

# The CEA Voice

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Columbus Education Association

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## Early Career Teachers Have a Voice

Your Association is excited to announce the formation of the CEA Young Professionals Caucus (YPC). Your Officers and Board of Governors (BOG) decided that our early career teachers deserved a voice. Teachers early in their careers have many concerns that need to be addressed and CEA wanted to ensure there was a vehicle for concerns to



be heard and for early career teachers to know and understand their Association.

The BOG has appointed Megan Flowers to chair this important work. Megan is a special education teacher at Colerain ES. She is also chair of the National Education Association's (NEA) Young Professional Caucus. Megan currently serves as her building's Senior Faculty Representative and has been a delegate to the NEA and OEA Representative Assemblies. Megan was recently appointed to serve on the Core Team of the CEA Bargaining Team.

The CEA YPC will host its first mixer for early career teachers on Wednesday, March 29 at The Boathouse at Confluence Park, 679 W. Spring Street, from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30p.m. Early career teachers will receive a personal email invitation to the event. Refreshments will be served. If you are an early career teacher and plan to attend the kick-off event, *RSVP* to [kwilkes@ceaohio.org](mailto:kwilkes@ceaohio.org) by March 24.

## Know Your CEA Secretary: Janet Curtis

Janet Curtis has been with the district since 2003, teaching science at Linden McKinley STEM Academy. She has served as her department chair for four years and has been involved in many aspects of her school's programming. She was a member of the SLO team, served as a TBT leader for grade levels 11 and 12, and this year was a volunteer with the high school's blood drive.



In 2015, Curtis served as an alternate Faculty Representative. Last year she had the chance to get involved in the association's broader work. CEA's Dorothy Wilson visited her school and invited her to attend the OEA Summer Academy. Curtis attended and was instantly drawn in by the sense of unity and "the opportunity to meet other teachers, especially other teachers from Columbus City Schools."

Curtis then began participating in several more CEA activities. "When I went with other colleagues to lobby our legislators, that was a whole new experience," she said. "I don't know if I'd ever been in the Statehouse before. We learned how to go about lobbying, how to make a difference. Because your voice is heard and going to meetings around the district you realize there is so much more going on than what's in your building. CEA is such a well-organized association. CEA is on top of things. A lot of the other districts don't have that."

Curtis' main role as the Secretary of CEA's Board of Governors is to record the proceedings of the monthly Legislative Assembly meetings and biweekly Board meetings. Her

reports inform the association's central work. Curtis and her teenage daughter live in Genoa Township, where they care for 10 rescue cats and two dogs.

## Social Justice



In 2015 the CEA formed its Social and Economic Justice Committee (SEJC) to address the issues that impact our work outside of the classroom. In 2016 SEJC hosted a CEA Community in Crisis Forum where more than 100 CEA and community members came together to discuss the issue of violence in our neighborhoods. The committee also sponsored an information session on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for our members to become informed about the Federal law that would impact their work.

This year the committee has been on hiatus so that CEA could focus on the November election and passing the school levy. The committee is now back to work and held its first meeting on February 28, where members gathered to brainstorm ideas for its upcoming work.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the OEA Headquarters, 225 East Broad Street. If you plan to attend *RSVP* to [mcrouse@ceaohio.org](mailto:mcrouse@ceaohio.org).

## LA Attendance

Thank you to the following buildings/units in attendance at the CEA Legislative Assembly held Thursday, March 2:

6th Street Annex, Alpine ES, Art, Arts Impact MS, Beechcroft HS, Berwick PreK-8, Briggs HS, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CAHS, Cassady ES, CEA, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus Gifted Academy, Columbus Global Acad. 6-12@Brookhaven, Columbus Scioto 6-12, Columbus Spanish Imm. K-6, Cranbrook ES, Devonshire ES, East HS, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Acad. HS, École Kenwood K-6, Fairmoor ES, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes CC, Gifted & Talented, Guidance Counselors, Hamilton STEM Acad. K-6, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Huy ES/A.G. Bell Program, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Innis ES, Johnson Park MS, Juvenile Detention Center, Leawood ES, Lincoln Park K-6, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Acad. PreK-6, Linden-McKinley STEM 7-12, Linmoor Ed. Ctr., Livingston K-6, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, Moler K-6, Music, Northgate ES, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Parsons K-6, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, South HS 7-12, Southwood K-6, St. Vincent, Starling K-8, Valley Forge ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West Mound ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Woodcrest ES, Woodward Park MS and Yorktown MS.

## Tell Your Story- Personalized PD

There are so many outstanding initiatives occurring in Columbus City Schools. Tell Your Story is a one-stop Personalized Professional Development tool that teachers can use to easily harvest their authentic evidence for initiatives such as:

- Ohio Teacher Evaluation System
- Ohio Improvement Plan
- Community Engagement
- Resident Educator
- Master Teacher
- Licensure Renewal
- Graduate Credit toward MA+30 Salary Advancement
- National Board Certification

How Does It Work? Simply use tools such as Pinterest, Instagram, Class Dojo, Remind, Seesaw, Google Drive, Twitter. Any digital tool that you can capture, curate or share your awesome teaching and learning. The goal is to capture some of the work you are accomplishing with students, colleagues, parents, or community members.

Teachers can register to earn up to six hours of low cost graduate credits at [bitly.com/PPD\\_1](http://bitly.com/PPD_1).

## Save the Date

CEA will hold its annual Awards & Retirement Banquet on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. Each year, we honor those who have given their time to your association. We include special awards, such as the CEA Friend of Education, Outstanding Faculty Representative from each CEA district, and the Outstanding CEA Member. We also announce the winners of the CEA scholarships. This is a very special and moving event. Mark your calendar. All retirees and Senior Faculty Representatives are invited to attend at no charge. Keep reading *The CEA Voice* for more details.



## A Letter to Our Members

Dear CEA Family:

We are prayerfully requesting an O+ kidney donor for my husband, Daniel Smith. He has been on dialysis for 2 years and 3 months. He is currently on the deceased waiting list at OSU, but it can take up to 3 more years to receive a kidney. A living donation has quicker and better long term results, because every day he waits for a kidney and is on dialysis, it is more detrimental to his life.

In Ohio 3,400 individuals need a life-saving transplant and 18 people die every day waiting for a transplant in the US. Dan is required to receive a direct O+ donor due to having a traumatic lung transplant in December 2015 which caused his kidneys to fail. My children and I do not match his blood type, so we are ineligible to donate. OSU will not even consider us for a paired match.

This is a big request, but we make it knowing there are people who devote every day of their lives to make a difference. If you can help, or if you know someone who can, please call me at (614) 579-7309, or call his transplant co-ordinator at OSU Robin at (614) 293-6737.

Thank you so very, very much,  
Monica Smith  
Eastmoor Academy Nurse

## CEA Scholarships: Deadline is April 7

Applications for CEA Scholarships must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Apr. 7. Eligible high school seniors have proven cumulative grade-point averages (GPA) of 2.5, are children or grandchildren of CEA or CEA-R members and full-time students while enrolled in college. Awards include the Christa

McAuliffe Scholarship; the CEA General Scholarship; the Grossman Memorial Scholarship; and a one-year scholarship awarded by CEA-R and the Rhonda Johnson Scholarship Fund. Visit <http://www.ceaohio.org>. Click the forms tab to find and download an application.

## UNCF

Our 2017 United Negro College Fund Workplace

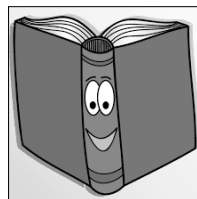
Campaign has come to an end. Thank you so much to those that donated to this worthy cause. Your contributions go a long way in helping students achieve their dream of furthering their education. Your donations help cover, tuition, room and board, student fees, school supplies and books. A big shout



out to the following buildings and programs for caring enough to give: 6<sup>th</sup> Street Annex, Briggs HS, Burroughs ES, CEA Office, CEA-R, Centennial HS, Easthaven ES, Forest Park ES, Georgian Heights ES, Highland ES, Hudson St. Warehouse, Huy ES/A.G. Bell, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Kingswood Center, Linmoor Education Center, Marion Franklin HS, Medina MS, Miffin MS, Moler K-6, Northgate Intermediate, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, PAR, Shady Lane ES, St. Vincent's Center, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Whetstone HS, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES, Woodward Park MS and Yorktown MS. The winners of our \$100 gift cards are: Ibrahima Diallo, Claudia Eschelbach, Tai Hayden, Micheolle Smith and Rochelle Wilkerson. Thank you all again for giving!

## CEA Book Drive is in Full Swing

Please Donate to CEA's Annual Book Drive. CEA is encouraging all members to donate at least two new books appropriate for children reading on the pre-primer through third grade reading level. Book donations can be dropped off at the CEA office through Friday, April 7. A suggested book list has been provided to every SFR. For every three books you donate, you can complete an entry form to win one of four \$100



VISA gift cards. Entry forms should be submitted to Teri Mullins at the CEA office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7. The gift card drawing will take place on Monday, April 10. If you have any questions, please contact Teri Mullins at the CEA office at (614) 253-4731.

## ☑ Special Notes:

- ☑ **The application for the district summer school program is now available on the CCS website at [www.columbus.k12.oh.us/summerschool/](http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/summerschool/). Positions are open for full-time certificated/licensed CCS teachers. Hiring will be done before spring break. Don't wait! Selections will begin immediately and continue until all positions are filled. If you are selected, you will receive an agreement by school mail that must be signed and returned.**
- ☑ **Apply by Apr. 12 by 4 p.m. for the Teachers' Dream Grant year.** Application information is available in your building. These individual, school-based grants range from \$500-\$5,000 for projects focusing on academic enrichment, increasing student achievement, closing the achievement gap, improving school/community relations, and improving classroom learning climate. Get more information at [www.ccssoh.us/grants.aspx](http://www.ccssoh.us/grants.aspx), or contact Andrea Richardson at (614) 365-5733.
- ☑ **CORRECTION for 2/2/17 LA Attendance:** Columbus Spanish Immersion K-6 was in attendance.