



2011-2012 Officers

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Words from the Prez

What a New Year! There have been a plethora of bowl games, and people making resolutions and it is time to make changes that could improve our lives. One of the changes that is taking place in Bartlesville is the proposal of a new bond issue that could bring about wonderful opportunities for our school district. The administrators of our district visited each site to talk about the benefits of the bond proposal. There are so many positive changes and so much work has been put into this bond issue that it is really an exciting time for our district. So let's show our support and voice to our community how passing the new bond issue will help out schools and students grow.

Kelli Bryant BEA President

It's Tax Time

A new year always brings in the next tax season. As you start your collection of receipts, add these numbers to your stack.

BEA Dues	\$30
OEA	\$272
NEA	\$178
Less Non-deductible portion	\$21.97
Total OEA/NEA Dues	\$428.03

Legislative Training

Have you ever wondered how the government handles our money? Or maybe how they decide the amount of money to fund education and school districts? OEA is presenting a workshop on legislative training. It will be held on Saturday January 28th from 10am – 2pm at Fulton Teaching Center 8906 E. 34th St. Tulsa, OK. Lunch will be provided. Discussion topics will be: *Show me the money... How education is funded, Change, Change, Change... What's changed, what may change, and Idea to Bill to Law... How and when to lobby.* If you are interested in attending contact Kelli Bryant @ Hoover.

BEA Scholarship

Each year BEA awards at least two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors. If you are a parent of a senior student here or elsewhere, your child is eligible for the BEA scholarship. Applications are on file at the Bartlesville High School. Forms are due in March.

Responses to Teachers Who Are Not OEA Members

Non-member teacher statement: “I have my own attorney. Besides, my homeowners insurance has protection coverage on me. Plus, isn't the school system required to carry liability on me?”

Response: You certainly have the right to use your own attorney, but you'll save a lot of time and effort by using the expertise of staff and labor attorneys who have specific knowledge about school law. Plus, you'll need to pay your attorney a lot more than the cost of one year's membership dues. Homeowner's insurance “business pursuits endorsements” pay only to the policy limit. There's no coverage for criminal acts, bail bonds, assault, and some tutoring responsibilities. Many homeowners' insurance policies have no liability coverage for civil or criminal actions. Even if you do use an attorney who represents the insurance company that homeowners' policy attorney has no expertise in school law. You might want to check into this with your insurance agent. If you should need an attorney for an employment related problem, wouldn't you want an attorney with knowledge and experience in school law? OEA provides members with well qualified attorneys at little or no cost to the member.

OEA's Advocacy Conference

The advocacy conference is coming up Feb. 17-18. It will be held at the Waterford Marriott Hotel in Oklahoma City. Rep. Scott Inman will provide the keynote address and education support professionals will be offered their own track of breakout sessions at this popular OEA event. Robb Gray, state project coordinator at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, will open the conference at 7 p.m. Friday, February 17. On Feb. 18, attendees will be offered a wide variety of breakout sessions. Contact Kelli if you are interested in attending.

Building Reps

<i>BHS</i>	<i>Belinda Buoy/Darla Tresner</i>
<i>Central</i>	<i>Cheryl Carter</i>
<i>Hoover</i>	<i>Kim Hatch/Tracy Powers</i>
<i>Jane Phillips</i>	<i>Rita Coale</i>
<i>Kane</i>	<i>Katie VanZant</i>
<i>Madison</i>	<i>Shannon McKinney</i>
<i>Mid High</i>	<i>Marty Louthan/Theresa Keller</i>
<i>Ranch Heights</i>	<i>Ashleigh Callahan/ Rachel Hough</i>
<i>Wayside</i>	<i>Erin Perry/Nancy Farmer</i>
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Loy Del Sawyer /Joy Galloway</i>