

TOGETHER WE'RE STRONGER.

“To quote former President Franklin D. Roosevelt, ‘We have only just begun to fight!’ We are still extremely early in the legislative session. Negotiations concerning the state budget and educator raises are ongoing. OEA remains fully committed to our Together We’re Stronger campaign goals. We have never given up in more than 125 years of advocating for students and educators, and we’re not about to give up now!” said OEA President Alicia Priest.

Keep up the pressure on legislators

We must keep contacting legislators, over and over again. Give them no reason to say that they aren’t hearing from educators.

If you haven’t already signed up for OEA’s weekly legislative updates, do so now by sending your home email to jwilliams@okea.org. You’ll get up-to-date information about specific legislation, important committee meetings and lobbying opportunities, including links to legislative email and phone numbers.

Organize your local and community

Make sure every member and potential member knows about OEA’s Together We’re Stronger Campaign by sharing legislative updates with them.

Set up a local Together We’re Stronger campaign committee to facilitate local and at-the-Capitol lobbying plans, phone banks and email blasts to legislators. Contact your OEA legislative and political organizing specialist for assistance.

Keep meeting with administrators, school board members and community members to strengthen coalitions for greater advocacy and power. Consider facilitating a community meeting to highlight local cuts affecting students.

Remember that OEA polling data (available at okea.org) shows overwhelming support among all voters for educator raises and more funding for public education.

Advocate via social media channels

Use Facebook, Twitter and other social media channels to connect with colleagues, legislators and community members. Follow OEA social media channels to get ideas for posts and tweets you can copy and repost.

Together We’re Stronger Legislative Goals

Give pay raises to teachers and ESPs.

Lawmakers have ignored pay for far too long. The state salary schedule hasn’t been adjusted for a decade. The OEA seeks a **\$10,000** pay raise for educators and a **\$5,000** raise for education support professionals.

Cost: \$740 million over three years.



Restore public education funding.

Public education is in a state of crisis. This is unquestionable and **undeniable**. Student enrollment is growing, class sizes are skyrocketing, and funding has not kept up. Oklahoma must do better.

Cost: \$200 million over three years.



Give retirees a cost-of-living increase.

OEA seek a **5 percent** cost-of-living increase for retirees. This increase can be funded through the pension system itself without harming the funds or requiring lawmakers to find new money.

Cost: \$0



Fund core state services for all.

We need new, **recurring revenue** to fund the services Oklahomans need, such as health care, mental health and public safety. The Legislature must fully staff state agencies and give state employees a \$7,500 pay raise.

Cost: \$500 million over three years.



Bills and Authors for Together We’re Stronger Goals

SB 1414 — Sen. Jason Smalley (R-Stroud) \$10,000 teacher pay raise over three years.

SB 1041 — Sen. J.J. Dossett (D-Owasso) \$5,000 ESP pay raise over three years.

HB 2985 — Rep. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee) addresses retired educator COLA.

HB 2637 — Rep. Dustin Roberts (R-Durant) \$7,500 public employee raise over three years.

Restoration of public education funding will be addressed as part of the overall state budgetary process.

Is it time for schools to close?

We’ve called. We’ve written. We’ve shown up in force at the Capitol. Lawmakers still aren’t listening.

People from across the state are asking: What’s next? Please take this survey about the feasibility of a work action.

bit.ly/OEAactionsurvey