



YOU MADE IT

You now can officially shut off your Monday through Friday alarm for two weeks. You have made it to the end of the first semester of this school year.-I am in awe of what you have accomplished with all the difficulties we've faced this semester.

I want to personally thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you. It has been a steep learning experience for sure, but I have truly enjoyed each day. I have visited with many educators across the district and you each bring a level of dedication, care and commitment that make me proud to be part of the OEA.

As you read this, please remember that you are now on Winter Break through January 2, 2023. Use this time to truly relax, rest and recharge. Take the time needed to do what you want to do. Sleep in, take a nap, use the restroom when you want, laugh, binge on reality tv, participate in activities that you have been putting off, above all else, put work aside for a bit, and take a HUGE sigh of relief. You did it.

When January 3, 2023, rolls around, the days will be

cold, but the energy you bring to your classrooms will immediately warm the hearts of your students and peers. My hope is you will be as excited to see them as they will be to see you. There will still be much to do but the hours of daylight will grow and the temperatures will warm as we work towards May

The OEA is working hard to advocate for its members. We will again resume negotiations on January 9, 2023. It is open to all OPS bargaining unit members. Negotiations will begin at 5:00pm at the OEA offices (4202 S. 57th Street). Please consider this your formal invitation to attend. Please continue to follow me on social media, as I will also post information regarding negotiations.

As I close, know that we are here to support you as needed. Please reach out with your concerns. Kathie, Liz and I are here to assist you as we can. Enjoy the break, reflect on this last year, and return in 2023 ready to conquer the second semester.

Happy holidays!
Michelle

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