



New Year, New Challenges & New Leadership

Greetings,

I am honored to serve as your new Omaha Education Association President and I am ready to support you for the 2022-2023 academic year. I know that many of you have been working all summer, or intermittently on curriculum writing and many ways to support your students and schools. I have also been working to learn my new position and ready myself for what promises to be a challenging and exciting school year.

I am a 24-year veteran teacher of science and I have spent my entire professional career in OPS. I have two credentials, ELA and Science, and graduate degrees in ELA and Forensic Science. In my free time, I enjoy cooking, true crime, reading (primarily non-fiction), traveling (by motorcycle), listening to a wide range of music, and photography. I have an amazing group of family and friends, and I love just hanging out with my dog, Coco, enjoying the easier side of life.

I want to set some expectations about what you will see from me:

- My door is open. I am available.
- I will listen to learn from and understand you, not to respond.
- I want to problem-solve.
- I will return your communication within 48 hours.

This is what I would like to ask of you:

- Hold me accountable.
- Tell me the truth.
- Teach me what I do not know.
- Engage meaningfully with your Association.

Here are ways to engage with the OEA:

- Maintain your membership.
- Take advantage of all the member benefits.
- Participate in committees and activities that are of interest to you. You

can find a list on the OEA site and email Caitlin.O'Connor@nsea.org to be added that committee's email list.

- Start member organizing projects to problem-solve at your building. Your ARs and OSs can help you!
- Vote in all elections for which you are eligible.

Here is some important information regarding plan time upon the return to school on August 8, 2022. Teachers are to be provided a minimum of 7 hours of discretionary work time prior to the first official school event - orientation, back to school event or national night out/walk to school. Teachers are provided a total of 17.5 hours of discretionary work time prior to the first student contact day.

Should you ever have any questions or would like to just chat please do not hesitate to stop by the OEA office (4202 S. 57th Street, Omaha) or call/text me at (712) 308-5144. I would love the opportunity to visit and get to know each of you.

This year is going to be hard work, and I am here for it. I know you are, too.
Michelle

[Add button text here]

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