

The CEA Voice

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Professionals need credentials

“My barber has to prove that he is prepared to be a barber and earn a license before he is allowed to cut my hair, yet some states and districts allow individuals to be in charge of classrooms and student learning before proving that they should be there. Every student deserves to have a ‘profession-ready’ teacher.”



—NEA President Dennis Van Roekel

The NEA—and CEA—believe that all teachers should be “profession-ready” from their first day of being responsible for student learning. This means that, before becoming a teacher-of-record, teacher candidates must demonstrate the skills and knowledge needed for effective classroom practice. Yes, our governor, John Kasich wants to “deregulate” our schools. In a speech to the annual Ohio Newspaper Association Convention held in Columbus, Kasich said, “I would like to figure out a way to keep people from having to jump through all these legal hoops out there in our local schools.”

“Some teachers feel overburdened by the way in which testing is done,” Kasich said. “Schools feel there are too many certifications and too many rules. We need to figure out how we can bring more common sense to the rules and more trust to the people in the local communities who are running our schools.”

But what exactly does this mean? It’s not entirely clear, but Kasich did suggest reducing licensing requirements related to the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee. We know that he also has talked about removing state rules for class sizes and personnel and leaving those up to local education boards. The news media reported that he also wants the business community to be more involved in local schools. There is speculation he could try to relax licensing requirements so that business professionals may come into classrooms and teach, or establish a connection between the state and the business community so business leaders could influence curriculum.

There are a lot of things that do need to be left to school boards and negotiated with the union. But having unlicensed teachers in schools is not one of them. Read more from NEA at <http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/Profession-Ready-Teachers.pdf>.

Take the survey, win an iPad

As educators, we strive to make informed decisions in our lives. We ask our friends for recommendations of movies and popular restaurants. We seek out online reviews for selecting the right car to purchase or the perfect vacation spot for our families. We don’t like to be put in a situation where we don’t know what we are buying or what we are receiving.

If you would take those things into account, wouldn’t you want to know how your peers rated a school before applying

for a job there? Fortunately, the *CEA Master Agreement* provides for a district-wide evaluation of each school by the membership.

Members will be able to rate work locations on professional environment, democratic procedures, teacher involvement and other important categories. Members will also have the opportunity to provide additional open-ended, anonymous responses on the survey.

The 2013–2014 annual staff survey will be administered online. An email containing the link to the survey was sent to members’ non-CCS email addresses on Friday, Feb. 14. The survey will close on Sunday, Mar. 2, at 11:59 p.m. If you did not get the email message, or if CEA does not have your current non-CCS email address, please send it to tellcea@ceaohio.org to participate in the survey. You will be able to access this survey from home or from work.

The survey results for each school/building will be published on CEA’s website, so you can make informed decisions during the 211 process this spring. Additionally, a hard-copy of the open-ended responses will be provided to the respective Senior FR for each school/building.

When you complete the survey, you will automatically be entered into a drawing to win an iPad Air with Retina Display, 3G capability and 16 Gb of memory or one of 20 gas cards worth \$25 each.

Get paid to assess new teachers

Want to help your fellow teachers? The Ohio Department of Education needs teachers to use their professional skills to assess beginning teachers. You can get paid to use your expertise. The RESA is a performance-based assessment that an Ohio beginning teacher, known as a resident educator, must successfully pass. The assessment calls for these novice teachers to demonstrate their ability to design and implement instruction that: engages students in complex thinking and uses formative and summative assessments to inform their teaching practices. Resident educators must successfully pass the RESA to qualify for a five-year professional license.

Assessors will review and score RESA submissions by teachers. Each will be assigned based on the need for particular skills and knowledge to score each task. Assessors will be allowed to work for as much time as they have available, up to 30 hours per week.

Each assessor applicant must:

- Have a minimum of five years teaching experience
- Complete online training and pass a certification test before scoring assessments
- Agree not to conduct assessments of teachers he or she knows
- Be familiar with performance-based assessments or have experience scoring them

To learn more, visit OhioRESA.com, the Teachscape website for the RESA program.



Meet the candidates

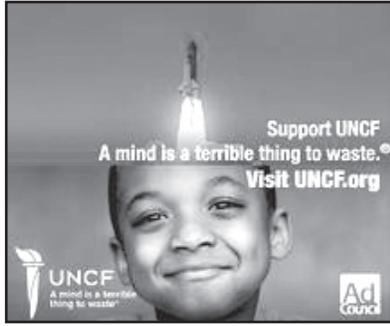
The CEA Governors will hold two district meetings this week: Wednesday, Feb. 19, at the Spaghetti Warehouse; and Thursday, Feb. 20, at the 94th Aero Squadron. Both meetings will begin at 4:30 p.m.

In addition to regular CEA business, candidates for OEA delegate, NEA delegate and CEA President and Vice President will be given an opportunity to share with you their reasons for running for office and to communicate their qualifications holding the respective positions.

These meetings are open to all CEA members. If you have questions, please call CEA at 253-4731.

Give to UNCF

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) has made a difference in the lives of many CCS graduates and staff members. The time has come for us to support our students as they strive to achieve their educational dreams through our annual campaign. The kickoff for the CCS UNCF campaign was Feb. 10. Our goal for 2014 is \$100,000. Fifty percent of the dollars raised will be set aside for Columbus City Schools' scholarships.



Please consider making a financial commitment today. UNCF administers 400 scholarships and internship programs to students who demonstrate significant financial need. This allows these deserving students to afford college tuition, books, room and board.

The recession hit students hard. Lost jobs and pay cuts striped many families of the ability to help with college costs. As a result, thousands of students at UNCF colleges are carrying unpaid balances and may not be able to complete their education.

Education is powerful. You can help your faculty representative run a successful campaign by making your contribution today. Look at what your contribution can do:

- \$100 Notebooks, pens and supplies for an academic year
- \$250 An on-campus computer and on-line access for one semester
- \$500 Student and activity fees for one semester
- \$1,000 Books for an academic year
- \$2,500 Room and board for one semester
- \$5,000 Tuition for one semester

Our campaign ends Feb. 28. Let's make it our most successful campaign ever!

Need college funds?

Your high school senior may be eligible to receive a CEA Scholarship. The deadline for submission of applications for CEA scholarships is Friday, Apr. 25.

Two of the scholarships available are the \$1,500 Christa McAuliffe Scholarship, awarded to a student pursuing a degree in education, and the \$1,000 CEA General Scholarship.

Both are renewable for up to four years, at a reduced level from the first-year award. Also, one-year scholarships are awarded by CEA-R and the Rhonda Johnson Scholarship Fund. A senior at South HS will be awarded the Grossman Memorial Scholarship.

Go to <http://bit.ly/2014ScholarshipApp> to download an application form.



Got new books? Bring 'em!

Not every child has books at home. Let's help our third-graders get over the bar of the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee. Join us in the annual CEA Book Drive, which we are conducting until Friday, Feb. 28. This



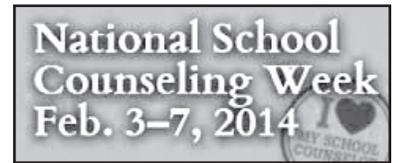
year, we want to put a new book in the hands of every third-grader in our district. You can support our campaign by donating at least two new books appropriate for this reading level. Your FR has a suggested book list.

Donating books is the right thing to do; and, you might win a prize. We will give away an iPad Mini to a randomly-selected member who donates at least three new books to the campaign. Give your books to your FR or building campaign chairperson, and ask for the entry form. You should receive an entry form for every three books you donate. Send completed forms to Tracey Johnson at the CEA office no later than Thursday, Mar. 6. The drawing will take place on Friday, Mar. 7.

For more information about the campaign, call Tracey Johnson at CEA (253-4731), or send her an email at tjohnson@ceaohio.org.

National School Counseling Week

We missed National School Counseling Week. Please forgive us! Celebrated Feb. 3-7, this national recognition period focuses on the unique contributions of professional school counselors. Sponsored



by the American School Counselor Association, the week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success.

Counselors work in professional partnerships with school staff, business industry, parent/families and the community to focus on positive ways to enhance students' social/personal, academic and career development.

It is easy to forget all they do for our kids. It is frequently a counselor who can make a positive difference in a child's life. For instance, professional school counselors help students set goals, explore a career plan for college, select appropriate courses for post-secondary options, develop skills in decision-making, manage conflict and problem solve.

So when you see one of CCS' 130 counselors, tell him or her thanks. From all of us at CEA to CCS counselors: A great big cheer of appreciation for all you do!

Special notes

- ❑ **Help members campaign:** The formal campaign period for the CEA spring elections ends on Mar. 3. (Faculty Representatives are asked to distribute and post campaign materials from candidates.) **Voting is Feb. 18-Mar. 3. Votes will be tabulated on Mar. 4.** Call CEA Elections Committee Chairperson Michele Mays at 253-4731 with questions.
- ❑ **The deadline to apply for a continuing contract is Mar. 1.** Section 401.16 of the *CEA Master Agreement* explains more about the process. Contact Nancy Young, Teacher Certification/Licensure at 365-5658, with questions.
- ❑ **2013 dues deductions for CEA members: Full Dues, Plan A (21 Pays) \$833.16, Plan B (26 Pays) \$834.43. If you switched from: Plan A to B: \$775.98 or went from Plan B to A: \$891.61. Half Dues are \$460.83 and Quarter Dues are \$271.32.**
- ❑ **The deadline to complete your fee waiver application has been extended. Completed fee waiver applications are due back to Northgate by Friday, Feb. 21, 5 p.m.** If you have Priority I or Priority II status, include the proper documentation. **Your priority status will change to Priority III without proper documentation.** Call Norma Oldham at Northgate, 365-8993, if you have any questions.