



OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

How Oklahoma Teachers can Address the Problems Faced by a
General Lack of Support for Public Education

"We
can't
afford
that!"

"People don't even
understand what all
teachers do!"

**"We don't have
TIME for that!"**

"I can't teach my
students to read,
when they come to
school **HUNGRY!**"

"No one cares
enough to
help us!"

"My students are too concerned
with where their next MEAL is
coming from; they can't focus
on doing their homework!"

"Legislators are so
out of touch with
the reality of our
situation, it's not
even funny!"

THE "MOP" AS A SYMBOL OF EDUCATION CHALLENGES IN OKLAHOMA

- A mop is **DIRTY**. It's infested with germs, dirt, and muck.
- But a mop can also help **CLEAN** things if used correctly.
- Problems associated with public education in Oklahoma are **DIRTY**.
- By taking **advantage** of possible solutions, we can help "**CLEAN UP**" Oklahoma education!



OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGES

M

Money Matters:

- No classroom budgets
- Outdated technology
- Outdated textbooks
- Decreased budgets
- Cuts to extra curriculars
- No money for "extras"
- Confusion about LOTTERY
- TEACHER PAY

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Outsider Opinions:

- Don't understand teachers' jobs
- Don't understand the TRUE hours we work
- Think our pay reflects the "short" hours and summers off
- "Us vs. Them" mentality
- Unaware of TRUE struggles
- Negative news stories

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Parental Problems:

- Incarceration
- Little money for food
- Little money for clothing
- Instability in home
- Single parents w/little help
- No money for SUPPLIES
- Inability to provide cultural experiences



HOW DO WE ADDRESS THESE
CHALLENGES???

MONEY MATTERS:

WAYS TO ADDRESS

Quick & Easy

- *Local "Wants and Needs" Facebook Page*
- *Personal Social Media*
- *Local Businesses*
- *PTA*
- *Feed the Children Teacher Store*

Moderate Effort

- *DonorsChoose.org*
- *District Foundation Grant*
- *Reflex Math grant*

Complex

- *Corporate Grants*
 - *OG&E grant*
 - *Devon Science Giants Grant*

OUTSIDER OPINIONS:

WAYS TO ADDRESS

Quick & Easy

- *Personal Social Media posts*

Moderate Effort

- *Invite Legislators to sites*

Complex

- *Building Communication Reps*

PARENTAL “PROBLEMS”:

WAYS TO ADDRESS

Quick & Easy

- *Various drives for student needs.*
- *Backpacks for Kids (already in place, look to expand)*

Moderate Effort

- *Utilizing community resources and agencies.*

Complex

- *Writing Grants for student needs*

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

MONEY MATTERS

- **Make-and-take grant-writing PD**
- Funding idea flyer
- Create a link to our district website for teacher funding resources

OUTSIDER OPINIONS

- **Building Communication Reps:**
 - OK with HR?
 - 1 per school
 - 1 event per month
 - Positive stories

PARENTAL PROBLEMS

- **Time for a “Parent Town Hall” at each regular board meeting**
- Consolidated school event calendar for district admin or website

DISTRICT LEADERS:

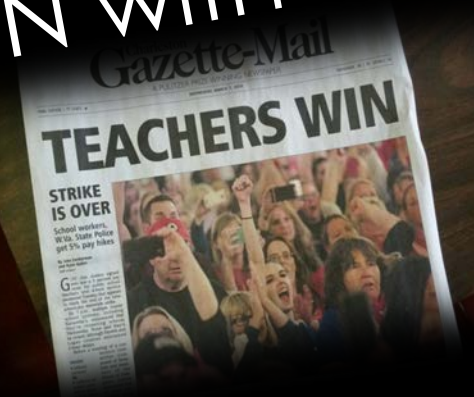
Stand WITH us!



Fight FOR us!



WIN with us!





Questions?

WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR GROUP?

- Virtual Meetings on our own time once per month?
- Half day PD once per quarter...district provided sub?
- Email group to contact for advice and assistance



THANK YOU!