



Welcome to the 23/24 School Year

Welcome to the 23/24 school year. This is always an exciting and exceptionally busy time of year. With new curriculum, professional development and new students and staff coming into our schools.

I have also been busy in the office with all of the changes happening here. I wanted to share a little bit about myself. I have been teaching at Castelar Elementary School for 11 years in 5th grade. I am married and have 4 grown children and 3 grandchildren. I have been a member of OEA since I signed my contract. I started out on the Compensation and Benefits Committee and the Negotiations Team and moved to being VP of Advocacy. I have served the organization in many ways and was elected to the NSEA Board of Directors in the spring of 2023. I am excited to begin my new adventure as the President of The Omaha Education Association.

Back to School Bash: This year the Bash will be held at the Baxter Arena from 10a.m.-1p.m. We will be on the side closest to Center Street. We have a team that is committed to running our booth that day. We will be playing games with students and giving out prizes. If you would like to help at the booth, please contact me at kathy.poehling@nsea.org.

Labor Day Parade: Once again we will be participating in the Labor Day Parade. Details will be forthcoming, but if you are interested, **please contact me**.

Sign and Notarize Event: Wednesday the 9th from 3:30-6:30 we will have a drive thru signing event at the OEA office for the petition drive. You can either stop by to sign the petition if you haven't done so yet or drop off your petition to get notarized. We will have notaries available.

Master Agreement Tip #1: All bargaining unit members shall have 17.5 hours of plan/prep prior to the first student contact day (7.0 hours must be provided prior to the first scheduled event), 7.0 hours for a district Curriculum Day and 10.5 hours for building based professional development and meetings, as determined by the district calendar planning committee.

Notes: The Organization Specialists and I have been working hard the last two weeks planning events for members and brainstorming ideas for the coming year. We are stronger together, but it takes all of us to be stronger. Over the next few weeks make sure and take time for yourselves and please don't hesitate to call Kathie Garabrandt, Organizational Specialist for Secondary/Special Programs, Heather Fritz, Organizational Specialist for all Elementary, or myself if you need us.

Thank you for everything that you do to teach our children to make the world a better place,

Kathy Poehling
OEA President

[Add button text here]

Omaha Education Association | 4202 South 57 Street, Omaha, NE 68117-1349

[Unsubscribe gloria.bustillos@nsea.org](mailto:gloria.bustillos@nsea.org)

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