

The CEA Voice

Tracey D. Johnson, President

Volume XLV, No. 38

Columbus Education Association

May 26, 2015

Retirees: You Have Made a Huge Difference

Some of them will be working in their gardens. Others will travel. Some will spend time with grandchildren. We may see some of our retirees back in the classroom as subs or in the CEA Office, joining our CEA-R volunteers to help us get ready for a program. In any case, we don't plan on forgetting them any time soon. Our retiring CEA Class of 2015 has more than 300 members, including the 102 in attendance at this year's CEA Awards and Retirement Banquet, comprising our largest group in recent years. They have left us with many wonderful memories and have given their students insights, wisdom and guidance to last a lifetime.



We honored them at our 39th Annual CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet at the Hilton Columbus Downtown, May 16. More than 350 people attended the dinner, where CEA presented annual Association and community awards and presented scholarships to several students.

CEA President Tracey D. Johnson warmly thanked this year's Friend of Education, City Year Columbus, noting its significant work mentoring Columbus students and saving many from dropping out. Next school year, City Year Columbus will expand its work to include Champion Middle School and Trevitt Elementary School. CEA Vice President Phil Hayes recognized the 10 Outstanding Faculty Representatives calling them, "the bricks-and-mortar of our Association."

One of the evening's highlights was a serenade, a rendition of the Frank Sinatra song, *Winners*, delivered by Harold Palmer, past regional director of OAPSE.

Listed below are our Scholarship and Award recipients:

Outstanding Faculty Representative

Each year, the CEA District Governors select faculty representatives to be honored for their hard work and dedication during the year. We salute the following outstanding Senior Faculty Representatives for their service:

District 1	Nicholas Brandt	Dominion MS
District 2	Jenny Plemel	Northland HS
District 3	Kim Roth	Oakland Park ES
District 4	Delia Angles	Columbus Spanish Imm. Acad.
District 5	Chris Root	Eastmoor Academy
District 6	Gary Leidheiser	Hilltonia MS
District 7	Dorothy Smith	Southwood ES
District 8	Amy Glowark-Mondillo	Scottwood ES
District 9	Doreen Miller	OT/PT
District 10	Dyann Taylor	Librarians

CEA Scholarship Recipients

For more than three decades, CEA has honored and supported students with scholarships at the banquet. We congratulate this year's winners and their CEA-member parents:

Christa McAuliffe Scholarship

Larkin Anderson, daughter of Barbara Anderson, Special Education Coordinator

CEA General Scholarship

Sarah Schoultz, daughter of Martha Kotter, Ridgeview MS

Joan Donley CEA-R Scholarship

Gabrielle Robinson, daughter of Genevieve Robinson, CAHS

CEA-R Scholarship

Angela Hughes, daughter of Mary Hughes, Ohio Ave. ES

John E. Grossman Memorial Scholarship

Ashia Holloway, South HS Graduating Senior

Rhonda Johnson CEA-R Scholarship

Holden Price, son of Stacey Thompson, Independence HS

We congratulate our 2015 Retirees who, collectively, have devoted hundreds of years of service to our students. The following individuals were honored at the banquet:

Ann Aeschbury	Kenneth R. Hawkins	Charlotte Price
Jeanne Alspach	Carla Holland	Jeri Rea
Marilyn J. Banks	Granotta Holmes	Marlene Robbins
Virginia Bartelt	Kristina Jacobson	Christine Root
Susan Bauerle	Deborah Janopoulos	Kellie Saladin
Nancy K. Bauman	Madalene Jentgen	Mark Sampson
Linda Bohner	James Keller	Christine Sapp
Nicholas A. Brandt	Avis A. Kinkead	Kathy Schabo
Andrea D. Branham	Loretta Kleinline	Jeanne Schulté
Annette Brewer	Jeanette Kuschill	Christine Sellers
Nancy Bringardner	James Lafferty	Janet Sherman
Lisa Capatosto	Irene M. Lindelow	John F. Spack, Jr.
Michelle Coleman	Terry Mahoney	Helen "Heather" Stanich
Valerie Y. Cummings	Anita O. Manley	Rita Statmiller
Lisa A. Cunningham	Lynn E. Markle	Rene J. Steiner
Donna J. Davis	Molly Mautz	Elizabeth Stombaugh
Theresa Dearing	Deborah Z. McCoy	Janis Strominger
Julie Didlick	Patricia McHarg	Karen L. Sullivan
Carol Dixon	Paula McQuade	Beth A. Suver
Rosalind L. Ebai	Traci Michalak	Martha Swift
Pamela Ellis	Dewey Mitchell	Patricia A. Taylor
Laura England	Georgia Morgan	Tawana Marie Thorn
Lawrence Farley	Melanie Morrison	Debra Thornwell
Maria Fiorelli	Carol J. Moss	Abby Vaile
Paula J. Garfield	Michael Munsell	Paula Jean Van Fossen-Brown
Jacqueline Gilchrist	Carol Neague	Robert A. Wade, Jr.
Carol Glassman	Annette Neff	Deborah D. Weber
Bruce Green	Denise Ann Nixon	Theresa Weidner
Elaine Grossman	Susan Noe	Dannette Williams
Christine Guzzo	Valerie Norton	Withenia Moore Williams
Carolyn B. Hancock	Paula Nourse	Mark Wilson
Denise H. Harmon	Maureen O'Rourke	Wanda J. Wilson
Sandra Harris	Catherine Patzer	Sandra M. Winchester
Lissa Hartman	Venita Payne	Michele Wyatt

CEA: A Year in Review

Your Association has had a very busy and productive year. Tracey D. Johnson began her term as CEA President following the leadership of immediate Past-President Rhonda Johnson, who now serves as the Education Director of the City of Columbus. Phil Hayes continued in his role as CEA Vice President. The CEA Office welcomed new Staff Consultant Teri Mullins, appointed new BOG/LA Secretary Dominique Vacheresse and new Elections Chairperson Neil Moore. CEA also welcomed Hannah Milley to the staff as Administrative Assistant.

CEA started the year by welcoming almost one hundred new members to the CEA family. President Johnson had the pleasure of meeting with the new teachers at the CCS New Teacher Orientation and speaking to them about the importance of joining this great Association.

Officers and staff began the school year by making school visits and talking to members. We plan to continue making visits next year. It is important for the officers and staff to see the great things happening in our schools.

Soon things began to unravel in union land. The Reynoldsburg Education Association (REA) went on a three-week strike, standing up for the membership and their students. CEA gave REA its full support. We attended board meetings and rallies and sent words of encouragement. The CEA membership collected more than \$7,700 in donations for REA.

The nightmare continued on Election Day. Unfortunately, many of our endorsed pro-public education candidates lost their elections. It was a sad day for us all, but CEA had to continue on.

Testing, testing and more testing became the theme of the year. OAA, OGT, PARCC, AIR and many more assessments took far too much time away from teachers being able to teach and students being able to learn. CEA gave testimony during the House Education Committee meetings, spoke to elected officials during Lobby Days and wrote letters. Members met with Senator Sherrod Brown and State Superintendent Dick Ross to discuss the issue of excessive testing.

The attacks on the profession continued when the State Board of Education voted to eliminate the "Five of Eight" rule. This standard required that educational service personnel be assigned to at least five of the eight following areas: counselor, library media specialist, school nurse, visiting teacher, social worker and elementary art, music and physical education.

But on a bright note, working in collaboration with the District and other Association leaders, we were able to secure a much-needed Records Day for the membership. This day was well attended and greatly appreciated.

CEA was also able to work with the District to move the Article 211 process up. As a result, all our current members have been placed and even those who were in lay-off status have been recalled.

CEA continued to conduct the many charitable campaigns such as United Way, UNCF, I Know I Can and the CEA Annual Book Drive.

Your CEA has also focused on growing new leaders. New faces attended various conferences sponsored by OEA and NEA in order to build the capacity of the membership. More than thirty members participated in the NEA Teaching and Learning Initiative. Through a grant from the NEA Foundation, CEA also sponsored nearly thirty members interested in pursuing their National Board Certification with the opportunity to attend the 2015 Teaching and Learning Conference.

CEA sponsored its first Organization and Activist Training. Over sixty members participated in the training. Also at the training almost everyone in attendance joined the newly formed CEA Social and Economic Justice Committee. This committee will focus on issues that impact our work inside and outside the classroom.

As you can see, CEA has been extremely busy. It has been our pleasure serving the membership. While the year has had many highs and lows, we know that together we will rise above it all. CEA is strong because of its members. Thank you for your hard work. Thank you for your dedication to the profession and to our students. As we close out this school year and move towards a new one, let us remember that the success of us all depends upon our ability to work together and stand with one another. We are the CEA, and that's what makes us strong!

Testing Reform: In the House

The Ohio Senate recently shared with the House of Representatives recommendations from its Testing Advisory Committee. On May 13, the House agreed on its version of testing reform. House Bill 74, sponsored by Rep. Andrew Brenner, now moving to the Senate for review, would:

- ⊕ Limit each state assessment or end-of-course exam to no more than three hours
- ⊕ Reduce end-of-course exams for high school seniors to five (eliminating English II and geometry)
- ⊕ Eliminate the requirement of online testing for 2015–2016, pending more study of online test-delivery effectiveness
- ⊕ Eliminate writing and math diagnostics for grades 1–3 (except for math in the 2nd grade)
- ⊕ Allow districts to offer an alternative to the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- ⊕ Require the State Board of Education to recommend time-saving changes to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System

The bill also requires the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to be more proactive, reviewing new standards and finding tests that can be used for multiple purposes. ODE would have to advertise for test developers and specifically prohibit consortia (such as PARCC) from submitting proposals.

The bill now heads to the Ohio Senate for review. The Senate has been considering recommendations from its Testing Advisory Committee, which call for shorter state tests given closer to the end of the school year. The committee does not recommend eliminating PARCC, however. Instead, it requires ODE to find vendors who will make changes to accommodate approved recommendations.

Thank you NBC4

Congratulations to Marion-Franklin HS for winning a \$10,000 grant from WCMH-TV Channel 4's NBC4 Make A Difference program. Marion-Franklin's focus is a student-built, alternative energy micro-power grid. Many of you and others in the community cast votes in support of Marion Franklin HS. Thank you for supporting our students.

CEA summer office hours

CEA will begin summer hours June 1. Offices will be open from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. until Aug. 31. We are committed to responding to the members' needs. Please note that, while the office will be open, there will be limited staffing.

Special note

- ❑ The NEA Teacher Leadership Initiative is still looking for members to join the new cohort. You can earn CEUs and a stipend for participating. Go to <http://bit.ly/2015-16NEATLIcor> to download the application. The deadline to sign up is June 1.
- ❑ There will be an Open House to celebrate Paula and Gayle Nourse's retirement, June 27, 2–5 p.m. For more information, contact Paula at kinder6595@hotmail.com.

