

OUEA Newsletter

March 2016
Issue 2, 2015-16

Have you heard?

- ⇒ Thanks to all the site reps and retirees who helped with the TA ratification voting. I am so proud that 100% of sites returned the ballots on time, and nearly 83% of certificated staff voted within the short window. The pay raise appears in the check at the end of February, but remember that the retroactive pay will appear in the paycheck at the end of March. Thanks also goes to the OUEA Bargaining Team for the great work on the contract negotiations—way to go!
- ⇒ The Friedrichs v. CTA case is awaiting the decision by the Supreme Court. Hundreds of amicus briefs have been filed and both sides presented oral arguments to the Supreme Court Justices on January 11, but the court has until June 30 to rule on the case. CTA.org has information and resources to better understand the issues of the case and the need for a Fair Share system.
- ⇒ The OUEA Retirees are offering scholarships for up to \$1000.00 to help with continuing education. Applicants must have permanent employee status with at least three years of experience in OUSD. Information and applications should be posted at each site, and they are also available in the OUEA office.
- ⇒ There will be three OUSD Board of Education seats up for election in November 2016. Trustee Area 2 seat, currently held by John Ortega, covers the area including Lampson, Sycamore, West Orange, and Portola Middle School. Trustee Area 3 seat, currently held by Alexia Deligianni, covers the area including Crescent, Fletcher, Nohl Canyon, Olive, and Taft. Trustee Area 6 seat, currently held by Mark Wayland, covers the area including Cambridge, California, Handy, Yorba Middle School, Orange High School, and Richland High School. If you know people (parents, retired teachers, teachers who work at other school districts) that live in these areas and would make a good Board of Education member, let us know!

OUEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 15—16

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Jen Pettey, Canyon HS

Vice President:

Karen Wilson, Orange HS

Secretary:

Robin Ray, Sycamore

Treasurer:

Deborah Iadevaia, Esplanade

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Elizabeth Gellatly, Sycamore
Linda Horist, Nohl Canyon

**Secondary Segment
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Greg Goodlander, Orange HS
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Special Segment Director:

Susan Casey, Psychologists

CTA State Delegates:

Jen Pettey, Canyon HS
Robin Ray, Sycamore
Karin Barone, La Veta

OUEA Executive Director:

Roger Urroz, Jr.
rurroz@cta.org

OUEA Office Coordinator:

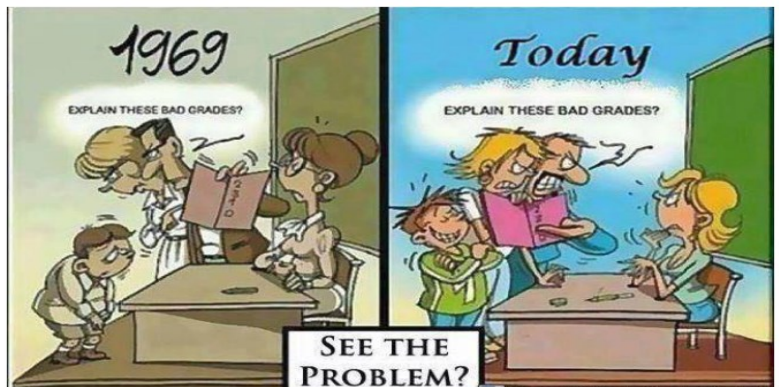
Ronda Wun, 714-288-1288

What are OUEA members doing?

Committees Anyone?

OUEA has formed or is forming committees to address the needs of our members. Are you interested in planning social events? We have the social committee for that. Are you interested in the policies that drive and guide our organization? We have the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee for that. Are you interested in politics? We have the Education Action Committee for that. Your voice is important, and these committees are opportunities to be heard...don't miss out!

One important element of CTA's Strategic Plan is "Transforming our Profession." The best way to do that is to share with each other our best practices and collaborate. What are you doing that you'd like to share?



Know Your Contract

6.310 Elementary unit members shall not be required to attend more than ninety (90) minutes monthly of faculty meetings. Additional meeting time required beyond the monthly ninety (90) minutes shall be compensated at the miscellaneous hourly rate of pay.

The District and OUEA affirm that staff meeting dates for the year shall be mutually determined by the staff and the site/department administrator at the beginning of the school year. This determination shall include the specific dates and times of meetings for that year. Off-schedule meetings may be conducted in unusual situations determined by the site administrator. Meetings shall be conducted in an orderly manner utilizing a written agenda for the meeting.

President's Corner

When I began teaching at Canyon High School in September of 1997, I was fortunate to have veteran teachers to answer my many questions and guide me. When I had questions about class size, one of Canyon's site reps suggested that I attend Rep Council, which I did. I spoke with a member of the bargaining team who explained the complexities of class size—it was then that I realized that there was so much beyond the walls of my classroom that I simply did not know.

So I continued to attend rep council meetings and asked more questions. The more I asked, the more I recognized the need to be more involved. I never expected nor aimed to be OUEA President or even Chair of Assessment and Testing Committee for CTA; all I wanted was to make sure that all of my students had access to the best education possible. I am proud to represent OUEA, whether I'm meeting with the district office or meeting in Sacramento with the leaders from the CA Department of Education, all in an effort to support my fellow educators in pursuing the same goal of providing the best education to our students.

Another way I ensure that my students have the best educational opportunities is to minimize the time I'm absent from class. In fact, most presidents of an association the size of OUEA are full-time release, but I prefer to be in the classroom. Being with my students inspires me to invest my time and energy into all of the other activities beyond my classroom. I also think that being in the classroom gives me more credibility when addressing member concerns with the district office.

Now I'm in a position to answer the questions of other educators, and I think back to that first year when I was new and clueless. I have always enjoyed the opportunity to share my enthusiasm for language and literature with my students; now I also enjoy sharing my enthusiasm for public education with my fellow educators.

CTA/NEA Member benefits

Did you know that as an NEA member you can get 2 free magazine subscriptions for use in your classroom? This is the NEA Magazine Service, which has even more magazines with special discounts for educators. When exploring the NEA Magazine Service on www.neamb.com, you can also find more great deals and information, such as the article "Teacher Discounts: Don't Miss These Top Offers for Educators and Education Students."



EVENTS - March

OUEA Meetings:

- ◆ 3/3—OUEA Social Committee meeting, 3:30pm @ Lazy Dog
- ◆ 3/7—OUEA Board of Directors meeting, 3:30pm @ OUEA office
- ◆ 3/10—OUSD Board of Education meeting, 7:00pm @ OUSD District Office Board Rooms
- ◆ 3/21—OUEA Rep Council meeting, 3:30pm @ OUEA office
- ◆ 3/24—OUEA Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee meeting, 4:00pm @ OUEA office

Workshops and Conferences:

- ◆ 2/27-2/28—Good Teaching Conference (South), 8:00am @ Hyatt Regency Orange County, Garden Grove
- ◆ 3/4-3/6—Equity and Human Rights Conference, TBA
- ◆ 3/18-3/20—Region IV Leadership Conference, @ Sheraton in San Diego
- ◆ 3/29—Maternity Leave Workshop, 3:30pm @ OUEA Office

Other Important Dates:

- ◆ 3/7-3/11—NEA Representative Assembly Delegate Voting at sites
- ◆ 4/18-4/22—OUEA General Election Voting at sites
- ◆ Save the date...June 13—OUEA Open House, 3:00-5:00pm @ OUEA office

