

The Voice

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Columbus Education Association

March 24, 2014



The votes are in

We congratulate Tracey Johnson and Phil Hayes, who won election as CEA President and Vice President: Tracey with 77 percent of the vote (1,906) and Phil with 88 percent (2,198). Beth Stevenson received 23 percent of the vote (564) and Dewey Chaffin received 11 percent (276) for president and vice president, respectively.

Johnson and Hayes are two eminently qualified people. She has a vast knowledge of the professional issues that impact our work each day. He has an extensive background in political advocacy and legislative issues affecting our profession.

Tracey taught language arts at Yorktown MS before she joined the CEA staff. She has taught both elementary and middle school students, and she was a PAR Consulting Teacher. Tracey served on the CEA Board of Governors as a Middle School Governor-at-Large. She also has represented CEA at OEA and NEA assemblies. She received CEA's Distinguished Service Award in 2008.

Phil taught social studies at Brookhaven HS for nearly 15 years before winning election as CEA Vice President in 2012. He served as High School Governor-at-Large and has been a member of the bargaining team and a delegate to the NEA and OEA assemblies. He also served as the CEA Electronic Outreach Coordinator. He is a graduate of Leadership Columbus.

We thank all the candidates who ran for CEA offices and all of you for voting.

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Democracy at its best

CEA is a true democracy, relying on the service of its members to make decisions that benefit the whole group.

Congratulations to the delegates elected to represent the CEA at the 2014 NEA Representative Assembly in Denver in July.



The members of the CEA Board of Governors are automatic delegates by virtue of office. They are CEA President Tracey Johnson (term begins June 1), Vice President Phil Hayes, Immediate Past President Rhonda Johnson (term begins June 1) and Governors Ann Aeschbury, Lori Cannon, John Coneglio, Carla Davis, Tai Hayden, Kevin Jackson, Cindy Jamison, Robin Jeffries, Cindy Love, Christy Maser, Teri Mullins, Christine Ray, J. Sanchez, Izetta Thomas, Diana Welsh and Dwayne Zimmerman.

The following members will serve as **local delegates**: Greg Mild (1,727), Ezetta Murray (746), Bob Hern (723), Judy L. Wright (485), Kristy Leigh (480), Courtney Johnson (398), Traci L. Arway (332), Dale Rucker (313) and Daria DeNoia (304).

The **alternates** are: Bev Carter (288), Angel Dyer (266), Jeannette Johnson (239), Gerry Curran (233), Faye Love (225), Kenya Davis (215), Paula J. Garfield (208), Kriston Crombie Stotik (207), Eric L. Stone (203), Claudia Eschelbach (203), Jenny Plemel (199), Rita Hinz (177), Michelle Stasa Coleman (174), Tracie L. Helmbrecht (158), Megan Hinz (157), Deliana Soto (157), Amy Morris (149), Gary Metzenbacher (148), Andrew Merritt (146), Jo Annette Byas Marston (144), Lori A. Jackson (140), Marty Flood Jr. (138), Angela Stokes (137), Carol M. Dixon (135), Lisa R. Straughter (131), Susan Guisinger (128), Kimberly A. Jones (125), Alan Schmiedebusch (125), Rodney W. Grist (119), James Keller (113), Aaron Moore (111), Cheryl I. Cooper (108), Shamelle Warfield (102), Melanie Garvin (93), Julie Didlick (93), D. Keith Adams (92), Thomas W. Gibson (89), Julie A. Meyer (85), Kari Pietrangelo Yates (83), Amanda Blake (83), Kimberly Allbaugh Ogilbee (79), Tayana Jones Patterson (75), Marlena Holt (74), Jennifer Angelcyk (68), Jeanette Kuschill (58), Ruth H. Colwell Ennis (55), Catherine Cincione (51), Lovelee Lawanda Kirk (50) and Atanya Brown (48).

The **NEA state delegates** are: Angel Dyer (267), Faye Love (260), Gerry Curran (247) and Kenya Davis (230).

The **alternates** are: Jenny Plemel (199), Claudia Eschelbach (190), Tracie L. Helmbrecht (177), Angela Stokes (163), Michelle Stasa Coleman (163), Deliana Soto (158), Marty Flood Jr. (157), Lori A. Jackson (153), Gary Metzenbacher (141), Lisa R. Straughter (139), Julie Didlick (136), Aaron Moore (136), Alan Schmiedebusch (127), Kimberly A. Jones (122), Melanie Garvin (118), Susan Guisinger/Azad (118), Rodney Grist (118), Shamelle Warfield (110), Cheryl I. Cooper (109), Julie A. Meyer (107), Kari Yates (107), D. Keith Adams (104), Marlena Holt (91), Tayana Jones Patterson (85), Catherine Cincione (71), Lovelee Lawanda Kirk (64), Jennifer Angelcyk (58) and Atanya Brown (52).

Our delegates will be our voice in setting policy at the national level. We will list the names of the delegates to next year's OEA Representative Assemblies in the next edition of *The Voice*.

One of our best events

Save the date for the CEA Awards and Retirement Banquet, to be held Saturday, May 17, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. Social hour begins at 6 p.m.; dinner is at 7 p.m. This is an important time of year for us when we honor retirees, members and friends for their service to CCS and CEA. Senior FRs, honorees and retirees attend for free. Keep reading *The Voice* for more information.

Snow job

Lately, snow has meant near-blizzard conditions; and, unfortunately, we've been snowed this time.

We heard quite suddenly last week that the district has reorganized the state testing schedule for the OAA. We had thought that wasn't happening—at least not quite yet. Our Joint Labor-Management Committee has been talking, because the state is allowing a bit more time for testing, given the number of snow days we have had this year. As far as we knew, no decisions had been made.

But at the last CEA Legislative Assembly, President Rhonda Johnson told our FRs to stand by. The FRs let her know that principals had already received an email from the data czar with a new testing schedule approved by ODE. We are extremely upset. We have been blindsided.

The administrator has apologized profusely, but this is not how it's supposed to happen. CEA has worked hard to establish a mutual process for making decisions affecting the classroom. We cannot afford a *decline* in our *good* relations.

The district's data czar told the CEA President that her intentions were good; that she spent a lot of time working on this schedule by herself, making sure that school particulars, such as pre-paid out-of-town field trips, would be honored after the last previously scheduled test day, May 3. By not working with CEA, she failed to take into account that the OEA Representative Assembly is May 8. Eighty-five of our members have been elected to represent our Association. Our contract affords us the right to participate in these assemblies. Therefore, this schedule won't work. Apparently, she also did not know that she should have been working with our joint Testing & Assessment Committee. This conflict would have been caught immediately.

We know that our superintendent, Dan Good, always wants to do what's best for our students and for our district. He expects the same from all of us. We cannot work in silos and expect to do what's right for kids and be fair to adults. We know it is challenging to consider CEA's positions on matters that affect teachers. It's so much easier to simply make a decision. However, that is not what we do in CCS.

211 alternative interview panels

We have completed training for the Article 211 process, and Round 1 opens on Friday, Mar. 28.

The 211 manual defines the interview panel as the principal, the Senior Faculty Representative, one elected member of the Association Building Council and two parents/members of the school community. Buildings may convene an alternatively constructed panel.

To request an alternative panel, the senior FR must make a request in writing to the CEA President by Mar. 28. Fax requests to 253-5052.

Paid holidays: A caveat

Section 1501.03 of our contract provides for certain paid holidays throughout the school year, including our six-day spring break. However, pay for holidays is not a given. Members who are not in a "paid" status the day immediately preceding the holiday and the day immediately following the holiday will not receive holiday pay. If you are absent and you are not on paid sick leave or personal leave, you will forfeit the pay for those holidays. See Chapter 1400 of the *Master Agreement* for payroll and deduction schedules.

Special notes

☐ **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**.