The Best Choice for Education Professionals



JOIN THE OKLAHOMA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION









AutoPay is a convenient method to pay OEA dues, including local dues, through automatic deductions from a checking or savings account, credit card, or personal check.







SUPPORT

Training to help you grow, regardless of job title. Communities to help you form real connections at every stage of your career. News, information, and tools just for you.

SECURITY

A team of lawyers on your side, 24 hours a day. Respect, trust, and partnership with organizations across the state. More than 130 years of leading the way in public education.

ACTION

Member leadership, from your school on up. The strongest voice for education at the Capitol. Protecting and improving public education at home and statewide.

The OEA Vision

A Great Public School for Every Student

What OEA Values



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

We believe public education is the gateway to opportunity. All students have the human and civil right to a quality public education that develops their potential, independence, and character.



PARTNERSHIP

We believe partnerships with parents, families, communities, and other stakeholders are essential to quality public education.



COLLECTIVE ACTION

We believe individuals are stregthened when they work together for the common good. As education professionals, we improve both our professional status and the quality of public education when we unite and advocate collectively.



PROFESSIONALISM

We believe that the expertise and judgment of education professionals are critical to student success. We maintain the highest professional standards, and we expect the status, compensation, and respect due all professionals.



A JUST SOCIETY

We believe public education is vital to building respect for the worth, dignity, and equality of every individual in our diverse society.



DEMOCRACY

We believe public education is the cornerstone of our republic. Public education provides individuals with the skills to be involved, informed, and engaged in our representative democracy.



You have to join OEA if you are an educator. It's so important to be a member of your professional organization so that you have the **community** and **resources** you need as an educator to give your students your best. -Betty Collins, Union Public Schools

"

Support Professionals

School does not happen every day without education support professionals. The Oklahoma Education Association and local associations stand up for the unique and critical needs of Oklahoma Support Staff. Here are a few reasons why OEA is the choice for support staff.





WHY WE'RE THE BEST?



Working for Better Pay

OEA fought for and won a statewide support staff pay raise, and local affiliates bargained for better pay, too.



Earning Real Protection

OEA won paycheck protection for support during and after the pandemic. Now that protection is law.



Specialty Training

Support staff have unique jobs. You need training that fits your needs, and OEA has you covered.

Retirement Resources

OEA provides specialized resources to help support staff make the best choice about pension enrollment.

Fighting for Good Jobs

OEA and local associations have successfully stood up against privatization efforts across the state.





Make the most of your new MEMBERSHIP!

Find out how NEA Member Benefits can help you:

- Reduce student debt
- Save on travel and everyday items
- → Get insurance that fits your schedule
- Sign up for free life insurance
- → Plan ahead for retirement

And so much more!



Scan below to learn more



Unparalleled









Legal Services

OEA lawyers litigate over 100 (and counting) requests for legal assistance involving issues that have an impact for all education professionals, from protecting the due process rights of all education employees to ensuring that your rights are protected in the event of a reduction in force. We have taken cases to the United States Supreme Court and won.

Unlike other organizations, disciplinary defense provided by OEA has no dollar limit. We have expended hundreds of thousands of dollars in defense costs on numerous individual cases — with the member paying nothing more than annual dues.

We don't refer cases to inexperienced lawyers without backgrounds in education law. OEA employs attorneys who have decades of **experience** successfully representing education employees and dealing with education issues.

OEA members receive free legal advice and defense when facing disciplinary action and employment-related contractual disputes. No cost to members. No deductible - ever.

The OEA legal team is more than just a group of lawyers. Legal assists our leaders and advocacy staff to interpret the various legislative enactments, the numerous SDE administrative rule changes, as well as analyze and disseminate the various legal challenges and decisions resulting from litigation around those issues. **OEA** attorneys are the legal experts on education employee rights in the state of Oklahoma.

Uncompromising Protection

FREE Personal Legal Services

In addition to professional protection, OEA members have access to a wide range of *free legal services not offered in any other state*, such as:



Advocacy & Action



Collective Bargaining Assistance

More than 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.



Protecting You and Your Rights

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 is 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.



Research

The Advocacy Center publishes Salary Schedule Comparisons and Extra Duty Pay Comparisons, and members have access to local collective bargaining agreements -- all of which are available in the Members Only section of this website.



Member Advocacy

Assisting you with writing responses to evaluations, admonishments or plans for improvement, assistance with individual rights and employment problems, and representation with disciplinary issues.



Democracy in Action



The OEA is a democratic organization, which means members decide how their organization runs at the local, state, and national levels. Members dictate the budget, legislative goals, and other business. There is no rich benefactor profiting at the end of the line.

The OEA is an organization **of** educators, **by** educators, and **for** education.



Professional Learnin Offerings

Below you will find the Teaching & Learning Center's presentations. Please contact us to discuss your int



CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Create classroom momentum and engagement through specific routines, strategies, and classroom structures.



Beyond Trauma Informed OEATrauma Cadre

BULLYING PREVENTION

Stop bullying by investigating the psychological, social and educational impact of bullying behaviors, including cyber-bullying.



TRUE COLORS

A personality survey that provides insight into learning and leadership styles and helps you make the most of both student and



THE ROLE OF RESILIENCY

For Oklahoma students impacted by poverty and trauma, resilience is a key characteristic for success in school. Learn classroom practices to help build resiliency.



EDUCATOR ETHICS: THE OKLAHOMA STANDARD

The Oklahoma Standards of Performance and Conduct for Teachers indicates educators are to be "guided in their conduct by their commitment to their students and their profession." Develop the professional judgment needed to perform your duties with honor and integrity and to protect yourself from poor evaluations, administrative actions, and professional liability. Sessions are available for both certified and support staff.



How we engage with each of our audiences as educators can have significant benefits and repercussions! Learn about the ethical, professional, and practical considerations of both your spoken and written words as an educator.



9

s most-frequently requested erests and needs in more detail.

The OEA Trauma Cadre
Initiative was created to provide
strategies-rich, trauma-informed
presentations to Oklahoma
educators.



CRISIS INTERVENTION

Learn how to respond rather than eact when agitation is escalating! fou can often proactively interrupt the conflict cycle with evidence-based strategies and utilize the de-escalation and recovery phases to shape future behavior and repair relationships.



Working Together for Education

OEA is a founding member of the Oklahoma Education Coalition, which is dedicated to leading the effort to create, improve and support quality public education for all students, teachers and staff. OEA and its largest affiliate, the Tulsa Classroom Teachers Association, are the teacher voice at the table of the most comprehensive force for public education in Oklahoma. **okedcoalition.org**









Oklahoma Education Association Cooperative Council of Oklahoma School Administration

Oklahoma State School Boards Association Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools



United Suburban Schools Association



Oklahoma City Public Schools



Tulsa Public Schools



Tulsa Classroom
Teachers
Association



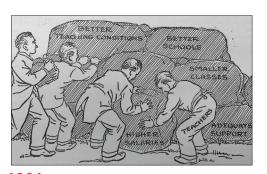
Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education



Oklahoma Parents and Teachers Association

135 Years of Fighting fo

What started as a meeting of 11 teachers has turned into tens of thousands of public From state aid to retirement to salary to health insurance, **OEA has led the way** i



1901 The Oklahoma Teachers Association recommend

Association recommends the establishment of a **teacher retirement system**.

1919

OEA members successfully lobby for the **first state aid bill** for schools.

1949

OEA calls for all teachers to have a bachelor's degree or higher. That campaign comes to fruition in 1957, when the State Department of Education announces Oklahoma is the **first state in the country** to have only college graduates as teachers.

1944

OEA members again stage a petition drive for several ballot measures, including increased **school funding and free textbooks**. Voters approve the measures.

1965

After intense pressur OEA, the Oklahoma I completely **overhau funding formula ar salaries and retire benefits**. The OEA a support and pass SQ voters to fund their lewith property taxes.

1880

1890

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

1889

A group of 11 teachers met in Guthrie to form the Oklahoma Teachers Association, which would eventually become the **Oklahoma Education Association**. Guthrie Superintendent Frank Terry was elected president. They hosted their first statewide meeting on Christmas Day that year, because it was their only day off.

1935

OEA members successfully lobby for the first **state minimum salary schedule**.

1942

OEA members help gather enough signatures to put the issue of **state teacher retirement benefits** on the ballot. Oklahoma voters approve the constitutional measure.



1943

Muskogee teacher Kate Frank was fired for being a "**troublemaker**," as the local newspaper put it. She organized, and she and her local association were able to unseat several school board members. OEA fought for her to get her job back and to receive back pay. NEA members from across the country donated money to pay her salary during the court battle. In the end, Frank was reinstated, setting a national precedent. The NEA named its legal defense fund in her honor.

1959

OEA member Edna
Donley becomes the
first Oklahoman named
National Teacher of the
Year.



Mow Education

school advocates across Oklahoma. n public education for 135 years.

1987

OEA secures due process for education support professionals after fighting a court battle that led all the way to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

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lso helped 430 to allow ocal schools

ne Midwest City

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ssociation becomes

e first bargaining

cal in the state.

1970

The Oklahoma Legislature votes to allow teachers to bargain with local school boards, after a months-long campaign by OEA.

1980

OEA members stage a four-day statewide walkout that ended with the emergency enactment of HB 1017. More than 20,000 attend. The education reform bill raised teacher pay, cut class sizes, funded professional development, and injected hundreds of millions into education funding.



2023

OEA member Rebeka Peterson becomes the second Oklahoman named National **Teacher of the Year.**

1970

1990

2000

2010

2020

1980

OEA members lobby for the **Education Reform Act.** which establishes the first

teacher mentor program in the country, boosts teacher certification standards, and mandates teacher-designed professional development statewide.

2000

OEA leads the Put Education First rally, bringing 30,000 educators to the Capitol and helping secure a \$3,000 raise for all teachers - the largest single-year raise in state history to that point.

2018

OEA members stage a two-week statewide walkout that leads to tens of millions in additional classroom funding and pay raises for teachers and support. More than 50,000 attend on the largest day. It's the most successful walkout of the

national #RedForEd movement.



2023

OEA leads the charge on a historic investment into public education to include \$625 million in every year additional spending, a teacher pay raise, as well as 6 weeks of paid maternity leave

OEA-backed legislation requires all schools to offer group health insurance to employees.

1988

A lifetime of Connection: Before, During, and After Your Career



Oklahoma Aspiring **Educators Association**



Oklahoma Education Association



Oklahoma Retired Educators Association

The Oklahoma Aspiring Educators Association is a pre-professional organization of undergraduate and graduate students preparing for careers in education. OAEA is one of the largest student organizations in Oklahoma with local programs at over 25 university and college campuses. okea.org/oaea

The Oklahoma Education Associaiton is the largest education organization in the state, representing educators, administrators, and support professionals in nearly every district. OEA has been the force for positive change in public education for more than 135 years, and its members carry on that movement today. **okea.org**

The Oklahoma Retired Educators Association serves the retirees who dedicated their careers to public education. OREA provides a voice for retired education employees, secures and protects benefits, and enhances the quality of the life for members throughout the state. orea.org

Attention: First-Year Teachers!

Did you know you're eligible for a rebate in your first year as an OEA member? Get \$30 back for every year you were a student member with OEA and NEA. Fill out the form online at okea.org/studentrebate or call 405.528.7785



Fighting for public education

OEA's Legislative and Political Organizing (LPO) Center works on your behalf to promote and protect public education at the State Capitol. Working with legislators from both sides of the aisle, our staff lobbyists help educate elected officials on the pros and cons of legislation that affects schools, teachers, support professionals, students, and parents. Our top priorities are better pay and benefits, improved working conditions, and research-based reforms to benefit our students.

LPOs assist local associations with at-home lobbying efforts, including get-togethers with legislators and candidate forums during election seasons. We also host members from a cross the state for education lobby days throughout the session.

Go to okea.org/civication to learn more.



FCPE Strengthens Education's Voice



Every decision made for public schools is a political decision, whether that decision is made by your locally elected school board, the state legislature, the Governor's office or even Congress. It's important to have a voice in the process. The Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) is the association's political action committee. Its funding comes only from voluntary contributions – never dues dollars – from our members. The Fund supports pro-public education candidates – regardless of party.

Your profession and your students are WOHTh it!

What does politics have to do with my dassom?

Who decides	School Board	Oklahoma Legislature	State Agencies	Federal Government
Your salary	H			
School budget	HR			
Class sizes	HA			
Length of the school year	HA			
Health benefits	HA			
Due process	HH			
Retirement benefits	H			
Testing	HH			
Hiring practices	H			
Teaching credentials				
Academic standards	H			
Textbooks	HH			
Campus repairs and upgrades	HH			
Employee rights	HH			

Politics is already in your classroom.



Keeping You Informed

The OEA has a team of communications professionals who work to keep you informed about the latest happenings in your profession and at the State Capitol. Members enjoy free access.

Education Edge

A weekly email newsletter with resources, opportunities, and freebies.

Legislative Update

A weekly email with a recap of the latest in education and legislative news.

okea.org

News, information, and special resources only for OEA members.

Legislative Dashboards

An annual publication detailing lawmakers and their voting records on education.

Election Guide

A publication featuring candidate positions on education issues for every legislative race statewide in even-numbered years.

Fried Okra

A weekly podcast featuring guests from across the state, including OEA members, elected officials, and education experts.

Education Focus

A printed magazine that provides an inside look at OEA news, members, and local affiliates.

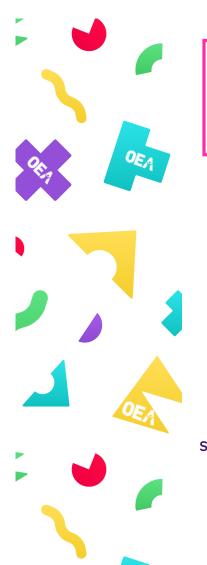
OEA Awards

Annual contests recognizing teachers, students, and advocates across Oklahoma.



OEAPODCAST





NEON

NEW EDUCATORS OF OKLAHOMA NETWORK

NAVIGATE EMPOWER OPPORTUNITY NETWORK











Here for 904 -- ANYWHERE

The OEA is divided into six geographical regions with staff members across the state to serve you where you live and work.

Northwest 405.523.4356

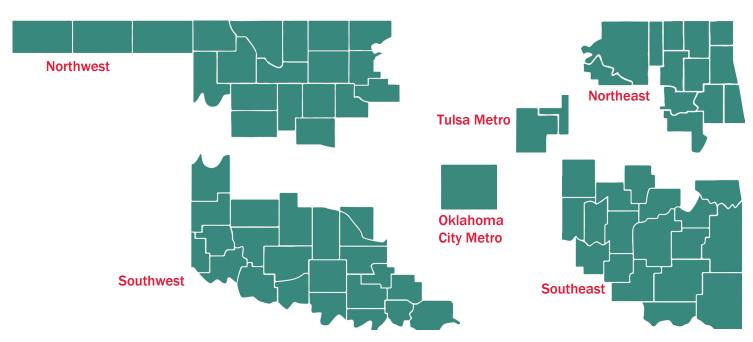
Team Assistant: Dusty Livingston
Advocacy: Jacki McFarland
Legislative: Tyler Outlaw
Organizing: Patti Serio
Teaching & Learning: Mary Dikes
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson
Communications: Joe DuVall

Tulsa Metro 918.665.2282

Team Assistant: Tina Townsend
Advocacy: Jon Marie Piguet
Advocacy: Kate Baker
Legislative: Ellen Pogemiller
Organizing: Brendan Jarvis
Teaching & Learning: Kim Littrell
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson

Northeast 918.665.2282

Team Assistant: Tina Townsend
Advocacy: Melissa Kaltenbaugh
Legislative: Ellen Pogemiller
Organizing: Jennifer Esau
Teaching & Learning: Kim Littrell
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson
Communications: Monica Royer



Southwest 405.523.4356

Team Assistant: Dusty Livingston
Advocacy: Sheri Childress
Legislative: Tyler Outlaw
Organizing: Amber Spradlin
Teaching & Learning: Mary Dikes
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson
Communications: Joe DuVall

Oklahoma City Metro 405.523.4316

Team Assistant: Lilia Ocampo
Advocacy: Carnie Cullen
Advocacy: Annetta Hein
Legislative: Tyler Outlaw
Organizing: Bruce Treadway
Teaching & Learning: Mary Dikes
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson
Communications: A.J. Stegall

Southeast 405.523.4316

Team Assistant: Lilia Ocampo
Advocacy: Cal Ware
Legislative: Ellen Pogemiller
Organizing: Brian Johnson
Teaching & Learning: Kim Littrell
Early Career Organizer: Joshua Frazier
OAEA Organizer: Robin Robinson
Communications: A.J. Stegall



Your OEA Leadership Team - Vice President Cari Elledge, President Katherine Bishop, Executive Director Carolyn Crowder, and NEA Director Zach Grimm



SCAN TO SKIP FORM AND JOIN ONLINE OR TEXT "JOIN" TO 48744

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