

# Akron Association of Classified Personnel

Issue 4, April 2021

## Greetings, AACP Members:

Happy spring, everyone!!!

There is something about this time of the year that brings about happiness. Hopefully, everyone has had a joyful Easter Resurrection Sunday and has enjoyed having some time off.

We seem to be slowly getting back to a sense of normalcy. We feel a little bit more comfortable as more people are getting vaccinated. However, please don't let your guard down; we are not in the clear yet. Continue to mask up when in public areas.

I wanted to alert you to some unauthorized emails or mailings you could receive. One is an email from our State President, Scott DiMauro, asking you to purchase gift cards for veterans in hospice care. These are not from Scott. Please do not respond. Another one is a mailing to encourage you to be anti-union. Being a part of our union does have its benefits. If you ask why we are in the union, the objective of our union is to ensure fair wages, benefits and better working conditions for our members.

It is time for our 2021-23 Elections. We have the following positions open

President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, (2)Admin. Bldg. Rep, (2) Elementary Rep, Middle School Rep, High School Rep.

Please send in your nominations no later than April 16. Our election will take place sometime in May. You are encouraged to step up and nominate yourself or others.

The search is on for our next School Superintendent. We are down to 4 candidates, and they plan to make a decision before the end of April. There are three forums of interviews -- Community Partners, Staff and Community, and Family. I will be involved with the staff forum. Interviews will take place April 12-14. Tune in to the APS YouTube channel and watch live at 8:45 a.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

We are now into the home stretch of closing down another school year. We have had some ups and some downs returning back to our work stations. The strength, sacrifice and compassion we have for our students has brought us together as we continue to go through this pandemic. Just know we are all in this together.

Thanks for all that you do, and feel free to reach out to me at any time. Remember, individually we are one drop; but together, we are the ocean. So let's make waves!!!

With respect and gratitude,

*Rhonda Ferguson, AACP President*



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## Self-Care

### RX

Akron Association of Classified  
Personnel and Ohio Education  
Association, Akron, Ohio

### PRESCRIPTION

Name: AACP Members  
Address: 123 Spring Forward  
Date: March 2021

Sunshine 100 mg  
Spring Clean 100 mg  
Treat Yourself 100 mg

SIG: AACP



## Welcome, New/Returning/ Reassigned Members

AACP welcomes new, returning or reassigned members:

- Patricia Russell, Teaching and Learning
- Sedonia Poole, Mason CLC
- Shelia Thomas, Kenmore-Garfield High School

## Message of Sympathy

In such uncertain times, we are certain to support and remember our AACP members as well as the families extending from them.

Thoughts, sympathy and condolences to: Nancy Scalia's family (retired from Innes CLC) and Deb Price's family (on the passing of her grandfather).

## AACP Collection for the Haven of Rest

AACP will be collecting men's items for the haven of rest. They are asking for men's items only: toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair brushes, men's body wash, men's soap, Vaseline, men's socks, men's T-shirts, etc. Ask for full-size products only. Items can be forwarded to Rhonda Ferguson, Administration Building, fourth floor.

## For New AACP Members



## Open Letter to Department of Education and State Governments

Our students have been through so much this year, and they need our full support for their learning and social and emotional well-being. The last thing they need is to take a stressful, ineffective standardized test.

**Sign our open letter to the Department of Education and state governments to cancel standardized testing during the pandemic.**

There will be nothing standard about how standardized testing is administered this year. These high-stakes tests have never been valid or reliable measures of what students know and are able to do, and they are especially unreliable now that they cannot be administered safely or with any consistency. In the end, the data that comes back will be incomplete and deeply flawed. But some will try to punish students and educators based on the results.

We need the U.S. Department of Education and states to grant relief from state-wide standardized tests this year.

In one of the most stressful and traumatic educational years of our lives, why would we put our students and schools through more stress — all for information we cannot use and for data that won't come back until long after the school year has ended?

There is better data available to us. We can use a combination of students and family surveys and local, teacher-developed assessments so we can all better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on learning with information that is meaningful and personal to our students and schools.

For the sake of our students, let's cancel the tests.

In solidarity,

Becky Pringle  
President  
National Education Association

## NEOEA Appointments to OEA Committees

### NEOEA Appointments to OEA Committees

As a member-directed organization, the Ohio Education Association relies on volunteer efforts to guide its work. For that purpose, it maintains a number of appointive bodies; these are uncompensated positions, but OEA pays expenses. To identify potential members of these groups, OEA relies on recommendations from district associations and other groups within OEA. As a district association, NEOEA recommends members to OEA for standing committees<sup>1</sup> and core function committees<sup>1</sup>, and makes its own appointments to three district screening councils.

To be considered for an NEOEA recommendation, applicants should fill out the following application and attach a letter identifying their experience with the work of the body to which they are applying. Since experiences relevant to the work of one group may not be relevant to another, please fill out separate applications if you are interested in more than one position. Applications will be kept on file and considered as vacancies become available.

### Application: OEA Committees

Applicant			
Membership status:	Active	Student	Retired
Address			
City/State/ZIP			
Local Association (full name, please)			
Cell phone			
Work phone			
E-mail address			
OEA Standing Committees	Convention Planning Committee		
	Legislative Committee		
	Resolutions Committee		
OEA Committees	Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy		
	Human and Civil Rights		
	Local Development and Training		
	Organizing Strategy		
	Professional Efficacy		
OEA-R House District Screening Committee Representative		For House District _____	
District Screening Councils	NE-1: all SDs 13 & 28; SD 27, HDs 37-38; HD 69		
	NE-2: all SD 21; all SD 23; all SD 24; all SD 25		
	NE-3: all SD 18; all SD 32; SD 33, HDs 58-59		

Mail to: NEOEA, OEA Appointments, 6001 Landerhaven Drive, Suite D, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124-4190 or email to [desk@neoea.org](mailto:desk@neoea.org). For questions, please call 216.518.0200 or 800.354.6794. For a Word®-fillable form, use [www.neoea.org/OEAappointment.rtf](http://www.neoea.org/OEAappointment.rtf).

<sup>1</sup>OASNP, Women's Caucus, DLAMC, the OEA ESP Association, the Ohio Student EA, and the OEA Higher Education Division also make recommendations to these groups.



## OEA Wellness Wednesdays

OEA

# WELLNESS Wednesdays COPING WITH COVID

## 2021 VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

- **February 24: Virtual Sip & Paint**

Grab a glass of wine or a mocktail and join us with CEA Art Teacher, Annelise Taggart, for some relaxing painting fun!

Register Here: <https://bit.ly/OEASipandPaint>

- **March 24: Guiding the Gatekeepers**

LRCs Shelli Jackson & Deb Maynard share tips for trauma recognition and making connections to the right resources.

Register Here: <http://bit.ly/OEAGuidingGatekeepers>

- **March 31: Help the Helpers Circle**

Wraparound services members (school counselors, social workers, psychologists, and nurses) should sign up and join this unique discussion group to connect with colleagues and discuss unique issues facing this specialized group.

Register Here: <http://bit.ly/OEAHelpHelpers>

- **April 28: Let's Get Physical!**

Get Motivated, Get Fit & Grab Some Friends to Join Your Team! Join us for tips on getting fit and to kick-off our Run Motivators Virtual Races and Challenges! Fun & Prizes!

Register Here: <http://bit.ly/OEAGetPhysical>

- **May 26: DeStress Disco Bash!!**

Come and DeStress! All we can say is..there will be a DJ!!!!!! Join us for this Party of Fun!

Register Here: <http://bit.ly/OEADeStressDisco>

**\*All programs  
6 PM to 7 PM**

**\*Advanced  
registration  
required**

**\*Prizes for 1st  
25 to Sign Up  
AND Show Up**



## Save the Date: AACP Celebration

