

August 28, 2006

Message from the Executive Director

The 2006-07 school year is under way and so is your OCASA. During the summer we finalized our participation in the Florida Association of School Administrators (FASA's) Political Action Committee by forming the OCASA Committee of Continuing Existence (CCE). We are now prepared to support the political candidates that support our educational issues. Last week, Jim Warford, the FASA Executive Director stated, **“the Florida Legislature believes teachers and school-based administrators are the most respected/reliable voices regarding educational issues.”** We need to capitalize on this opportunity and insure that the paramount issues are clearly defined and communicated.

The Superintendent continues to support the efforts of OCASA representing all four levels of school-based administrators (Elementary, Middle, Senior High and Technical & Adult Centers). He encourages our meetings with Executive Cabinet members to discuss issues that effect all administrators in OCPS. Dr. Pratt, Dr. Jenkins and the Area Superintendents have shown great interest in the OCASA issues and have supported our efforts to conduct research on salary, benefits, etc. to help OCPS stay competitive for attracting and maintaining the best school-based administrators in Florida.

OCASA is gearing-up for the 2007 Legislative Session by reviewing our priorities and identifying new ones. We are also working with Scott Howat, Director of Legislative & Congressional Relations for OCPS to maintain continuity with OCPS issues. FASA will soon be surveying all school-based administrators to determine new issues important to you and get your opinion on existing ones. Your input is critical if we are to address the concerns that will provide maximum support for your difficult job. If you are not a member of OCASA, please join today. Remember, FASA is our statewide umbrella organization and we encourage your consideration joining it as well.

OCASA appreciates the great leadership we had last year from our OCASA President Susan Storch, Principal at Cypress Creek High School. She will be staying on the board as our Immediate Past President to provide continuity and continued expertise. We are already enjoying the leadership of our new President Dr. Patricia Ramsey-Baney, Principal at Whispering Oak Elementary. Pat has us organized and prepared for a very productive year.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at 321.228.1731 or clarkb1@earthlink.net.