

The CEA Voice

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Columbus Education Association

December 16, 2013

A victory

The first step was a success. With pressure from OEA, the Ohio Senate unanimously passed SB 229 on Dec. 4. If the House approves it as is, and if the governor signs it, the bill will take effect on July 1, 2014, to help make Ohio's teacher evaluation system more effective, fair and efficient.

Let's keep it up! Legislators in the House need to hear our collective voice on SB 229. To urge your representative to vote to send the bill to the governor, go to <http://cap-wiz.com/nea/oh/mlm/signup/>. Included in the SB 229 are the following provisions:

- ♦ Academic growth factor: The value-added academic growth factor percentage required on teacher evaluations is lowered to 35 percent from the current 50 percent. School districts can add an additional 15 percent of value-added or substitute formal observations, reviews or other tools.
- ♦ Frequency of evaluations: School boards will be authorized to reduce the frequency of evaluations for teachers who receive one of the top two ratings. Teachers who receive the rating of "Accomplished" could be evaluated every three years, and teachers who receive a rating of "Skilled" could be evaluated every other year.

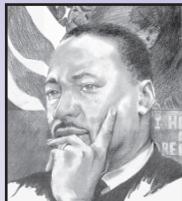
This is BIG. We want teachers rated fairly. Evaluations should not be based on tests that were intended to help teachers improve classroom instruction. Tools, such as value-added, were never designed to be valid and reliable for high-stakes decisions like teacher evaluations.

Read more at www.ohea.org/legislative-watch-archive.

Tickets are going fast...

Join us Jan. 16 for one of the highlights of our year: the 35th Annual CEA Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner.

This year's keynote speaker is Cornel West, author of *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters* and nearly 20 other groundbreaking books. He is a frequent media commentator on political and social issues and is considered one of this country's most prominent public intellectuals.



We also will celebrate our honorees. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award goes to the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Booth, senior pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church for the past 35 years and one of our community's major education advocates. The Helen Jenkins Davis Award goes to our sixth CEA president, Rhonda Johnson, CEA's spokesperson, guide, visionary and constant friend. This is her last year at our helm. Let's make this evening special for her.

The dinner is at the Hilton Columbus Downtown, starting with cocktails at 6 p.m. Get your tickets from CEA now. This event is always extremely well attended. The cost is \$30 per person. Tables of eight are \$240.

United Way prize winners

It's great to win prizes. But it's even better to help our families. The winners below exemplify our spirit of giving to United Way of Central Ohio. Without all of our dedication to this cause year after year, our families might not get services they need to help them survive. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity. This year's prize winners are:



\$500+ Leadership Grand Prize—\$150 Target Cards

Janet Baird (South HS, CEA)
Olympia Williams (Ohio Avenue ES, CAA)

\$60+ Level Payroll Deduction Prize—\$100 Target Card

Christine Richards (Alpine ES, CEA)

\$250+ Level Prizes—\$50 Lowes Cards

Anthony Alston (Eastmoor Academy, CAA)
Deborah Huddleston (Maize Ave. ES, Classified)

\$50 Best Buy Cards

Kirk Bardos (Wedgewood MS, CEA)
Christine Guzzon (Neil Avenue, CEA)

\$125+ Level Prize—\$30 Target Cards

Monica Brown (Olde Orchard ES, CAA)
Cheryl Cooper (Columbus Downtown HS, CEA)
Denise Doran (Gables ES, Classified)
Neil Moore (Marion-Franklin HS, CEA)
Terri Mullins (Wedgewood MS, CEA)
Cheryl Nuber (West Broad Street ES, Classified)
Lori Quier (Liberty ES, CEA)
Sherry Zinglemann (Devonshire ES, Classified)

\$60+ Level Prizes—\$10 Gas Cards

Paul Bailey (Westmoor MS, CAA)
Jill Grimm (Ridgeview MS, CEA)
Dori Hein (Sullivant ES, Classified)
DeWayne Howard (CEC, CAA)
Caroline Walker (Fairwood ES, CEA)

The drawing for CEA-R will take place at the conclusion of their campaign.

Columbus City Schools Assessment Leaders Initiative

Research has shown that teachers spend from a quarter to a third of their professional time on assessment-related activities. Almost all do so without the benefit of having learned the principles of sound assessment (Stiggins, 1999).

Columbus City Schools is supporting teacher effectiveness to have the largest impact on student learning. CCS has developed an 18-month teacher leadership initiative, Assessment Leaders, to cultivate understanding of assessment literacy and other initiatives. Assessment Leaders are teachers who will be jointly selected by the Building Principal and Senior Faculty Representative with each school

identifying one Assessment Leader for each 10 classroom teachers on the staff. Additionally, Assessment Leaders will participate in professional development tailored to preparing them to review and approve Student Learning Objectives for the teachers in their respective buildings.

The professional development will include in-depth training on the following topics:

- Assessment Literacy
- Student Learning Objectives
- Student Growth Measures
- Formative Instructional Practices

Assessment Leaders will receive two semester hours of graduate credit this year as a part of their participation and learning through this initiative.

If you are interested in this opportunity, speak with your Senior Faculty Representative or Building Principal this week.

Know your Governor

Surrounded by working class families in Lorain, J. Sanchez grew up knowing the value of union membership. When he started teaching at Champion MS in 1997, he didn't waste a second getting involved. On his first day, he signed up and asked what else he could do to help.

Sanchez, who now teaches social studies at Northland HS, later became a faculty representative and today serves as a high school governor-at-large.

His service has yielded many proud moments, underscoring the value of both service and membership. "I felt proud to serve on the bargaining team that negotiated the extension of health insurance benefits to domestic partners," he said. "I am proud of my union and my district for being on the right side of history."

Sanchez firmly believes in the union value of equity and fair treatment of all members. To that end, he attended a job fair for a CEA member serving in Afghanistan so her job would be secure. "As a veteran, I understand the challenge of staying connected to family and friends while serving thousands of miles away from home," he said. He picked the job she wanted, and she knew that day where she would be teaching when she returned home.



J. Sanchez

FRs attend the Dec. 5 LA

Our Faculty Representatives and District Governors are tireless. Their latest work: representing you at the Legislative Assembly Dec. 5. They join CEA officers at these vital sessions to set our direction, stay up to date on governmental affairs and school board discussions and formulate endorsements of election candidates and ballot issues. If you work at one of these buildings, say "thanks" when you see your FR:

Alpine ES, Art, Beechcroft HS, Berwick K-8, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, Brookhaven HS, CAHS, CEA Office, Cassady ES, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Clinton ES, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Global Acad., Columbus Scioto 6-12, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park ES, Eakin ES, East Columbus ES, East Linden ES, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Acad. HS, École Kenwood K-6, Fairmoor ES, Fairwood K-6, Fifth Avenue K-6, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Gables ES, Georgian Heights ES, Guidance Counselors, Hilltonia MS, Hudson St. Warehouse, Huy ES/A.G. Bell Program, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Innis ES, Johnson Park MS, Juvenile Detention Center, Lincoln Park K-6, Lindbergh ES, Linden

STEM Acad. K-6, Livingston K-6, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, Moler K-6, Monroe MS, Music, Neil Avenue Center, Northgate Center, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, South HS 7-12, South Mifflin STEM Acad K-6, Southwood K-6, Special Ed. Transition Coordinators, Speech & Language, Starling K-8, Valley Forge ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West HS, West Broad ES, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES and Woodward Park MS.

We cannot do this without you

You get a pledge card. You fill it out. Then the miracles begin. Our collective funds, along with the efforts of hundreds of organizations, provide resources for those seeking quality education, stable income, good health and secure housing.

Each dollar donated helps fund early intervention for young children so they are prepared for school; job-skills training for displaced workers; personal financial management coaching; access to healthcare; food for Central Ohio pantries, where many of our families get their groceries, and so much more.

Continue to turn in your pledges so we can count all of them. The following buildings/sites completed their campaigns since the previous edition of *The Voice* was printed: 17th Avenue Transportation Office, Clinton ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, École Kenwood K-6, Fifth Avenue K-6, Ft. Hayes Bus Compound, Gables ES, Hamilton STEM Academy K-6, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Johnson Park MS, Kingswood Data Center, Maybury ES, Monroe MS, Olde Orchard ES, Ridgeview MS, South Mifflin STEM Academy K-6, Trevitt ES, West Mound ES and Windsor STEM Academy K-6.

Special note:

- ❑ **Elect your leaders.** Get ready to vote for President and Vice President; Governors in Districts 1, 4, 5 and 10; as well as OEA and NEA Delegates. **Declaration of candidacy ends Jan. 27, with campaigning Jan. 28-Mar. 3. Vote count is Mar. 4.** Want to run? Declaration forms are available at the CEA office.

Relax, refresh

Our break is here! Enjoy yourself. You have earned this time to rest your brain, be with friends and family, take a trip, or just relax and finally finish that book you loaded onto your Kindle. You are one of the most important people in your students' lives. We thank you for all you do.

