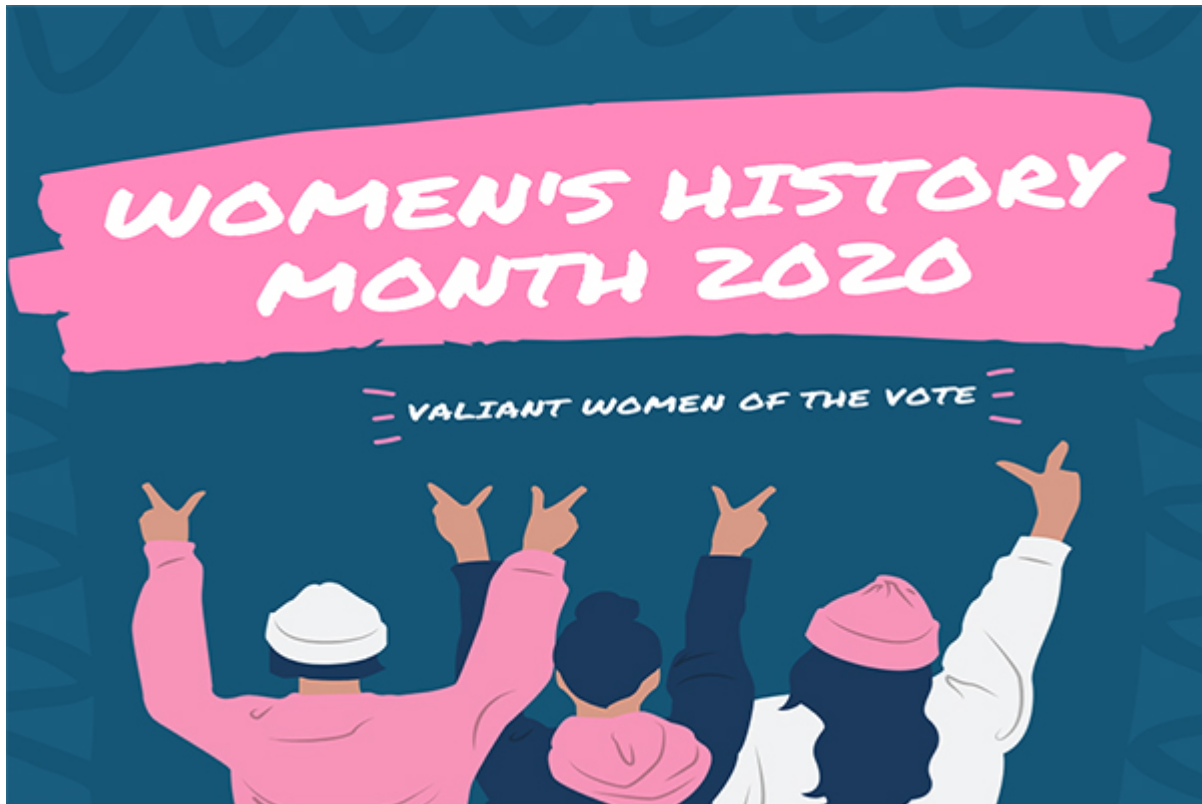


OUEA E-Newsletter, March 2020

This is an electronic e-mail complete with hyperlinks to enhance usefulness and efficiency of information.



March is Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month, when we focus on the long struggles of women for equality, safety and respect in the workplace. About 73 percent of California's teachers are women, meaning that honoring the work of teachers is most often about honoring the work of women in our classrooms. To find out more, visit: <https://www.cta.org/women>

Census 2020 (from [educationvotes.nea.org](https://www.educationvotes.nea.org))

The importance of the U.S. Census to the well-being of children and the strength of their public schools cannot be overstated. Using census data, the federal government allocates tens of billions of dollars in education funds to states and localities annually using formulas that factor in population and poverty levels.

An accurate census count is the critical first step to helping educators address the needs of every child who walks through their doors. The census count happens only once every 10 years; when we undercount young children, the consequences can last most of their childhood.

"Educators are trusted, and we can reassure others that participation in the census is safe, important, and necessary," says Utah elementary teacher and NEA President Lily Eskelsen

Garcia. "Being counted helps ensure that all communities receive their fair share of federal and state funding for schools and other critical services."

To find out more, visit: <https://educationvotes.nea.org/2019/11/01/the-2020-census-matters-for-every-student-heres-why/>

Orange County Classical Academy founders begin anti-union litigation

The founders of the Orange County Classical Academy (OCCA), the infamous [Dr. Jeffrey Barke](#) and [Mark Bucher](#) have decided to file a lawsuit with the Center for Individual Rights to challenge state law, Section 3550. That law was written to prevent employers and elected officials from interfering with union activities. Employers are to refrain from speaking in favor of, or against, unions. The law states:

3550. A public employer shall not deter or discourage public employees from becoming or remaining members of an employee organization.

This law works in conjunction with federal law. Barke and Bucher wish to be able to speak negatively about union activity without fear. We are impressed that they have time to file this lawsuit when they theoretically are starting a charter school (approved by OUSD board members Ortega, Lebsack, Ledesma, and Deligianni-Brydges). The OCCA has not publically stated their location, their director, their enrollment, their board meeting dates, their teaching staff, nor much of anything else.

OUEA will continue to monitor this partnership that these current four board members have entered with Barke and Bucher. This decision made last [December](#) by these four board members will potentially cost OUSD over \$12 million dollars a year.

TK Teachers- meeting

TK teachers, we would like to hear from you. OUEA leadership wants to hear about what is going well and what are some challenges you are facing. [OUEA](#) is hosting a meeting on Thursday, March 19th from 3:30pm - 5:00pm. We hope to see you then!

OUEA Solidarity- Tee-Shirt Thursdays

We wear our OUEA Tee-shirts on Thursdays. March and April is when bargaining can get intense as conversations begin to revolve around salary and benefits. Now is the time to show strength. It may seem like a small thing, but wearing your shirt does show unity to administration and the community. We encourage you to not only wear your shirt with pride, but send pictures to socialmedia@ouea.org.

If you do not already have a shirt, please e-mail our Office Manager at: admin@ouea.org.

OUSD Board of Education Meeting Thursday, March 16th

This month's school board meeting occurs while we are still negotiating a contract. While the process is continuing in good faith, we encourage you to show your support by attending the school board meeting on March 16th, wearing your OUEA shirt. The Bargaining Team always can use the support, and the school board often measure the strength of a group by who is in

the room. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm, we don't expect you to stay for the whole meeting. Call OUEA if you have any questions at 714.288.1288.

Rep Council of February 24th, 2020

The following sites were represented at our February meeting: Anaheim Hills, California, Cambridge, Canyon Rim, Chapman Hills, Crescent, Esplanade, Fairhaven, Fletcher, Handy, Imperial, Jordan, Lampson, La Veta, Linda Vista, McPherson, Nohl Canyon, Olive, Palmyra, Panorama, Prospect, Running Springs, Serrano, Sycamore, Taft, VAPA, Cerro Villa MS, Portola MS, Yorba MS, El Modena HS, Orange HS, Richland HS, Villa Park HS, Alt Ed, Canyon Hills, Media Specialists, Mental Health Counselors, Secondary Counselors, School Psychologists, Nurses, Speech and Language Pathologists, and Pre-K.

Only six sites did not have a site representative at the February meeting, those sites were: Canyon HS, Villa Park ES, West Orange ES, Santiago MS, El Rancho Charter, and the District Office.

If you are interested in being a site rep or being more involved, please call the OUEA Office and ask how!

NEA RA State Election

Site reps are conducting elections for state delegates to the NEA RA. Please see your site rep to read through the candidacy statements and complete a ballot scantron. Voting is from March 9th-13th.

OUEA General Election

Site reps are conducting the election for OUEA Executive positions: Elementary Segment Director, Special Segment Director, and two seats for CTA State Council. Candidate statements will be sent out to sites March 9th, and voting will be from March 17th-March 25th. Support our democratic traditions and see your site rep to vote.

Weingarten Rights

As a union member, you should be aware of your Weingarten Rights. You may read the following script if meeting with an administrator if you feel it is disciplinary in any way.

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my union representative, officer, or steward be present at this meeting. Until my representative arrives, I choose not to participate in this discussion."

Social Media

Follow us on Instagram at [#oueastrong](#)

Follow us on Facebook at [OUEA](#)

OUEA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30-5:00
Friday 8:30-4:00
Office closed March 30-April 3

In Solidarity,

Greg Goodlander

President, Orange Unified Education Association

French Teacher, Orange High School

president@ouea.org

714.288.1288

This is intended for members of the Orange Unified Education Association. If you wish to unsubscribe, e-mail us at admin@ouea.org