A Message from Ella...Tis the Season!

Greetings!

I remember being super excited as a first year teacher in 1992 and so eager to map out the rest of my career in Dayton Public Schools. I wanted to teach five years, pursue a graduate degree, and then apply to a doctoral program. My ultimate goal was to conduct rural and urban educational research to help with teacher retention in those communities. I had a plan!

I was able to obtain a graduate degree and was fortunate enough to begin my doctoral studies. I was living in Dayton, working in Middletown City Schools and commuting to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. I was "working on the work" (Phil Schlechty fans will recognize that phrase) and pursuing my dream of doctoral research. As a practicing administrator, I realized that my "plan" was actually moving me toward the clinical side of things and away from children. I regained my composure, returned to the classroom in 2005, and here I am 25 years later marveling at how quickly that time elapsed. Time really does fly when you're having fun.

I shared a bit of my story, but doesn't this story sound like so many other career educators? When we can see retirement just over the horizon, many of us start to wonder what to expect in this season of our career. As we reflect, our Pre Service Career (Spring) was the hustle and bustle of taking classes, field experiences and focused on student teaching. The excitement of our summer season was the beginning of our career. We were wide-eyed, full of energy, and ready to apply all that we'd learned. Fall settled in, and we had tried and true systems of application. In this season, we had a level of professional confidence. We were lending ideas about our craft and mentoring our newer colleagues. We were too preoccupied and far too busy to notice that the winter of our career had quietly arrived.

I have asked myself how I have prepared for this season. Did I take advantage of any WOEA programming or pre-retirement activities with WOEA-R to help with my Post Service Career? It didn't take me a long to realize that I had not prepared well for this season. If only I had listened to my retirement aged colleagues who obviously knew that I would remain in the profession. Fortunately for us all, winter can be a long season and perhaps just enough time to finish strong!



OEA Lobby Day - January 31, 2018

OEA Member Lobby Days provide an opportunity for OEA members to meet with state legislators to discuss key educational issues. In an effort to broaden support for public education issues and build partnerships with other public education stakeholders, we encourage you to invite parents, administrators, school board members and students to join our lobby day efforts.

Learn How to Participate

WOEA Board of Directors Positions



Below is the list of positions that are up for election at the WOEA Representative Assembly on April 10, 2018. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know other leaders and find out what is happening at the local, district, state, and national levels.

The positions for WOEA Secretary and WOEA Treasurer are two year terms beginning September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020. WOEA Area and at-Large positions are for three years

beginning September 1, 2018 and ending August 31, 2021. OEA Unit representatives also serve on the OEA Board of Directors. Their terms are three years beginning July 15, 2018 and ending July 14, 2021. The deadline to submit your declaration of candidacy is March 1, 2018 for the exception of WOEA Unit 1 which deadline is January 26, 2018.

WOEA Secretary
WOEA Treasurer
WOEA Area 2
WOEA Area 4
WOEA Unit 1
WOEA at-Large
WOEA ESP at-Large

If you are interested in running for any of the WOEA positions, send a letter of intent (below) stating the position(s) for which you are declaring yourself a candidate to WOEA at 1100 Wayne St., Suite 2522, Troy, OH 45373 or www.woea@woea.org. The deadline for filing letters of intent is March 1, 2018. If you are interested in the OEA Board of Directors position, contact Carol Price at OEA Headquarters (1-800-282-1500 ext. 3169 or pricec@ohea.org) to request a Declaration of Candidacy Form or download the form below. The OEA form must be received in Columbus no later than January 27, 2018. You must also send a copy of the completed form to WOEA.

WOEA
DECLARATION OF
CANDIDACY

OEA DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY



"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child."

NEA's Read Across America is the nation's largest event which takes place on March 2. WOEA and WOEA-R will participate in motivating children and teens to read with volunteers reading to over 1200 students in 50 classrooms within WOEA's school districts. This is a project through WOEA's Professional Efficacy Committee chaired by Kimberly Burrus. Past WOEA President and WOEA-R member, Valerie Roldan is in charge of this program.

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 | COLUMBUS, OH

JOIN US FOR A MARCH AND RALLY IN COLUMBUS AS WE STAND TOGETHER AGAINST

66 RIGHT TO WORK" BECAUSE IT'S



WRONG for working families, WRONG for Ohio and WRONG for all of us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEAREOHIO.COM/RALLY



Visit our Website

WOEA | 1100 Wayne St., Suite 2522, Troy, OH 45373 | 937.339.9509 | Fax 937-335-0323

STAY CONNECTED

