
Oroville Secondary Teachers Association

TEACHER TALK

<http://www.ostahome.org>

All articles are submitted by OSTA unit members. Submit them to
Larry Cobbler at LPHS e-mail lcobbler@ouhsd.org or Linda Draper at LPHS e-mail ldraper@ouhsd.org

February 8, 2008

OSTA - CTA - NEA

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Executive Board for 2007-2008

(Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at The Depot Restaurant at 3:30 PM)

President	Larry Cobbler (LP)	Vice-President	Steve King (O)	Secretary	Leanna Felardo (O)
Treasurer	Steve Wolf (O)	Policy	Rodger Townsend (O)	Political Action.....	Lisa Avila (LP)
Research.....	Shane Walter (LP)	Publicity.....	Cobbler & Draper (LP)	LPHS Site Rep.....	Vaughn & Bacior (LP)
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Board Rep.	Bret Lawson (LP)	Negotiator 07-09.....	Steve King (O)	Negotiator 06-08 (H) ..	Scott Martin (PHS)
Negotiator 07-09	Teisha Hase (O)	Negotiator 06-08.....	Erika Hughes (LP)	Negotiator 06-08.....	Nannette Walker (LP)

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE – LARRY COBBLER

The district has issued a statement that OSTA unit members will be receiving a 1.3% increase in their February 2008 paychecks.

An Unfair Labor Practice charge as been filed with the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) for bargaining an early retirement incentive with individual unit members and not the bargaining team. We will also be filing another Unfair Labor Practice charge based on the regressive bargaining of the district from November thru February of 2008.

GRIEVANCES – BY LARRY COBBLER

OSTA has filed a Level 2 Grievance with the district as we feel the implementation of a 1.3% salary increase violates the ratified agreement and that the formula contained in the agreement was not properly applied.

In an e-mail sent on Feb. 5 (minimum day) on behalf of the site principal, “Due to the snow, if you need to leave early today, according to contract you may do so and the 1/2 day will be charged to your personal necessity.” An informal grievance was filed and a resolution agreed upon that follows the contract stating partial day leaves, less than three periods, would be deducted by .2 for one period or .4 for two periods missed.

On Friday Feb. 1, the Oroville High School principal sent an e-mail to the entire staff regarding a parent complaint on how some teachers are using Parent Connect. Teachers’ names were included in the e-mail the principal sent. An informal grievance was filed, and we are waiting to see if the grievance has been solved.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2008 – BY NANNETTE WALKER

I would like to nominate Tami Taylor for Teacher of the Month for February. Tami has taught Health and Driver's Education forever! For just teaching freshmen health, Tami should get combat pay! She has been an outstanding teacher in a difficult subject matter. I subbed for her one time and vowed I would never do another health class, ever!

Tami is amazing to watch. She has a commanding presence over her freshmen. She is calm and sweet, yet never loses her control of her class. I give hats off to all freshmen teachers, and especially those who teach Health and Driver's Education. What else can you say!

I highly recommend Tami Taylor for Teacher of the Month.

FRIEND OF EDUCATION FOR FEBRUARY 2008 – BY NANNETTE WALKER

I would like to nominate Carmen Hironomus and the Oroville Mercury Register for FOE for February. She allowed us to use their meeting room free of charge when we were editing the By-Laws for OSTA. The entire staff was super friendly and helpful. They made sure the temperature was adequate and our needs were met. Any questions we had were answered with a smile!

I would like to take the time to thank them for their kindness and hospitality. It was such a pleasure to be in a quiet, professional atmosphere to do OSTA business.

UPDATING OSTA BYLAWS – BY LARRY COBBLER

The by-laws revision committee consisting of Rodger Townsend, Michael Caratenuto, Susan Hoopes, Nannette Walker, Scott Martin, and Larry Cobbler is hoping to have the final draft ready for executive board approval soon. Then the by-laws will go to the general membership for a vote. After they have been approved, they go to CTA for approval or corrections. If corrections are needed, the committee will see they are completed and returned to the general membership for approval. Then again, back to CTA for their approval.

ANOTHER FUTURE OSTA UNIT MEMBER IS AMONG US – BY LARRY COBBLER

We have another future OSTA unit member among us. OSTA site representative for Oroville Adult School, Susan Hoopes, has announced the birth of a new granddaughter. Rylee Madison Hoopes was born January 17, 2008 at 8:17 PM, weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz., and was 20 3/4 inches long. The picture below is at two weeks. She has already grown 1/4 inch. Congratulations, Grandma!



TELL IT TO TEACHER TALK

This is your chance to express yourself anonymously. Names will not be published unless requested. Comments can be positive or negative in nature. However, this will require your time to e-mail Larry Cobbler at lcobbler@ouhsd.org or Linda Draper at ldraper@ouhsd.org. Please take the time to send comments about any union topic you wish, or you can share thoughts on any topic of interest to other teachers.

- ✓ No comments for publishing this month

OSTA WEBSITE ADDRESS - BY LARRY COBBLER

You can now find all kinds of OSTA information at the OSTA web site: www.ostahome.org. Larry Cobbler, our OSTA president, is the webmaster.

UNIT MEMBER COMMUNICATION - BY LARRY COBBLER

All unit members need to communicate with each other and follow the contract. Grievances need to be pursued whether you as an individual agree or disagree with the issue. There are also timelines that need to be followed in the grievance process. If we all try to do a better job of communicating, we might resolve issues sooner.

OSTA NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION FOR 2007-2008 – BY LARRY COBBLER

This issue of the OSTA's TEACHER TALK newsletter was distributed by e-mail. If you did not receive it, send me an e-mail (lcobbler@ouhsd.org) with your name, school, and correct e-mail address you wish to use. Past issues of OSTA's TEACHER TALK newsletter may also be viewed at www.ostahome.org.