decision making. We have expressed our concerns with their proposal to “concurrently teach.” The amount of time and workload to teach in person and to those

virtually is not sustainable. Our colleagues in surrounding districts are struggling to make this successful. During a recent meeting this week, OEA asked that teachers be a part of the planning phases. Names were submitted to the district to contact for planning input. It is imperative that those working on the ground during this time articulate the reason why it would be so challenging for staff.

6. **AR Trainings-We have two additional training sessions for Association Representatives on September 19 from 9-10:30 and September 23 from 5-6:30. If you haven't yet attended an AR training, please register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHHExwnIT5scvPr0ol1ANvKUL8uPUcHlzTlz0LX-FPYasINw/viewform?usp=sf_link**
7. **MEMBERSHIP- Recruit a new member and receive a sweet treat from a local bakery for you and the new member. The new member will also get a \$20 gift card. The building with the highest percentage increase will get lunch provided by the OEA. [CLICK HERE](#) for the membership form.**

OEA continues to work to solve the concerns staff are bringing up around virtual learning, what the plan is for 2nd quarter and now the mandate of COVID testing. We have a meetings set for the rest of the week to address these issues.

As a reminder, remain calm, breathe and be present for your student. As always we will share with you information when we get it. Look for something from OEA around Friday.

I appreciate all that you continue to do each and every day. You are all true ROCKSTARS!

Be well,

**Robert
OEA President**
