



Raising achievement and closing the gaps for ALL students.

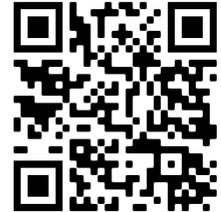
Tip-Off

May 12, 2021

Early Enrollment



We are in the season of Early Enrollment, which goes from April 1 to August 31. Any educator can join at no cost until October. Ask your fellow colleagues to join us. If you have a student teacher who has been offered a contract by OPS, they can join at no cost and take advantage of the member benefits for their summer adventures. Colleagues who have been reluctant to join can also take advantage of this early enrollment.



Scan the QR Code. We are stronger together!

Finders Keepers

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 classrooms. If you have classroom materials that are gently used, please 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 appears in the staff lounge with unwanted items for the taking. Why not share those items with first year teachers? Gently loved materials are happily accepted. Help OEA share the LOVE to our new hires. Call the OEA Office at 402-346-0400 if you would like to have Robert or staff members come by to pick the items up.



Blue Cross/Blue Shield

You may have received an email from Blue Cross/Blue Shield regarding a recent settlement and you were provided a unique ID. In that email it shared steps that you can go through to determine if it affected your rights.

What is the lawsuit about?

Plaintiffs claim that the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and Settling Individual Blue Plans (collectively, “Settling Defendants”) violated antitrust laws by entering into an agreement not to compete with each other and to limit competition among themselves in selling health insurance and administrative services for health insurance

The Education Health Alliance (EHA) has provided additional information found below...

There is a helpful summary at this link: [April 6, 2021 H&W Compliance Quarterly](#).

The notice provides additional resources with more details and contact information for questions you may have:

- The settlement website at www.BCBSsettlement.com;
- The FAQ that is available on the settlement website and;
- The claim administrator’s email address info@BCBSsettlement.com and phone number (888) 681-1142.

Laurel's Night 2020 and 2021

Due to the current situation of the COVID-19 and the social distancing request from the CDC, OEA has determined that the Laurels Night will not be happening this year. It is important for us to honor those of you who are retiring, as well as those who have 25 years in the district. We have it currently identified for September 19th at 5:30. It will still be held at the Livestock Exchange Building. If you are retiring, please get the needed information to the OEA so that we have it for September. We look forward to the time where we can celebrate the amazing educators that have dedicated so many great years to the students, OPS and the OEA. More details to come!

SHOUT OUT to ALL of YOU

This has been one heck of a year. You all have been through so many changes, developing ways to reach every student and students were still learning whether virtual, in person or concurrently. There were no manuals to follow for the year and you wrote the book through trial and tribulations. You have done everything in your power to make this year as normal as it could be, so THANK YOU a million times over.

OEA has been very diligently working with the district to address the concerns that have been shared with us. If we are not made aware of the concerns, then we cannot advocate for our members. If there are concerns, please send them to Robert or discuss the matter with your Organizational Specialist and it will be addressed.

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.

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.

OPS 2021/2022 Calendar

The calendar has been released after having been adopted by the Board of Education. Go to the OPS website to view it. You are only contracted to work 188 days per the master agreement. If you decide to work during any of the breaks you will be compensated accordingly. If ever in doubt reach out to your Organizational Specialist.

OEA AR's are AMAZING

To all the members serving as your building AR's THANK YOU! Typically, you all would be celebrated at our last AR meeting, but sadly we did not meet once in person this year. OEA could not do the work without each of you. You provide answers to our members and assistance when needed, your service only makes the OEA stronger. We will celebrate each of you in SEPTEMBER 2021.

Committee Corner

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

PACE Meeting
Thursday, May 13
4:45pm

Governance Meeting
Wednesday, May 19
4:45pm

EMAC Meeting
Thursday, May 20
4:45pm

Summer Events



- Finders Keepers June 16th 11-1, come and help welcome the New Hires to OPS and tell them about the OEA.
- NSEA-U July 13-15 Registration required at www.nsea.org/NSEAU Bakari Sellers and Gerry Brooks will be the keynote speakers at this event.
- Check out the webinars offered by the NSEA.

OEA Tip-Off

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

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