

OEA-Retired October News Brief by Kathleen Purdy, OEA-Retired Representative on the Advisory Council

OEA-R Fall Virtual Conference (September 30 -October 21)

Racial Justice in Education 101 is the 4-week, 90-minute Conference sessions being held for a future Racial Justice Task Force for retirees. Participation is a prerequisite for consideration on being a member on the Task Force. Grounding Our Understanding to Effectively Talk about Race and Racial Justice is the topic conducted by two NEA members, Hilario Benzon and David Coleman from the NEA Center of Social Justice. After each session, we have an opportunity for a Personal Reflection, so we take a few minutes to reflect on that day's learning experience.

- What affirmed your understanding?
- What challenged your understanding?
- What questions might you still have?

NBIA: Safe, Just, and Equitable Schools was adopted by Delegates at the RA. Our moderators asked What would a great public school **look** like, **feel** like and **sound** like to begin the process? In our first breakout session, we were partnered to share our story of our early experience with race. 1. How racially diverse were your experiences growing up? 2. What message(s) did you get about race from these experiences? 3. When/How did you first realize that races are treated differently in society? This work is very difficult, but necessary, for NBIA.

Doris L. Allen Minority Caucus – President Tai Hayden

The DLAMC Executive Committee Meeting was held virtually on Saturday, October 9, 2021. We are creating a Lifetime Membership category under the guidance of Robin Jefferies, the DLAMC Vice President. Further details will be shared at the Fall OEA Representative Assembly.

OEA Minority Leadership Training Program held virtually

Running for Office: Tools for Success
October 22-23, 2021

I am continuing to reach out by phone and follow up with OEA-Retired postcards thanking our ECOEA Retirees for being members. The Roster is arranged by Age in alphabetical order. I have been instructed to begin with our most senior members (98) to the youngest (48). Members that I have been able to speak with are very appreciative of the calls.

Holiday Safety Tips

1. If traveling, set timers for lights in your home to go on at different times. Let a neighbor know you are going out of town. Make it look like you're home!
2. Also, if traveling, do not post pictures on social media while you're away from home. Doing so gives thieves an open invitation to your home. Post pictures when you return.
3. Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
4. Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, criminals may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

Joke for the Month

Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day.

Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years!

Have a spooky Halloween! Stay Safe! Kathleen Purdy, ecoeavp@yahoo.com 330.257.9913