

OREGON CITY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 2015-HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

A Better Oregon?

There is still time to get petitions in!

Round two for collecting signatures is under way! Thank you so much for all of your hard work and help collecting signatures during the last couple of months. We have gained approximately 450 of our district wide goal of 1200 signatures. More signature sheets are available, just ask your building rep for more!

A huge Thank You to Holcomb Elementary for turning in over 100 signatures alone at the Dec. 8th. Rep. Council meeting. Holcomb officially won the prize of a catered lunch to be delivered at some point this year.

Every signature gained helps us reach the required 100,000 signatures needed to get this initiative on the November 2016 ballot. Only with long term and stable educational funding can we provide the schools and educational opportunities that all Oregon students and staff members deserve. Passing this ballot initiative will go a long way in achieving that dream. Thank you so much again for your help in collecting signatures and spreading the word to promote this ballot measure.

Take care and happy holidays,

Alex Foz & Dillon Daniel-Hoffman

Message from The President

Happy holidays everyone!

We are in a very busy, fun and exciting time of year. Many of us can look forward to various family and cultural traditions and enjoy this time of beautiful lights and children's smiles as well as the joy of seeing family. But for some of us this can also be a time of great turmoil.

We have many members currently dealing with damage to their homes from our recent rain and the pain of losing loved ones.

Remembering to take care of ourselves so we can take care of others is vital during these times. The box to the right can connect you with some helpful hints for this joyous yet often difficult time of year.

My wish for all of you this holiday season is that you take some time to take care of yourself. I hope you are able to relax and enjoy your families this winter break. May you enjoy this time for celebration and a much-needed respite from our very busy lives. I wish for each of you a peaceful and happy holiday.

-Cindy Williams

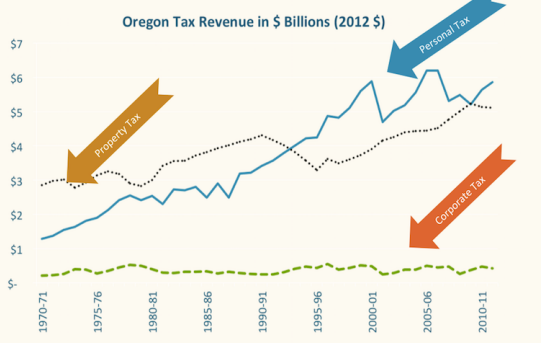
Phone: 503-785-7838 Email: cindy.williams@orecity.k12.or.us

Take Care of Yourself:

When in doubt, reach out !!

Please don't forget to take care of yourself first. Schools and teachers are usually very good at thinking about the well-being of their pupils. We consider ourselves to have a duty of care to our pupils. We do not usually think about our own well-being – until it is too late and we are sick. People who take on caring roles are often not good at looking after themselves. See more: [Teacher Stress & How to Cope](#)

THE LOWEST BUSINESS TAXES IN THE NATION



OCEA Member Receives Honor

Jan Snyder was recently selected as the **District Librarian Teacher of The Year for 2015** by the Oregon Association of School Libraries. We are fortunate to have Jan here in Oregon City as our wonderful Media Specialist. Well done Jan!

The End of No Child Left Behind

What does it mean to you?

By Karen Spies, OCEA's Willamette Falls UniServ OEA Consultant

In response to a recent member question:

"My email has been blowing up about this huge "victory" and the end to NCLB and so much else. What does the passing of this law mean for OCSD? How excited should I get?"

It means more autonomy by Oregon and local school districts to determine what student assessments should be used and how often students should be tested.

It's still too early to know how Oregon and local districts will respond to ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) now that NCLB is gone. In the meantime, knowing that less oversight from the feds is the premise behind ESSA should make us all rejoice. The feds have done a lousy job under NCLB in supporting educators to teach their students with unfunded and impractical mandates.

OCEA Officers

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Contract Maint.- [Cindy Williams](#)

Insurance- [Jan Snyder](#) Phone: 8405

Membership/Soc.- [Brent Leong](#) Phone: 8900

Political Action- [Alex Foz](#) & [Dillon Daniel-Hoffman](#)

Contract Maintenance Committee

Allan Brown, Dawn Spahn, Cathy Poppen,
Cindy Williams, Karen Jenkins & Brent Leong.

Good News!

NW Community Credit Union Awards OCSD TEACHERS!

Congrats to Monica Root (HLB AISP) who won a \$1500 grant from the NW Community Credit Union to upgrade her classroom technology and purchase some great new science materials.

Congrats also goes to Rob Whiting (OCHS Math Dept) who was awarded \$2000 to improve the district's supply of calculators!

Rob & Monica received their grants through the Credit Unions's Project Community mini-grant program. More info is available here: <https://nwcu.com/insidecommunity/project-community-awards-2015>

CONTRACT TRIVIA TIME!

Congrats to Sarah Black, who found the correct answer to October's question: *How many after hours events do teachers have to attend?*

The answer was; Required events are outside of the contract day do not include parent/teacher conferences and they are described in the contract as follows:

Two (2) Elementary school events (eg: open house/back-to-school night and Elementary music program).

Two (2) middle school events (eg: open house/back-to-school night and eight-grade celebration).

Two (2) high school events (eg: Curriculum night and prom)

Here is the Question for this month:

Do we have to report to work if school is closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies?

Be the first to [email Cindy Williams](#) with the correct answer and you could win a prize.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Exec. Bd. Mtg. - Jan. 5 @ 4:00, OCEA Office

Rep. Council - Jan 12 @ 4:00, OCEA Office

School Bd Mtg. - Jan. 11 @ 7:00 – School Board Rm, Jackson Campus

Long Range Facilities Advisory Comm – Jan 13 @ 7:00 pm – Location TBD

PERS Workshop – Jan 21 – 4:-5:45pm, Rm B104 (old 17), Jackson

RSVP – Cindy Williams – flier coming soon.

CONCERNS ABOUT INSURANCE?

OCEA INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOUGHT

Insurance will again be the center of attention for the OCEA very soon. The ACA (Affordable Care Act) is complex and has various ramifications going forward, many of these will be in effect as of January 2017. We need to form a committee that can look into insurance options and help OCEA be informed and ready for the new insurance rules.

Please contact your Building Rep or Exec. team member if you would like to be on the Insurance Committee.

If you have questions about insurance, or need to contact a provider about getting a new insurance card, please refer to [this web site](#) to update your information or call the numbers below that relate to your plan:

Name	Contact Number
Oregon Educators Benefit Board(OEBB)	1-888-469-6322
Moda Health - ODS (Medical)	1-866-923-0409
Moda Health - ODS (Dental)	1-866-923-0410
Moda Health - ODS (Pharmacy)	1-866-923-0411
Kaiser	1-866-223-2375
Willamette Dental	1-800-460-7644
The Standard	1-866-756-8115
Unum	1-800-227-4165
EAP - Reliant Behavioral Health	1-866-750-1327
Wage Works (HSA & FSA)	1-877-924-3967
BenefitHelp Solutions	1-800-556-2230