

Advocacy Center – Empowering OEA Members

PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR RIGHTS AS AN EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL

OEA Advocates are trained to help you and your local Association understand your professional rights and the protections available to you. Our goal is to assist you in participating in the decisions that affect your salaries, fringe benefits, and working conditions. Whether it's with you individually, through advocacy related trainings and workshops or in planning sessions with your local executive committee, we help protect you and your colleagues by offering assistance with a vast array of issues:

MEMBER ADVOCACY: Advocates offer assistance with writing responses to evaluations, admonishments or plans for improvements, assistance with individual rights and employment problems, and representation with disciplinary issues.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ASSISTANCE AND PREPARATION: Over 200 local OEA affiliates are recognized to bargain in Oklahoma and OEA Advocates are trained in a variety of bargaining methods and skilled in every facet of the bargaining process, from preparing to circulate a petition for recognition to impasse resolution.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION ADVOCACY: Advocates provide assistance to local associations in grievance processing, contract maintenance, privatization issues, health and safety issues, and other local Association issues.

RESEARCH: The Advocacy Center publishes the OEA GreenBook, Salary Schedule Comparisons, and Extra Duty Pay Comparisons, and members have access to the OEA Microsearch online website that contains local collective bargaining agreements, salary schedules, and school laws.

ADVOCACY CONFERENCE: The Advocacy Center conducts an annual Advocacy Conference that focuses on relevant advocacy issues and topics of interest for members in both bargaining and non-bargaining locals.

OKLAHOMA LABOR/MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE: The OEA is a sponsor of the Annual Oklahoma Labor/Management Conference and the Advocacy Center is a founding member of the planning committee for this collaborative conference along with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, other labor groups, and management representatives from public and private sector entities.

ADVOCACY RELATED TRAININGS

The OEA Advocacy Center can provide trainings in *The Evaluation*

Process/Responding to Evaluations, Preparing to Bargain, Effective Fact Finding, How to Read Your Paycheck, Preparing for Retirement, How to Be an Advocate, Dealing with Difficult People, Grievance Processing, Leadership, Equal Access, How to Avoid/Facing False Accusations, Teacher/Support Legal Rights, and Avoiding the Pitfalls of Electronic Communications and Social Networking. Trainings are designed to fit the needs of your Local.

**For assistance, call the OEA Advocacy UniServ Specialist in
your region
OKC, SE, SW – 800.522.8091 NW – 800.439.0393 NE, Tulsa –
800.331.5143**

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