

The CEA Voice

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Join us Saturday, May 2, at the polls

CEA has made the bold step to endorse candidates for Columbus Mayor and City Council in the Primary Election. We need our members to participate in the process. Voting is not only our right but our responsibility. Join CEA at the polls. Wear your **Red Solidarity T-shirt** and join other CEA members who live in Franklin County for our Early Vote event on Saturday, May 2, at 10 a.m. at the Franklin County Board of Elections (1700 Morse Road). Even if you have already voted, join us and show solidarity.

Step up and represent your peers

Faculty Representative elections are coming up Apr. 30–May 29. By serving in this capacity, you help your fellow Association members make their voices heard.

FRs serve as building-level leaders within their schools/units. FRs represent their members by distributing Association materials, conducting CEA elections, running multiple charitable campaigns throughout the year, attending CEA District and Legislative Assembly meetings and serving on building-level committees. As an FR, you keep your building informed of important Association matters.

We elect FRs to their two-year terms during the spring of odd-numbered years. Each school/unit elects one FR and one Alternate FR for every 20 school/unit members, or fraction thereof. Elections are conducted by secret ballot. A person on the ballot cannot participate in the election administration.

If you have more than one FR, the senior FR shall be the one with the most continuous service in that school/unit. When continuous service is tied, the SrFR shall be the FR who receives the majority of votes.

Let your elections chairperson know if you are interested in running. Ask other FRs to share with you why they love CEA service. When you get the slate of candidates, be sure to vote. If you have any questions, call Michelle Mays, Elections Co-Chairperson, at the CEA office at 253-4731.

Help fix the broken testing law

Recently, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee voted unanimously to send the *Every Child Achieves Act* of 2015 to the floor of the Senate. The bill is a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and would replace the infamous *No Child Left Behind* authorization of 2002.

“We applaud Senators Alexander and Murray, along with all the members of the committee, for listening to educators and leading the improvements made to the bill in committee over the course of the past week,” said NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia. “We still have work to do to ensure equity and opportunity for all students.”

Key amendments adopted this week to help close opportunity gaps and give students more classroom learning time include:

- Requiring all schools to use multiple measures to evaluate progress (rather than just test scores), including at least one indicator of student or school supports (like access to nurses or guidance counselors)
- Strengthening the pilot program for state-designed assessments to broaden participation and encourage assessments driven by teaching and learning—not by accountability alone
- Ensuring the rights of parents and guardians to have their children opt out of statewide academic assessments without detriment to schools or the children themselves

Recently, the OEA Congressional Contact Team for District 3 met with Congresswoman Joyce Beatty’s District Director Matt Koppitch to discuss the importance of getting ESEA right. We thank Congresswoman Beatty for her continued support of CEA and public education in general. CEA was represented by Tracey Johnson (CEA President), Phil Hayes (CEA Vice President), Karen Andermills (CEA Legislative Coordinator), Paula Garfield (CEA Member) and Robin Jeffries (NEA Director #6).

The Senate is expected to debate the *Every Child Achieves Act* in the next few weeks. Floor fights will be intense to preserve our gains and further strengthen the bill. Go to <http://bit.ly/1G1ibqZ> to contact your senators and let them know that you need time to teach and your students need time to learn. Keep reading *The CEA Voice* for more updates.

Budget moving to Senate

Earlier this month, the Ohio House Finance and Appropriations Committee adopted a substitute bill to House Bill 64, the governor’s two-year proposed budget. On Apr. 20, the committee made amendments and sent the bill to the House floor on a 21–11 party-line vote.

The committee voted to remove language that would have stripped full-time higher education faculty members of their collective bargaining rights and prevented unionized charter school teachers from membership in STRS.

Additionally, the committee voted to include additional monies for school districts so that no schools will experience a loss in state funding.

The full House was expected to vote on the bill on Wednesday, sending the proposed legislation to the Senate for deliberation. Go to <http://www.ohea.org/legislative-watch> for the latest update on the state budget.

PAR Pool

The Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) Panel spent an extensive amount of time reviewing and interviewing candidates for the PAR Pool. Congratulations to the following applicants who were selected for the PAR Pool: Heather Allen (East Columbus ES), June Ann Andrews (Broadleigh ES), Leslie Bevier (Easthaven ES), Patrick Fath (Indian Springs ES), Katharine Frierson (Mifflin MS), Rachel Huntley (Broadleigh ES), Erica Jones (Hamilton ES), Dana Kemmerling (Wedgewood MS), Gina Landtiser-Butcher (Easthaven ES), Jennifer Nord (Independence HS), Rachel Palmer (Innis ES), Jennifer Reed (Northtowne ES), J. Kristen Reed (West Mound ES) Adam Simon (Columbus Global Acad.) and Angela Stokes (Cols. City Prep for Girls).

Know Your Contract: Verbal Abuse

Teachers are professionals and should be treated in a professional manner. Direct verbal criticism of a teacher in front of students or parents reduces the teacher’s ability to maintain an orderly teaching environment. Administrators do occasionally need to redirect staff. However, such direction should be respectful and should NOT be given in front of students, parents or other staff members.

Section 404.06 of our *Master Agreement* details your rights when criticism has been lodged inappropriately. If criticism occurs in an inappropriate setting, the teacher may request a conference with the administrator to discuss the incident. If the administrator repeats this inappropriate behavior, the teacher is entitled to a second meeting and can file a grievance. During these meetings, CEA members are always entitled to CEA representation. Administrators, too, may request Board of Education representation.

If you have been subjected to verbal abuse, know that you do not have to put up with it. Call CEA to file a grievance.

Make a PACT to run

PACT, along with the Columbus Running Company, has organized a “3 Miler” to benefit the Health Sciences Academies. The course is mapped around the historic Near East Side Neighborhood. Proceeds will help the Health Science Academies (East HS, Champion MS, Beatty Park ES, East Columbus ES, Eastgate ES, Ohio Avenue ES and Trevitt ES). A map of the course is included at the bottom of the website when you register. You can run/walk or sponsor a student. The event will take place on Saturday, May 9, starting at 8 a.m. We need you to:

- Register for the “3 Miler” and ask your friends to sign up
- Encourage students to register

The entry fee for the event is \$25. Put on your running shoes and make a pact to run to support our students.

To register, go to <https://runsignup.com/nes3miler>.

Best Practices Showcase

Professional Learning and Licensure is hosting a Best Practices Showcase conference June 1–2, 2015, at the Ohio Union at The Ohio State University.

The conference will feature the Stars of CCS—YOU.

- June 1, 2015, for Middle and High School Teachers
- June 2, 2015, for Elementary School Teachers

Sign up on CiMS to reserve your spot. Teachers attending the entire day will receive .5 CEUs and \$10/hr (workshop rate) for the five hours in which they are in sessions (you will not be paid for the lunch hour).

If you have any questions, contact Professional Learning and Licensure at 365-5039. We look forward to hearing from you. Start your summer off on the right foot by attending the Showcase.

Special notes

- ❑ **Fee waiver applications for Autumn 2015** will be in mailboxes on **Monday, Apr. 27**. The completed applications are due back to Northgate by **Friday, May 8**, at **5 p.m.** If you have **Priority I** or **Priority II status**, include the proper documentation. Documentation is required with each fee waiver process. **Your priority status will change to Priority III without proper documentation.** Call Norma Oldham, Sixth Street Annex, 365-5039, if you have any questions.
- ❑ Go to <http://bit.ly/2015-16NEATLICor> to download the **Teacher Leadership Initiative Application**. The **deadline for submission** has been extended until **Friday, May 1**.
- ❑ **Campaigning for the runoff election for District 3 is underway through Monday, May 4.** Voting will take place from **April 21–May 4.** Votes will be **tabulated Tuesday, May 5.**
- ❑ Note the following **211 calendar dates: Apr. 29–30, job fairs** at the **Hudson Distribution Center Library.**
- ❑ This year’s **CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet** will be **Saturday, May 16**, in the ballroom of the **Hilton Columbus Downtown, 401 N. High Street.** If you are retiring this year and did not receive your invitation to attend the banquet, contact **Jeff Corbin** at CEA at **253-4731.**