



Colleagues,

Wanted to share some updates...

- **COVID Testing**- Many staff members have been tested at Northwest High School. I missed my testing date, so I was asked to get tested on Wednesday. There was little to no wait at my designated time. Staff are asked to sign in, like that of a curriculum day session, then asked to sign a form allowing Test Nebraska to share the results with the district. The district will only receive your name, date of the test, and the results. No further information is shared with the district. If you choose to test elsewhere, you must be tested within 48 hours of your district assigned time and send your results to the district when you receive them.
- **Welcoming students back**- As we begin to phase students back in to buildings, any issues that arise should be addressed at the building level, so please have a dialogue with your administration. OEA is here to assist, but it must start at the building level. We have asked many times about the PPE supplies for the buildings, as you may not have seen them. Every principal met with Dr. Logan about the status of the PPE for their building and should now have the items they need. If not, your principal should communicate that need to the district.
- **Prep days**- Time was/will be given to each level to

prepare for the return of students. Part of the time was used for testing and Building Level Professional Learning; this was to touch base on procedures within the building. Additional time allowed teachers to get prepared to welcome students back to in person learning.

- **VOTE 2020-** The election is right around the corner; absentee ballots are beginning to arrive. Remember to vote, SIGN the back of the envelope and drop it off or mail it back in. **Click here** to see the recommended candidates of the OEA and NSEA.
- **Membership-** We are stronger together! If you have a new teacher in your building, ask them to join us in advocating to make public education the best it can be for the students, staff and the community. OEA was not able to meet with the new hires in person, we are relying on members to reach out to make that final ask to join. **CLICK HERE** to access a membership form. Local bakery items will be delivered to new members and the person who recruited them through the 13th, along with a gift card for the new member!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS-

- OEA is hosting an event titled “Your VOICE, Your VOTE!” It is set for Saturday, October 10th from 12-2 at the OEA office at 4202 S. 57th Street. It is a drive thru event to register to vote, become a member and to collect campaign literature and yard signs for the OEA/NSEA endorsed candidates. Come out and pick up a sign and use your TEACHER VOICE, elections matter! All the safety guidelines will be followed.
- OEA and First Nebraska Credit Union are hosting a drive through shred event at the branch at 4740 S. 48th St (48th and L) on Saturday, October 17 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Any teacher signing up for membership that day will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card.
- Committee meetings are starting up via ZOOM.
 - Membership 10/6 @ 4:30
 - Comp and Benefits 10/14 @ 4:30
 - Instructional Advocacy 10/20 @ 4:30
 - Public Community Relations 10/21 @ 4:30
 - Governance 10/21 @ 4:30
 - EMAC 10/22 @ 4:30

- PACE 10/28 @ 4:30

Upcoming Webinars from NSEA

The following free webinars for both members and non-members are open for registration:

- **Tuesday, October 13, 8PM - Advocacy for Rookies: Protect Your Job - Membership=Protection. Learn about the advocacy department and how organizational specialists can help you.**
- **Thursday, October 22, 7:30PM - Know Your Paycheck – Learn how to understand all the pieces of your paycheck, and to make sure your salary and benefits are accurate.**

**** After these two presentations are finished, OEA Organizational Specialists Becca Dingwell and Liz Figueroa will stay on to answer questions from OPS teachers.****

- **Tuesday, October 27, 8 PM - More on Effective Online Learning and Student Engagement – Additional information and strategies to engage online learners.**

Register here: <https://www.nsea.org/NewEdLearn>

Your work inspires so many in the world today. You are the unsung heroes, have adapted to many changes in the last few months and addressed the challenges head on. None of this could have happened without your dedication, professionalism and your drive to make a lasting impression on our students. OEA is proud of the work being done by you, the educators!

Be well,

Robert

