



NEWSLETTER

Beaverton Chapter #48

January 2008

Contacts:

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Proudly representing

1804

Beaverton Classified
Employees!!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome to the New Year! I hope all of you were able to spend time with family and friends. I also hope you took some time to take care of yourselves and recharge the batteries.

It is 2008 and we are back to the business at hand. This month of January is very important to the future of OSEA. Our members will be receiving their ballots in the mail from the League of Women Voters (with a return envelope included) in order to vote for the OSEA/AFT affiliation (you may have already received your ballot).

I hope all of you have taken the time to read the packets that were mailed to you in November and/or were able to attend one of the informational meetings provided to help inform and answer questions or concerns. Keep in mind we are looking to AFFILIATE with AFT. This means we would become the fifth largest local in AFT. Their classified division (the largest growing one of 5) represents almost 400,000 classified folks. With this affiliation come many resources that we now have to obtain for a fee. Do we change who we are, NO, we will still be OSEA, with the same field representatives, organizers, and State Executive Board. What this does give us, are resources to gain more on the local level, state level, and national level. In other words, MORE CLOUT. We will not only have the umbrella of an AFT national union, but we will be a part of the AFL-CIO both nationally and at the state level. We will grow much stronger and healthier with the resources that will be available to us through the AFT affiliation. Best of all, we can make this decision knowing that it is our choice and not our need. We are in the driver's seat.

I ask that each of you **vote** on this decision which affects all of us and our union. Be informed: **an informed vote is the right vote!** I look forward to seeing all of you at some time during this 2008 year.

Remember all ballots must be received at the League of Women Voters' office in Salem by 5:00 pm on February 1, 2008.

Sincerely,

Steve Specht
OSEA Chapter 48 President

Hearts and Flowers

Sympathy...
Sorrow...
Thoughts...
Memories...
Sharing....

In remembrance:

Carol Holloway, Retired HR
Brian Shreve, Merlo Station
Iris Silver, Transportation

If you know of an OSEA member or member's family who could use a card letting them know we are thinking of them, then please contact Kirk Wilkins through district e-mail, with contact information, so we can let them know they're in our thoughts.

BSD Staff Development Update

New IT opportunities for staff working with or without students and/or for personal productivity.

The Office Suite is being added to the District desktop image after February 14, 2008. IT is offering the following entry level classes:

Office: Beginning Excel for staff working w/students
Office: Beginning Excel for staff not working w/students
Office: Beginning Word for staff working w/students
Office: Beginning Word for staff not working w/students

The beginning Excel will introduce you to the menu bar, toolbars, worksheets vs workbook, rows and columns, cell formatting and print preview.

The beginning Word will introduce you to menus, the project gallery/templates, margins/tabs, show/hide invisibles, using help, spelling/grammar, click and type feature, and a few AW to work tips.

The District is happy to be able to offer these classes **free** to our BSD staff. No participant compensation. Registration is through the BSD Online registration system.

OSEA Web address:

<http://osea.org/48>

Greg Poulin/Webmaster Ridgewood Elementary

Newsletter Editor/Letty Anderson/Elmonica

January Calendar of Events

Jan 1 HOLIDAY - New Years Day
Jan 11 Portland Winterhawks vs Spokane 7:30 pm
Jan 14 Chapter 48 General Meeting 5 pm @
International School B
Jan 14 BSD School Board Meeting 6:30 @
Ridgewood
Jan 18 State OSEA Board Work Session @
Red Lion, Pendleton
Jan 19 State OSEA Board Meeting @ Red Lion,
Pendleton
Jan 21 HOLIDAY - Martin Luther King Day
Jan 22 ROSE Meeting @ Salem Office
Jan 25 Portland Trailblazers vs Houston @
Rose Garden
Jan 28 BSD School Board Work Session @ TBD
Feb 1 AFT Affiliation ballots must be received
in Salem by this date at 5 pm

BSD Staff Development Update

As we start the New Year we will be seeing several offerings on the BSD Online Registration system for classified staff. In January we will begin two sessions of Beginning Spanish being taught in 8-week sessions on Tuesdays (beginning January 8th) at Southridge High School by MaryAlice Tilles and Rosa Garcia-Kisting. Also in January we will offer training for new and substitute IA's in Autism Spectrum Disorders as well as continuing our IA Autism Work Group. January will also provide training for IA's and MA's in Strategies for Working with Sped Students. In February there will be training for our Sped bus drivers on strategies for working with Sped students and ASD students. In March we will provide training for IA's at the Elementary level in Math. Sometime in March or April we will offer an 8-week session on Continuing Spanish for those who have taken the Beginning Spanish this school year. April will bring another training for IA's (in the developmental stage). We have also been able to add training videos to our Professional Library. These videos are available to our permanent staff as well as our substitutes. During the early Spring we will be developing classes to offer during Summer Institute (last two weeks of June and one week in August) and for our New Staff Academy which will be held in August. Please read your newsletters and check the OSEA Online as well as our BSD Staff Development page for offerings for our classified staff. I hope all of you had a relaxing break and are refreshed and ready to begin this New Year.