

OPTA NEWS

February 2022



Check out
www.opta97.com
for contact info,
resources, links &
more.

President's Report

Middle School teachers, please check your personal email on February 16, 2022 for an email from IEA containing a survey related to scheduling and a few other topics. This survey is entirely anonymous. Please refrain from completing the survey on D97 devices or using the D97 wifi. In addition, please refrain from completing the survey during your contractual hours. The survey will remain open until February 23, 2022. Your input and feedback are important to us. This email is separate from the survey sent by D97.

All teachers, initial communications regarding tenured teacher evaluations should have been received from D97. Additional communications about non-tenured teacher evaluations are forthcoming.

Bargaining Team Updates

After meeting with the facilitator and the Board for three bargaining sessions and reviewing two interests, it has become clear that IBB (interest based bargaining) is not suited to this particular contract negotiation. Our third-party facilitator has required a transition to Modified Traditional Bargaining (MTB) moving forward.

The Negotiations Support Team is in need of a member or members to represent Beye. Please email Stephanie Suerth directly at ssuerth.iea@gmail.com if you would be interested in working to support our members at Beye.

In Other News

Elections - Upcoming elections for NEA RA delegates (summer) will be held on March 1.

Communications - We encourage everyone to follow us on Facebook both our [public](#) and [private](#) pages. Please participate in our [Membership Spotlight](#) series for our public OPTA Facebook page.

IPACE/ Membership - First dinners with Board of Education members took place with some hiccups. We are hopefully about the next dinners in March.

Board of Education Meetings - Public Comment - At our October Membership Mania, five members of the BOE came to meet with our membership. They spoke about wanting to hear from our members more about their experiences in the school buildings. Please consider sharing via email. The board will read aloud all public comments received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. To submit a public comment, please email d97board@op97.org with the subject, "Public Comment." Your message must include your first and last name in order to be read aloud.

Important Dates/ Upcoming Events

March 10 - Association Reps (Zoom)
March 14 - Ed Council (Zoom)
March 15 - Executive Board (Zoom)
March 15 - Board of Education (Zoom)
March 26 - April 3 - Spring Break
April 4 - Ed Council (Zoom)
April 5 - Executive Board (Zoom)
April 7 - Association Reps (Zoom)
April 12 - Board of Education (Zoom)
April 26 - Board of Education (Zoom)



*Please use a personal device/email to log into session via Zoom. Links can be found on www.opta97.com under Member Resources. Contact Adrienne Court or Stephanie Suerth (communications@opta97.com) for the password.