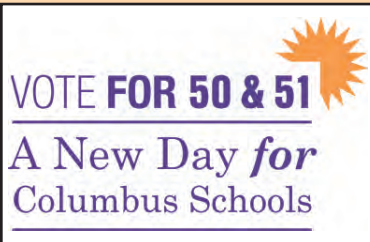


The CEA Voice

Each dollar counts

Don't let the skeptics sway you. Tell your friends that the levy they will see on the Nov. 5 ballot (Issue 50) will fund items that will further our mission to ensure that children are prepared for school, have access to the latest technology and can count on highly committed, talented educators who believe their students can meet high expectations.



Issue 50 will allow CCS to leverage resources from the private and public sectors. It will enable the district to more closely monitor and control the growth and operation of charter schools where 15,000 Columbus children currently attend.

Here's a breakdown of the 9.01 mills, \$76.5 million annual revenue increase, and the annual associated costs of each item:

- Ensure all children enter kindergarten ready to learn—\$8.5 million (1 mill)
- Recruit, train and retain high-quality teachers and principals—\$8.5 million (1 mill)
- Make Wi-Fi accessible in all facilities—\$8.6 million (1.01 mills)
- Expand and replicate high-performing CCS schools—\$8.5 million (1 mill)
- Attract and expand high-performing, non-profit community schools—\$8.5 million (1 mill)
- Improve district operations and ensure all students access to an A- or B-rated school—\$26.4 million (3.1 mills)
- Provide access to technology in all classrooms—\$6.6 million (0.8 mills)
- Create an independent auditor to eliminate waste and fraud—\$850,000 (0.1 mills)

The measure also will allow the sale of \$175 million worth of bonds to finance renovation and construction of outdated CCS schools as part of the district's existing capital improvement program. Taxpayer funds will help repay the loan.

The school board promises that if voters approve the 9.01-mill operating issue, it will reduce spending by \$200 million during the next five years and not return to the ballot before 2018.

A parallel focus of levy efforts will be a public private partnership that will serve as the chief advocate for education in Columbus by:

- Creating a partnership of city, faith, community, labor, business and school board leaders
- Leveraging additional resources from private and public sectors
- Holding the district and community accountable for the full implementation of the Columbus Education Commission recommendations

Keep up with levy developments in *The Voice* and at www.newcolumbuschools.com.

Enroll or renew insurance coverage

Open enrollment for employee benefits ends Nov. 1 for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2014. Here are some key facts about the enrollment process:

- Make sure you are able to log on to Employee Self Service (ESS). Go to <https://columbus.munisselfservice.com>, and click on the login link at the top right of the page.
- Before enrolling, review the "ESS Quick Guide for key information." Find all information on the CCS website at www.ccssoh.org under the "Staff" tab. Scroll down the page for specifics.
- Employees must provide documentation verifying dependent eligibility if they are adding new dependents.
- Employees must meet with a benefits counselor to enroll or re-enroll for coverage. You can schedule a time at your building to meet with a counselor to enroll or to re-enroll online.

Listed below are the medical insurance rates for eligible members of the CEA bargaining unit:

| Teachers | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| 21 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$ 41.23 | \$ 48.37 |
| Employee plus one (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, or Child) | 82.22 | 96.44 |
| Employee plus one (Including Spouse/DP) | 233.26 | 247.48 |
| Family (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, and/or Children) | 121.31 | 142.30 |
| Family (Including Spouse/DP) | 344.15 | 365.14 |
| 26 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$ 33.30 | \$ 39.06 |
| Employee plus one (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, or Child) | 66.41 | 77.89 |
| Employee plus one (Including Spouse/DP) | 188.40 | 199.89 |
| Family (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, and/or Children) | 97.98 | 114.94 |
| Family (Including Spouse/DP) | 277.97 | 294.92 |

| Eligible Tutors (Over 25 Hours) & Latchkey Teachers | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| 21 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$109.40 | \$116.54 |
| Employee plus one (Child or Spouse or DP) | 218.15 | 232.37 |
| Family (Children and/or Spouse or DP) | 321.86 | 342.85 |
| 26 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$ 88.36 | \$ 94.13 |
| Employee plus one (Child or Spouse or DP) | 176.20 | 187.68 |
| Family (Children and/or Spouse or DP) | 259.96 | 276.91 |

| Eligible Tutors (15-25 Hours) | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| 21 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$192.73 | \$199.86 |
| Employee plus one (Child or Spouse or DP) | 384.29 | 398.51 |
| Family (Children and/or Spouse or DP) | 566.98 | 587.97 |
| 26 Pay Plan | Select | Choice |
| Employee only | \$155.66 | \$161.43 |
| Employee plus one (Child or Spouse or DP) | 310.39 | 321.88 |
| Family (Children and/or Spouse or DP) | 457.95 | 474.90 |

For questions, contact Mary Anne Baum in the HR department at 365-8969 or at mbaum@columbus.k12.oh.us.

Vote early

Registered voters don't have to wait until Nov. 5 to vote. Early in-person voting at your local board of elections begins Oct. 1 and ends Nov. 1. The Franklin County Board of Elections will be open during that time on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to noon.

You can also vote from the comfort of your kitchen table by voting absentee. This year, Ohioans who are registered to vote will not be automatically sent an application to request an absent voter's ballot. Download an application for an absent voter's ballot at <http://bit.ly/ohabsballot>. Completed applications must be mailed to your county's board of elections, a directory of which can be found at <http://bit.ly/ohboelist>.

Once you have completed your absentee ballot, mail it or deliver it in person to your county board of elections. The return envelope containing your marked ballot must either be received prior to the close of the polls on Election Day or postmarked no later than the day before the election and received by the board of elections no later than 10 days after the election. You cannot fax or email an absentee ballot.

Meeting Common Core challenges

With the Common Core standards making their way into classrooms, we know you are rethinking how you spend your instructional time. The question on many teachers' minds: How can we bring the standards to life in the classroom and in our districts? In the spring, the Center for Teaching Quality in North Carolina hosted three webinars on this subject, and teachers shared their philosophies. Some examples are featured here:



- ▶ A high school history teacher in North Carolina offers his students an array of digital and print resources, including online magazines, newspapers and blogs, to challenge their historical interpretation of events.
- ▶ Middle school teachers in Nevada are integrating science and writing standards with specially designed writing prompts.
- ▶ A Florida fifth-grade teacher urges her students to share funny stories, using laughter as a tool for enhancing learning.
- ▶ Kentucky high school math teachers provide a full-time math coach for students who need extra help.
- ▶ A North Carolina elementary-level teacher gives her students an interest survey at the beginning of each school year to guide them to books they enjoy at appropriate reading levels.
- ▶ An Iowa high school English teacher advises using more accessible texts to teach more difficult skills such as analysis. This might include a book students already have read or a short or layered text.

The key themes that emerged during the sessions were:

- ▶ Teaching through inquiry and questioning
- ▶ Cultivating authentic learning
- ▶ Focusing on communication
- ▶ Attending to the whole learner
- ▶ Teaching the reader, not the text
- ▶ Integrating disciplines to deepen learning
- ▶ Collaborating within and beyond the classroom
- ▶ Creating the time and space necessary for success

Read more about some of these ideas by accessing these instructional resources:

- ▶ Reading Log at https://docs.google.com/file/d/0BwS-miIWE_RdQd2VoUTJYUGJ6ZXM/edit
- ▶ VoiceThread: A cloud-based verbal communication tool at <http://voicethread.com/>
- ▶ Learning to Think with Dry Erase Ink: <http://prezi.com/z0u4nyzzgby3/learning-to-think-with-dry-erase-ink/>

Recommended professional readings:

- ▶ *Differentiating Instruction with Menus* by Laurie E. Westphal
- ▶ *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell
- ▶ *The Daily Five* by Gail Boushey and Joan Moser
- ▶ *The Laughing Classroom: Everyone's Guide to Teaching with Humor and Play* by Diane Loomans

Visit www.teachingquality.org for more information about classroom innovation.

Fall Fling thank-yous

The music was pumping, the dancing was lively and the snacks flowed freely. Teachers mingled, and new staff members got to meet colleagues and CEA representatives at this year's Fall Fling. We were pleased that Supt.



Dan Good and Mayor Michael Coleman could join us.

We want to thank you for making this year's bash at the Easton Hilton a great success. Special thanks to our volunteers: Karen Andermills, Atanya Brown, Shirley Cannon, Lori Cannon, Cathy Cincione, John Coneglio, Gerry Curran, Carla Davis, Angel Dyer, Lauren Fruge, Paula Garfield, Ebony Hale, Tai Hayden, Kevin Jackson, CJ Jamison, Kim Jones, Megan Lee, Cindy Love, Christy Maser, Deborah McCoy, Gary Metzenbacher, Teri Mullins, Paula Nourse, David Perry, Rosie Perry, Christine Ray, Nolicka Robinson, Beverly Sandidge, Trisha Seiler, Joel Speyer, Izetta Thomas, Sondra Viers, Merele Wilder, Judy Wright, Kari Yates, Andy Yoakum and Dwayne Zimmerman.

Special notes

- ❑ Gather your friends and join the CEA Dream Team, Lindberg Lions, Ohio Ave. ES, C & Y, Pink Pumas, CICC, Team Olde Orchard ES and Kevin Jackson's CEA Friends and Family for the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, Oct. 27**. The three-mile walk begins at 10 a.m. at COSI, 333 W. Broad St. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Go to www.makingstrideswalk.org/columbus to register. Make sure you add **Columbus Education Association** as your company. Let's end breast cancer forever.
- ❑ **Need legal services?** You have until **Thursday, Oct. 31**, to enroll (**Sept. 30 to pay through payroll deduction**) in the comprehensive plan for \$500. To download an enrollment form, go to http://bit.ly/LegalSvcApp2013_14. **Contact Cloppert, Latanick, Sauter and Washburn at 461-4455** if you have questions.
- ❑ **Save the date: Capital Day is Friday, Oct. 18**, at the **Hyatt Regency Columbus**. Members rave about this annual event, so mark your calendar.
- ❑ **CEA Members Scholarships** are available for your **college senior**. Distributed through The Columbus Foundation, this fund provides **\$1,000 in tuition assistance**. Only CEA members who have taught in CCS for the past four years are eligible. Your student must have at least a 2.0 GPA in order to apply. The deadline is **5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 25**. To download an application, go to <http://bit.ly/ceascholarship2013>. Call Cora Miller at 253-4731 if you have questions.
- ❑ **Applications for Ingram Teacher Grants** (from \$500 to \$1,000 each) must be **submitted online by Friday, Oct. 11, at 4 p.m.** A CCS email account is required. Submit your application online by going to <http://www.columbus.k12.ob.us/ingramgrant>. Contact Andrea Richardson (365-8993) at Northgate Center if you have questions.