Communication is his strength. Reaching people and partnering for community betterment is his talent. CEA will honor Dr. C. Dexter Wise III, Pastor of Faith Ministries Interdenominational Church, as the recipient of the CEA Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award.

Dr. Wise became a minister in 1978. He served as pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Providence, R.I., and then as pastor of Columbus’ historic Shiloh Baptist Church. He founded Faith Ministries Interdenominational Church in 1991, now one of central Ohio’s largest churches. He received his Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton.

Pastor Wise has written several other books including, The ABC’s of Effective Parenting, Stand: Seven Sermons for Saints in a Red Sea Situation; and No Place for A Prophet: An Unconventional Preacher Trapped in A Traditional Church.

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During the recent Reynoldsburg Education Association strike, Dr. Wise organized a food drive to support the teachers, who had lost pay. His International Institute on Government and Democracy draws participants from across the globe to learn about U.S. government and democracy. The institute was recognized by Columbus City Council and the Ohio House of Representatives.

Pastor Wise—a program he helped start.

PAS 2013–2014

Article 910 of the CEA Master Agreement details the Performance Advancement System (PAS). PAS participants can earn $2,500 each if their mean student achievement gain exceeds the overall district gain by three Normal Curve Equivalents (NCE). Value-added data is also used in the determination.

The PAS Committee is now announcing the awardees for the
Bill on Reducing Testing Clears Ohio House

On Thursday, November 20, the Ohio House passed HB 228 by a vote of 83–4. The bill, sponsored by Representative Andy Brenner (R-Delawor), proposes a number of changes dealing with standardized tests. CEA supports this legislation as part of the effort to reduce the over-emphasis on testing and test preparation in our schools.

House Bill 228 includes the following provisions:

- Limits the duration of each state-required standardized test and end-of-course exam to four hours per subject area (beginning next school year).
- Permits districts to administer the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment up to two weeks prior to the start of school and administer in parts.
- Prohibits ODE from requiring online administration of tests for the 2015–16 school year.
- Requires ODE to report to districts appropriate uses for assessments.
- Requires ODE to conduct a thorough study of readiness to administer assessments online.
- Requires ODE to study impact of online assessments on student performance.
- Excludes career technical students from ODE’s online exams when the students are earning an acceptable industry recognized credential or license.

The bill will now progress to the Ohio Senate, and OEA will continue to work with Ohio’s public policymakers to address this important issue.

Math Textbook Adoption Committee

On Dec. 15, the Joint Textbook Committee will meet to receive nominations for the Math Textbook Adoption Committee. The Math Textbook Adoption Committee will review the current adoption process and develop a plan for moving forward. Let your principal know if you are interested in participating on this committee by Dec. 10.

I Know I Can

I Know I Can (IKIC) recently completed its fall series of Blueprint: College Middle School workshops with 240 families attending sessions at Linden-McKinley STEM 7–12, Starling K–8 and Woodward Park MS. The Blueprint: College program continues to grow since its 2009 inception by promoting and educating students and their families on how to address the factors that will lead to college preparation. The success of this program is a direct reflection of its many supporters that include: Huntington Banks, Donatos, White Castle, Bob Evans, Panera Bread, Columbus City Schools administrators and staff, the Capital University baseball team, I Know I Can staff and board members, and students from the Ohio State University science learning course led by instructors Dan Thomas and Tai Comute. This commitment from outside groups and individuals reinforces the I Know I Can mission of helping students dream big and work hard. Future Blueprint programs will include a high school version for 9th, 10th and 11th graders on Saturday, Dec. 13, at OSU and middle school versions at additional CCS middle school locations in February and April. Visit www.iknowican.org for more information.

Let It Snow

We have already had our first day of significant snow. Welcome to winter. Here is the CCS snow removal policy. Parking lots won’t always be plowed. Please take extra care to be aware of our surroundings as you move to and from your vehicles at our work sites. CCS lots will be plowed only when they are empty and snow accumulation reaches three inches at Port Columbus. When appropriate, internal landscaping staff will salt entrances, exits, and stopping points. Custodial Services takes care of entranceways, landings, steps, and other necessary areas. Playgrounds are not cleared because they cannot support heavy equipment.

Special Note

Gainsharing Service Plan Deadline Approaching: Teachers who are on special assignment and itinerant teachers who rotate to more than one school may opt into the Gainsharing building goals by preparing Gainsharing Service Plans. The deadline for submission for the 2014–2015 school year is Wednesday, Dec. 3, for members not assigned to schools on a full-time basis. This form is available on the CCS intranet and the CEA website in the “Forms” section.

CEA Run-off election: Voting begins Tuesday, Dec. 2 through Monday, Dec. 15 for Middle School Governor at-Large. Competing for the seat are Angela M. Stokes (Columbus City Schools Prep. School for Girls) and Kimberly A. Jones (Mifflin MS). The Elections Committee will collect ballots from buildings and tally votes at the CEA office on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

If you are not receiving The CEA Voice or other communications by email, send a message to Bob Hern at bhern@ceao.hio.