



Action Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 2432, OKC 73101

Investing in ~~Testing~~ Kids

**A Call to Action
for the Candidates for
State Superintendent
of Education**

*Henry J. Freede Wellness Center
Oklahoma City University*

Sunday, June 8, 2014 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

During today's accountability session, please include the hashtag #voiceokc in all your social media messages (Twitter/Instagram/Facebook). Follow Voice on Twitter: @voiceokc.

Pre-Meeting: Lela Odom, OEA, and Pastor Theodis Manning, Divine Wisdom Worship Center

Call to Order: Co-Chairs Rachel Brown, OEA
Sam Wargin, Latino Community Development Agency

Opening Prayer: Rev. Jim Gragg, Epworth UMC

Pledge: Children of First Unitarian Church

Roll Call: Nick Singer, First Unitarian Church, and and Jene Cheek, Joy Mennonite Church

Focus: Pastor Ray Douglas, Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church, and Rev. Lori Allen Walke, Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ

Stories:

Melodie Garneau, Taft Middle School
Uriel Alvarez, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
Emily Sewell, Mayflower Congregational UCC
Ruben Aragon, Latino Community Development Agency

Questions for Candidates:

Heather Sparks, Taft MS, and Pastor James Dorn, Progressive Baptist Network
Timekeeper: Dianne Wigley, St. Eugene Catholic Church

Scorecard: Tammy Greenman, First Unitarian Church
Invited Candidates:

John Cox (D)	Janet Barresi (R)
Freda Deskin (D)	Joy Hofmeister (R)
Jack Herron (D)	Brian Kelly (R)
Ivan Holmes (D)	

Next Steps: Linda Hampton, OEA
Suzanne Nichols, Church of the Open Arms

Sending Forth: Dan Short, Mustard Seed Development Corporation
Fr. Michael Chapman, Holy Angels

Adjournment: Co-Chairs

Thank you to all of the co-chairs of our action teams.

Candidate Outreach

Co-chairs: Heather Sparks, Taft Middle School, and Cynthia Cox,
St. Charles Borromeo

Data Team

Co-chairs: Tammy Greenman, First Unitarian, and Rachel
Brown, OEA

Floor Team Melodie Garneau, Taft Middle School

Music Rachel Foreman, Divine Wisdom Worship Center

Parking David Williams, OEA, and Joe Meinhart, OCU

Press Team

Co-Chairs: Tom Peryman, First Unitarian, and Dawn Jones, OEA

Special thanks to:

Program: Donna Compton, Church of the Open Arms, Jonalu Johnstone,
First Unitarian Church, and Bruce Treadaway, OEA.

Special thanks to our program sponsors, and choirs from First Unitarian
Church and Divine Wisdom Worship Center.

Elements of a Quality School -- Based on

Based on data collected from teachers, parents, and community members from all across the state, the following are the things that people say would matter in the assessment of a quality school. How does your community's school measure up?

My community school/district's...

FUNDING

Class sizes are in compliance with state regulations, no exceptions or loopholes (1:20 for elementary schools, 1:140/6 hours for middle/high schools).

Teacher compensation meets or exceeds the regional average (current regional average: \$47,157, Oklahoma average: \$44,373).

Actively works to retain quality teachers and administrators.

Textbooks and teaching materials are consistently adopted every 5 years.

Number of counselors meets state requirements (1:450 or prorated amount for schools with less than 250 students). Counselors are available for college/career planning and mental health services—not just scheduling and test coordinating.

Support staff includes at least one nurse and social worker.

Adequate numbers of custodians and cafeteria personnel.

Adequate bilingual personnel for parent/guardian communication.

Students and teachers have regular access to up-to-date classroom technology (computers, Smart Boards, hand held devices, projectors, etc.).

Campus has adequate teachers and resources for students with exceptionalities.

TESTING

Results from benchmark and testing data is used to guide instruction rather than label and punish students/teachers.

Testing results are received in a timely manner.

Feedback Given in VOICE Presentations

Testing procedures include exemptions for ELL students, emergencies, and trauma.

Remediation/intervention programs are timely, effective, and properly funded.

CURRICULUM

Offers a variety of fine art, music, theater, and performance arts classes/activities.

Offers physical education classes/activities in addition to athletics, general health, and

Students have several opportunities to participate in field trips and hands on learning activities.

Curriculum is geared to a “whole child” approach to instruction/learning rather than primarily focused on test subjects/scores.

Curriculum includes civics and character education (life skills).

Curriculum teaches students to think critically.

Extracurricular activities accommodate for diversity within the student body.

SCHOOL CLIMATE

Campus is safe/secure, and proper guest check in/out procedures are strictly enforced.

Teaching staff includes many teachers with advanced degrees and/or National Board certification.

Offers a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved with student’s education/activities.

Administrators, teachers, parents, and community communicate openly and effectively with one another.

Offers opportunities for community outreach (partnerships, tutoring programs, etc.).

Candidate Scorecard

Candidate Scorecard – Use this to keep track of the candidates’ answers, Questions 1-3

Candidate	Question 1: using testing to measure individual student progress.	Question 2: More funding for supplies, teacher pay, and smaller classrooms. How?	Question 3: How to restore a love of learning to the classroom.
Democrats			
John Cox			
Freda Deskin			
Jack Herron			
Ivan Holmes			
Republicans			
Janet Costello Bar-			
Joy Hofmeister			
Brian Kelly			

Candidate Scorecard – Use this to keep track of the candidates’ answers, Questions 4-6

Candidate	Question 4: Testing companies. How would you handle complaints?	Question 5: Would you do away with labeling schools with A – F letters?	Question 6: Would you move away from basing school assessments on testing?
Democrats			
John Cox			
Freda Deskin			
Jack Herron			
Ivan Holmes			
Republicans			
Janet Costello Bar-resi			
Joy Hofmeister			
Brian Kelly			

VOICE is non-partisan and does not support or endorse candidates. But we can urge you to vote!

Election Information:

Primary Election is June 24, 2014.

Run-off Primary Election (if needed) is August 26, 2014.

General Election is November 4, 2014.

Voters may cast an absentee ballot in person at the county election board office from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday before all elections. For state and federal elections only, in-person absentee voting also is available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

If you need additional information about absentee voting by mail, go to http://www.ok.gov/elections/Absentee_Voting/About_Absentee_Voting/index.html



Teacher Grant Program



Deadline July, 2014

**For information,
or to apply,
find us online at:
oecu.com**

Phone 405-720-5227

Standardized Assessment in Oklahoma: Essential Questions



**A Child Is
More Than A
Test Score!**

OEA
Oklahoma Education Association
putting education first.
www.okea.org 405.528.7785

SOCIAL WORK:
courage, hope & leadership



**National Association
of Social Workers
Oklahoma Chapter**



Drawing on their deepest sense of mission, congregations, non-profits, schools, and unions have formed VOICE as a leadership development and training institute. VOICE gives their members the tools they need to work with public officials and the business community on issues that face their families, neighborhoods, and schools. VOICE membership is open only to institutions and not to individuals. VOICE member institutions commit to developing a leadership team; taking non-partisan, political action; and paying an annual dues. For more information, please contact Kristen King, lead organizer, at (405)613-3621.

Important Dates:

Action Evaluation (OKC) Thursday, June 26, 4 - 5:30 p.m., Greater Mt Olive Baptist Church, NE 42nd and Kelley
Action Evaluation (Tulsa) Tuesday, June 17, 7 p.m., Fellowship Congregational United Church of Christ

Training to learn how to give high-stakes testing presentation: Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

To register, please go to our web site, voiceokc.org/education.html

Action Teams Meeting Days, Locations, and Times:

Immigration Action Team First Thursdays, 7 p.m., Holy Angels Catholic Church
Health Care Action Team First Mondays, 4 p.m., First Unitarian Church of OKC
Prison Justice Action Team Second Mondays, 7 p.m., Divine Wisdom Worship Center
Education Action Team Third Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Taft Middle School, Temp Room A

Transportation Action Team Third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Leland Clegg United Methodist Church

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1560191200874345/?context=create&source=49>

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Check out our web site at www.voiceokc.org

Call us at (405)613-3621