



Raising achievement and closing the gaps for ALL students.

Tip-Off

April 13, 2021

Early Enrollment

- Early enrollment has begun and will run through August 31st.
- No Cost between April 1 and August 31, 2021
- Potential members can enroll now with limited benefits.
- Potential members who have been a student association member in the past, but are not yet an active member, are eligible for early enrollee membership.
- You will receive liability insurance from the date of signing. You will have access to member-only professional development opportunities offered by NSEA from the date of signing.
- You will have access to the services of NSEA staff to answer your questions. Full services begin when your contract for the 2021-2022 school year begins.
- Access to an attorney is NOT part of Early Enrollment benefits. Early Enrollment signees may have access to an attorney for incident that occurs when their contract for the 2021-2022 school year begins.



Reach out to your fellow colleagues who have been considering joining, those who are student teaching or even the new hires that have been identified. They will pay NOTHING until October 2021! Visit the OEA webpage at <https://omahaoea.org/> and click the banner 'Become a Member NOW.'

Finders Keepers

As we are into the 4th quarter of school, many are thinking about your classroom materials. OEA will be hosting an event called 'Finders Keepers' for our new hires on June 16th. We would like to offer them the opportunity collect items to be used in their first classroom. If you have classroom materials that are gently used, consider donating them to the OEA. We will begin collecting them here at the OEA and organizing them for our event. We all know that at the end of the year a table gets identified in the staff lounge where unwanted items are placed for the taking. Why not share those items with first year teachers? Any 'gently used' items can be donated to this cause. You can either drop them off at the OEA office or set up a time for someone to come pick the items up, just call the office at 402-346-0400.



Insurance 101

Our current insurance will be changing, and you need to be well informed of the change. Making sound decisions requires knowing what the best options are for you and your family. With the changes in the Health Insurance for next year, OEA has partnered with the Educators Health Alliance (EHA) and the Blue Cross/Blue Shield to offer many sessions to educate our members.

April 27th at 4:45
May 4th at 4:45
June 8th at 4:45
July 6th at 4:45

Refer to the past Constant Contacts for registration links or call the OEA office for the link to register.

Virtual Author Conversation



Virtual Author Visit: Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar, Authors of You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism

Join the OEA on Monday, May 10 at 7PM to hear from authors Lacey Lamar and Amber Ruffin about their recently released book! Lacey and Amber are both former OPS students and are excited to share an evening with you! This event is free to attend, simply fill out the RSVP form below.

RUN, don't walk! The first 20 members who register for the event will receive a FREE copy of the book SIGNED by Lacey!

We will have prepared questions for Lacey and Amber about their book AND about being OPS alumnae! Visit the OEA website to find a form to submit any questions you would like to ask Lacey and Amber. You can even let us know if you'd like our 'emcee' to ask for you, or if you'd like to unmute and ask Lacey and Amber yourself! Please note that due to time, not all questions may be asked/answered.

RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/9XtyMW4ZsXjGMrd16>

Submit Questions here: <https://forms.gle/sbTcBCSpyAF79LUA6>

About the Book:

From racist donut shops to strangers putting their whole hand in her hair, from being mistaken for a prostitute to being mistaken for Harriet Tubman, Lacey is a lightning rod for hilariously ridiculous yet all-too-real anecdotes. She's the perfect mix of polite, beautiful, petite, and Black that apparently makes people think "I can say whatever I want to this woman." And now, Amber and Lacey share these entertainingly horrifying stories through their laugh-out-loud sisterly banter. Painfully relatable or shockingly eye-opening (depending on how often you have personally been followed by security at department stores), this book tackles modern-day racism with the perfect balance of levity and gravity.

About the Authors:

Amber Ruffin is a writer and cast member on NBC's Late Night with Seth Meyers. She also amazingly became the first black woman to write for a late-night talk show in American history when she joined the staff in 2014, and was a writer/sometimes performer on HBO's Black Lady Sketch Show. She is about to launch her own late night show, The Amber Ruffin Show which will anchor the new NBC streaming service, Peacock.

Lacey Lamar is Amber Ruffin's big sister. She has worked in the healthcare and human service field for more than twenty-five years, thirteen of those working with troubled youth in her community. She volunteers her time and resources to black, brown refugee and indigenous fellow humans in any way she can. Lacey lives in Nebraska with her unbelievable amazing daughter Imani and their 130lb Great Dane Izzy.

We encourage you to order locally through the following booksellers! Please note, if they do not have the book in stock they can order a copy within typically 4-5 days. Bookstores are listed alphabetically, please contact the OEA if you have another local bookseller you'd like to be added to our list!

Aframerican Bookstore - <http://aframericanbookstore.com/index.shtml> - 3226 Lake St – 402-455-9200

The Book Nook - <https://www.booknookbookstores.com/> - 118 N Washington St, Papillion – 531-999-1827

The Bookworm - <https://www.bookwormomaha.com/> - 2501 S. 90th St. #111 - 402-392-2877

Dundee Book Company - <https://dundee-book-company.square.site/> - 4915 Underwood Ave - 402-281-3315

The Next Chapter - <https://www.nextchapterbooksandgifts.com/> - 2508 Farnam St. – 531-218-7996

Laurel's Night 2020 and 2021

Due to the COVID pandemic our traditional Laurel's Night has been pushed back yet again. We have begun the planning to hold a special event for all those who retired or celebrated 25 years in the Omaha Public Schools in the years of 2020 or 2021. We will also honor those who have been awarded our annual awards for the respective years. Mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 19th**. We will honor both years with one special event and look forward to seeing our friends and hearing the stories and laughter of memories made over the years. More details to come!

Building AR Elections

As we are heading into the last few months of school, and with that comes the OEA building Association Representative election. This is an individual (s) who brings your building concerns to the monthly AR meetings and takes information back to your building and shares with the members. *Each school is entitled to one representative and one alternate. Schools or departments having more than 15 OEA members are entitled to one representative and one alternate for each additional 15 members or major fraction thereof.*

For example: A school with 23 members would be entitled to two ARs (15 = first AR, +8 (a major fraction of 15) = second AR). The position of Primary Contact shall be determined by secret ballot of current association representatives. In the event of a tie, or no one has been nominated for the position of Captain, the members in said building will conduct a separate ballot to determine who is Captain from among the elected association representatives. The AR alternates would assist the ARs and attend AR Assembly, especially in the absence of the Captain or an AR.

This election should be completed by **Tuesday, May 11th**. Please consider running for an AR position

Current OEA Leadership - Board of Directors

Executive Board

President - Robert Miller - robert.miller@nsea.org

Vice President - Advocacy - Kathy Poehling - kathyap@cox.net

Vice President - Member Benefits - Tracy Hartman-Bradley - trhb1000@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

Senior High Representative - James Goetz - jeg1126@gmail.com

Senior High Representative - Molly Davies - maryfrancesdavies@gmail.com

Senior High Representative - Michelle Settlemyer - Canyon_hiker@hotmail.com

Alternative Ed/TAC - Kim Gardiner - kimgardiner1714@gmail.com

Middle School Representative - Stacie Stevens - stacie.nicole.stevens@gmail.com

Middle School Representative - Amy Smith - catrona@hotmail.com

Middle School Representative - Faith Johnson - faithteaches22@yahoo.com

Elementary Representative - Josh McDougall - jwmcDougall@msn.com

Elementary Representative - Traci Walter - steelergur136@yahoo.com

Elementary Representative - Octavia Butler - Octavia.r.butler@gmail.com

Elementary Representative - Anne King - anniesbar@cox.net

Elementary Representative - Amanda Kloke - Amanda.renae@gmail.com

Elementary Representative - Terri Childers - terrichilders@msn.com

Committee Corner

Our committees need **YOU** to make them work!
Please try to join a committee and make a difference in **YOUR** Association!



Comp and Benefits Meeting
Wednesday, April 14
4:45pm

Instructional Advocacy
Tuesday, April 20
4:45pm

Governance Meeting
Wednesday, April 21
4:45pm

EMAC Meeting
Thursday, April 22
4:45pm

PACE Meeting
Wednesday, April 28
4:45pm

MEMBERSHIP Meeting
Tuesday, May 4
4:45pm

OEA Tip-Off

The OEA Tip-Off is a bi-monthly publication printed for members of the Omaha Education Association.

Direct Inquiries to:

Robert Miller
robert.miller@nsea.org
402-346-0400

Sue Perkins

Communications Specialist
sue.perkins@nsea.org

Visit us on the web at:
www.omahaoea.org