

The Voice

Rhonda Johnson, President

cea

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Columbus Education Association

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CEA awards college scholarships

The Columbus Education Association is proud to help our members whose children attend college. Our Members Scholarship Foundation, now 11 years old, provides tuition assistance for seniors in colleges, universities or other post-secondary institutions.

As of this year, we have awarded 458 members' children more than \$259,000 in scholarships. Here are the latest recipients of the \$500 scholarship award:

Member	Member Building	Student	College	Member	Member Building	Student	College
Linda D. Allen	Marion-Franklin HS	SamMeko D Whiteside	The Ohio State University	Diane E. Mueller	Easthaven ES	Joseph S Mueller	Indiana University
Valerie D. Altfater	NPSS Tutors/Shepard Ctr	Joel D Altfater	The Ohio State University	Donna J. Nadalin	East Linden ES	Jessica A Nadalin	The Ohio State University
Sue S. Aandrix	Clinton MS	Jon S Stevens	The Ohio State University	Judy R. Norris	West Mound @ Watkins ES	Amanda J Murphy	Miami University
Mary E. Barber	Columbus Spanish Immersion Academy	Steven P Barber	The Ohio State University	Frances C. Penn	Woodcrest ES	Janis C Penn	Ohio University
Linda S. Bass	TOSA	Emily L Bass	The Ohio State University	Stanley K. Pyle	West HS	Kristina K Pyle	Coastal Carolina University
Susan M. Bauerle	Whetstone HS	Allison M. Bauerle	University of Kentucky	Loretta H. Raduege	Retired	Holly M Raduege	Otterbein College
Diana W. Brewer	Livingston @ Beck	Alison M. Brewer	Muskingum College	Patricia M. Reis	Tutor/Sherwood MS	Ryan A Reis	University of Notre Dame
Veronica M. Bryant	Valley Forge ES	Vanessa N Bryant	The Ohio State University	Shirley A. Royle	Medina MS	Erin N Royle	Kent State University
M. Richard Coldren	Clinton MS	Jaren B Coldren	The Ohio State University	Judie K. Ruffalo	Clarfield ES	Kathleen F Ruffalo	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Maureen A. Coleman	Deshler ES	Ella M Coleman	University of Dayton	Elizabeth J. Searles	Retired	Carol A. Rogers	The Ohio State University
Julyanna M. Collier	Liberty ES	Danielle A Collier	Central State University	Antoinette G. Seghi	Wedgewood MS	Garrett A. Seghi	University of Notre Dame
Eugene W. Davis	Phys. Ed./Cassady ES	Trevan W Davis	Otterbein College	Patricia K. Slane	Retired	Jonathan N. Slane	Bowling Green State University
George F. Dietz	Sherwood MS	Muriel E Dietz	The Ohio State University	Lanee A. Slaughter	Medary ES	Robert J Slaughter	Johnson & Wales University
Brian L. Friedman	South HSUA	Meagan M Friedman	Ohio University	Susan L. Smith	Northeast CC	Christopher A. Smith	Mississippi State University
Mary Ann Grossman	Neil Avenue Center	Andrew J Grossman	Xavier University	Patricia A. Swiger	Beatty Park @ Eastgate ES	Sarah G Swiger	West Virginia Wesleyan College
Barbara J. Haggard	Neil Avenue Center	Erin R Haggard	The Ohio State University	Rosalyn D. Tarantelli	Livingston @ Beck ES	Brandi L. Tarantelli	Bowling Green State University
Owen L. Hickey	Champion MS	Adam J Hickey	Bowling Green State University	Wendy B. Tatman	North Linden ES	Emily F. Tatman	The Ohio State University
Mitzi S. Keith	Whetstone HS	Heather E Keith	Marietta College	James P. Wallace	West HS	Laura L. Wallace	Miami University
Elizabeth F. Kennedy	Neil Avenue Center	Mary Elizabeth S. Kennedy	Miami University	Peter L. Walter	Retired	Brian P. Walter	Wittenberg University
Pamela S. Kindinger	Northeast CC	Julie M Kindinger	Elon University	Sharon E. Watkins	Whetstone HS	Daniel R. Watkins	The Ohio State University
Robin M. Lease	Fort Hayes HS	Brian L Lease	Miami University	Ernest M. Watts	Independence HS	Amanda N. Watts	Bowling Green State University
Kathleen S. Leonard	Briggs HS	Annarnary J Leonard	Olivet Nazarene University	Mary M. Weaver	Cassady ES	Stefanie A. Weaver	Ohio University
Rachel R. Little	Brookhaven HS	Kathryn E Little	The Ohio State University	Susan P. Weyand	Whetstone HS	Christopher P. Weyand	The Ohio State University
Elaine E. Long	Dana ES	Marshall J Long	Otterbein College	Vera R. Wiser	Neil Avenue Center	Justin A. Wiser	The Ohio State University
Karen P. McMeans	Retired	Kelly J. McMeans	The Ohio State University	Iris E. Ziglar	North Linden ES	Sara D. Ziglar	The Ohio State University

Helen Jenkins Davis Award

The Columbus Education Association's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner will be very special this year. A new award will be presented to a member of the CEA bargaining unit. The award is named after Helen Jenkins Davis and honors her memory and career. She was an outstanding model for all educators.

Helen Jenkins Davis graduated from East High School. In 1918, she became the first black teacher hired by the Columbus Public Schools. Her career spanned 34 years in the school system.

She was active as a suffragette and voted in the first election open to women. After retirement, she remained active working on school issues and other community programs. In 1976, she was the first witness in the Columbus Schools desegregation trial in U.S. District Court. Observers agreed her testimony was very dramatic. She testified, "I taught for more than 34 years in east side schools and never taught a single white student." There was no doubt about the segregation and discrimination in the district.

Helen Jenkins Davis, whose father was a slave in Kentucky, was the oldest living member of Second Baptist Church when she passed away in 1987 at the age of 92.

The Association is accepting nominations for this new

award. It will go to an individual who has worked to promote social justice, diversity and human and civil rights.

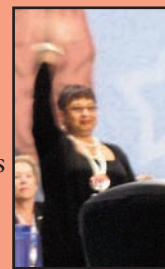
Candidates should be accomplished in teaching, community service or participation in organizations and activities promoting issues of diversity.

The time to retool NCLB may be now

Now that we have a new set of congressional leaders in place, it's time to think about the future of educational policy. The time is approaching for reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA)—or as it has come to be known in its most recent incarnation, *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB).

The earliest that can happen is 2007. But before the discussion begins, policymakers need to know that the current requirements for measuring performance and the standards that have been set are not creating the optimal environment for education.

CEA President Rhonda Johnson stated, "I've been privileged to sit on a National Education Association committee that has spent nearly a year forming recommendations for policy change. CEA, along with NEA, believes that NCLB, in theory, is a good idea.



President Johnson

Students need to be prepared for the future with strong skills. Achievement gaps should be closed.

But the specific system that has been established is fundamentally flawed. It undermines state and local authority and shifts dollars to the private sector through supplemental education services and for-profit takeovers of public schools.”

NEA has formulated criteria, titled “*ESEA: It’s Time for a Change!*” NEA will work to persuade lawmakers that these items should be considered as national policy is revisited:

- ❶ The reauthorization must involve all stakeholders, especially teachers.
- ❷ Students must have access to programs and services, including pre-K and kindergarten and after-school enrichment, counseling and mentoring.
- ❸ Students should have access to rigorous curriculum, but it should include more than what can be assessed through a multiple-choice test.
- ❹ Quality conditions must include smaller class sizes and modern, well-equipped schools and data must be provided in a timely manner to facilitate decision making.
- ❺ A qualified, diverse teaching workforce requires a pool of highly skilled candidates. But new teachers need seasoned mentors. And everyone needs opportunities for continual growth, professional compensation and benefits.
- ❻ Data should be used with discretion to identify policies and programs that improve student learning. At the same time, local, state and federal agencies need to be financially accountable to the public. All accountability systems should be transparent and openly communicated.
- ❼ Policies should encourage parents, families and communities to be actively involved and engaged in their public schools. Teachers need to be trained to work effectively with families and to clearly define educational expectations. Employers need to grant parents leave to be involved in school activities.
- ❽ Schools must be adequately funded. This means fair taxation systems that eliminate inefficient business subsidies. But it also means education programs should be fully funded at their authorized levels.

Strong schools, well-prepared students, informed parents and effective teachers all are important elements. But we can do a better job creating a system that achieves these goals. NEA wants to retain positive provisions of ESEA, including targeting Title I funds to schools with high concentrations of students in poverty and using data to focus on closing achievement gaps. But Congress must shift from a one-size-fits-all system and include common-sense flexibility and supports for teachers.

Take time to read the full NEA report. You can find it at www.nea.org/esea.

Tell your NCLB story

NEA wants to hear from you with stories of how the *No Child Left Behind* Act has affected you, your classroom, your school and your community. These unfunded mandates and burdensome, bureaucratic policies have sidetracked educators and, in some cases, have created a culture of anxiety. If you’re interested in sharing your experiences (some of these will reach lawmakers and the media), visit the NEA Website at www.nea.org/esea/tellyourstory.html. Fill out the form and transmit. You can be part of real education reform.

Know your forms

The next time your building administrator hands you a reporting form and asks you to fill it out, take a moment to examine it. It may not be a form you are required to submit. It may, in fact, be a form created by the administrator or a form that he or she is required to fill out.

Your time is valuable. The *CEA Master Agreement* details those forms that teachers are responsible for completing. The list, starting in page 195, is extensive. It includes such items as absence forms, PEAK referrals, substitute teacher requests and student progress reports.

The pages detail the only forms that you must complete. Any form that doesn’t look like these is not your responsibility. If you have any questions, please call CEA.

Returning from a medical leave of absence

It’s difficult returning to work after a lengthy illness, surgery or other medical leave. There are so many details that need attention. But a critical one will prevent you from returning to work in a timely fashion.

You must submit the proper paperwork, and in most cases, it must be signed by the CPS board physician. Not everyone is remembering to do this.

Here are the details:

- ♥ An employee returning to work after medical leave must present paperwork establishing a return date at least three days prior to that date.
- ♥ Before returning, you also must see the board physician and present a form that states your physician has given clearance for a return to work with no restrictions. The board physician’s location, hours and contact information are provided in the leave packet.
- ♥ If you have been away caring for a family member, you do not need to see the board physician. But you still must submit an intent-to-return to work statement three days in advance.

If you are returning from unpaid leave, you must give 30 days’ advance notice by filing the proper paperwork with the CPS human resources department.

Thank you for your pledges

This is a continuation of the list that highlighted buildings/units that have returned their pledges to CEA for the 2006 United Way campaign.

Thank you, **Eakin ES**; Thank you, **East Columbus ES**; Thank you, **Easthaven ES**; Thank you, **Eastmoor Academy HS**; Thank you, **Fairmoor ES**; Thank you, **Fifth Avenue ES**; Thank you, **Forest Park ES**; Thank you, **Gables ES**; Thank you, **Georgian Heights ES**; Thank you, **Hamilton ES**; Thank you, **Heyl ES**; Thank you, **Highland ES**; Thank you, **Hilltonia MS**; Thank you, **Huy ES @ Gladstone**; Thank you, **Indianola MS**; Thank you, **Innis ES**; Thank you, **Johnson Park MS**; Thank you, **Leewood ES @ Koebel**; Thank you, **Liberty ES**; Thank you, **Lindberg ES**; Thank you, **Linden ES**; and Thank you, **Hubbard ES**.

We will continue to publish additional names as envelopes are received and as space is available. Thank you for helping United Way do what works, do what matters.

Special note

- ☐ Join **Project Help Clothing Ministry** in its 22nd Annual Christmas Giveaway. It provides needy families with new and some nearly new clothing, food, toys and books. The event is set for **Saturday, Dec. 16 from 8 a.m.–2 p.m.** at 50 North Wilson Road (formerly Rhodes Furniture), **Great Western Shopping Center**.