

OPTA

NEWS

March 2022



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

President's Report

Middle School Survey - We did not have enough participation to move forward with presenting to the D97 admin. We do not know what they intend to do with the data gathered from their survey.

OPTA Shirt - Initial link sent via email and facebook to collect information about t-shirt size. We received 239 responses in the first wave. We'll be asking Association Reps to try for the second wave of gathering shirt sizes.

Sped Workload - The bargaining team has reached out to Exec about there being an annual review. Donna Middleton has agreed to do this work in the summer. Any member who might be interested in participating should contact Donna Middleton directly.

Committees - We need people to help OPTA by chairing and participating on committees. If the same people continue to stretch to get work done, members may miss out on opportunities. Planning on completing an OPTA 101 type event to help inform the membership.

IEA RA - Delegates are continuing to receive communications about the event. The dates are April 8-9.

Bargaining Team Updates

We are still in process. There are no tentative agreements to report. Our team has continued to meet weekly to plan and prep, and we continue to bargain almost every week as well.

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 - Spring election will be held on May 19. Nominations are due by April 28. The following positions (2 years terms) are available: Member-at-Large on Exec, Ethnic Minority Rep on Exec, 2 Region 46 Reps on Exec & Region Council, Association Reps for Beye, Brooks, Holmes, Lincoln, Whittier, and Ed Council Reps for Hatch, Irving, Julian, Longfellow, Mann, Minority-at-Large, and

Special Education. Please email nominations to Gabby Rosenblum at gabeuph74@mac.com

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.

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.