

The CEA Voice

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Columbus Education Association

September 25, 2017

Time to Rebuild

At the opening Legislative Assembly (LA) on Thurs., Sept. 14, CEA President Tracey D. Johnson stressed to those in attendance the importance of rebuilding our Association. President Johnson informed the more than 200 Faculty Representatives that, “bargaining will not begin in two years it would start NOW!” Johnson laid out



some of the initiatives and programs that CEA would host during the year to begin this work.

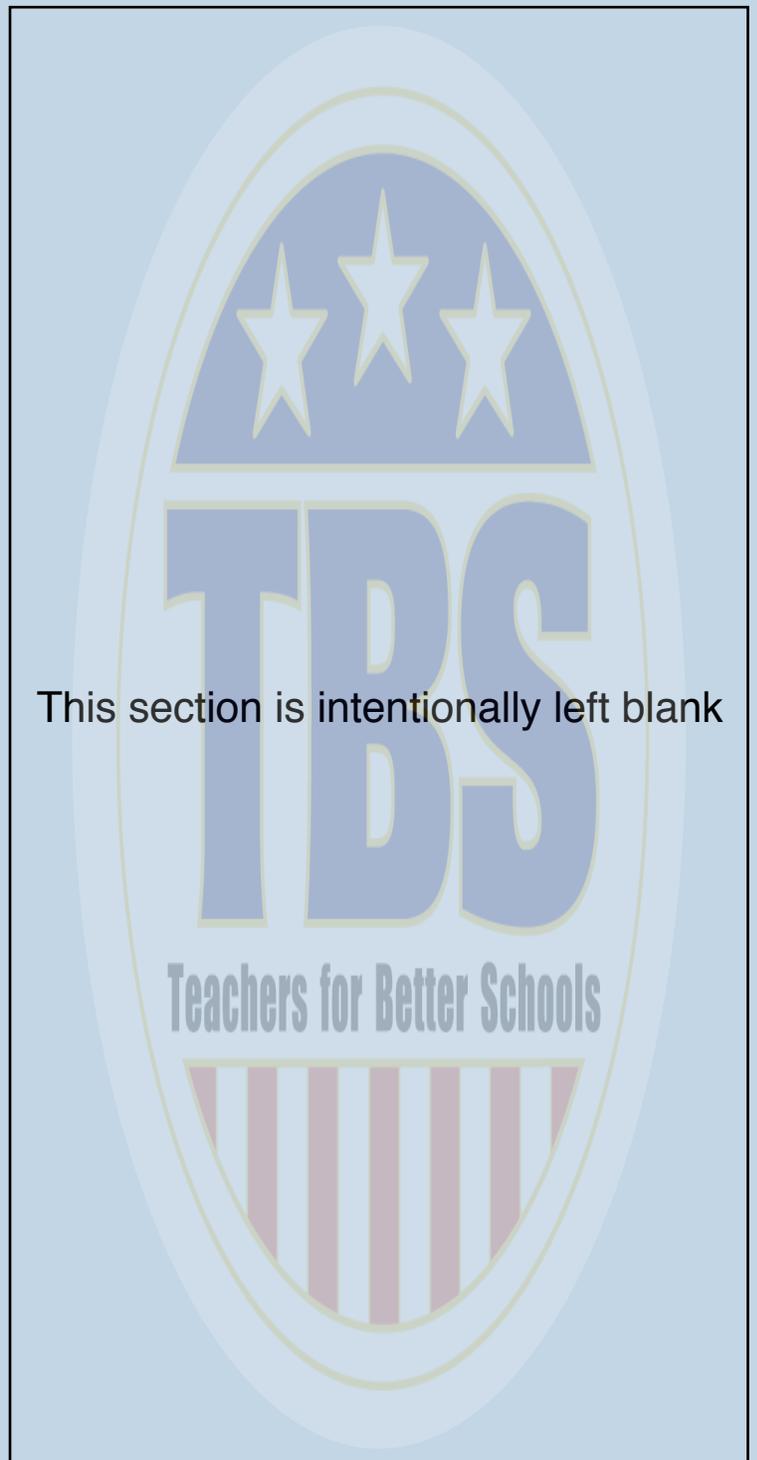
- Bargaining Series: CEA will host a 4-part bargaining series for members interested in learning about the bargaining process. The series will cover topics such as: Bargaining Basics, Understanding School Funding, Defining Your Issues and much more. This series will be open to all members.
- CEA Regional Town Halls: CEA will host town hall meetings for members to come and share their thoughts, concerns and ideas for improving the work of the Association.
- The Crisis Team will continue to work to organize within their buildings and help identify parents and community members who support our efforts.
- CEA will begin identifying our issues and doing the necessary research to support those issues.
- CEA will work with OEA to lobby for fair school funding and hold accountable elected officials who continue to cut school funding and draft legislation or pass a budget that harms urban school districts like Columbus.

CEA Vice President Phil Hayes told the FRs, “Our members are more aware of the contract than ever before. Together, when we act collectively, we are powerful.” On Sept. 14 the State Report Cards came out. Johnson stressed that the members were more than just a test score or data point. She said, “We know that what’s on the state report card does not capture the reality of what’s happening in our schools. You do make a difference and no state report card will ever capture all that you do for children.” During the LA members discussed and endorsed various candidates and issues. After a lively discussion the body voted to table any endorsements of school board candidates until the October LA.

Vote In November

Teachers for Better Schools (TBS) has been working on your behalf to screen the upcoming candidates in the 2017 General Election and determine which ones are friends of

public education. The TBS endorsement process is highly regarded by elected officials and candidates. Candidates and voters value our opinions. They trust what we say and follow our lead at the ballot box. On Thursday, Sept. 14, the CEA Legislative Assembly voted to endorse the following candidates and issues in the November General Election:



*** Legislative Assembly delegates voted to table the consideration of the endorsement of Columbus Board of Education candidates. The next Legislative Assembly is Thursday, Oct. 5.**

Calendar Survey Out Now

On Monday, Sept. 18, CEA sent members an email containing a link to an online calendar survey. The link was sent to members' personal email addresses. The results of this survey will determine the calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. This survey will close at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1. If CEA does not have your personal email address, you will not be able to complete the survey. Additionally, if you have opted out of receiving emails from SurveyMonkey you will be unable to take the survey without opting back in. If you have not received the email with the survey link, send an email from your personal email address to tellcea@ceaohio.org with your first and last name and school/unit.

Know Your Contract: Classroom Visitors and Parent Conferences

We know the possibilities are endless when our students' families and caregivers visit our schools. It's important to maximize their involvement in their children's educations. Unfortunately, in today's high-stakes world of education, visitors can disrupt the learning process in our classroom. The Master Agreement provides you rights regarding visitation to your classroom in Article 207. Note the following:

- All visitors to a school must check in at the office.
- If you are expecting a visitor, you should be advised by the office that he or she has arrived and is on the way.
- If you are not expecting a visitor, he or she should be escorted to your classroom.
- You have the right to reschedule a visitor when prior arrangements have not been made.
- No electronic devices will be used to make a recording of the visit or conference except by agreement of the teacher.

For more information on visitation to your classroom, reference Article 207 of the Master Agreement. If you are experiencing issues with classroom visitation, please speak with your Senior FR or call the CEA office at (614)253-4731.

Making Strides

Sign up to join CEA's Dream Team and participate in the Making Strides Walk at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 21. The walk begins at Genoa Park, 303 W. Broad St. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Create your own team or join ours. Go to www.makingstrideswalk.org/columbus to register and list Columbus Education Association as your team company. Call Ezzetta Murray at (614)253-4731 if you have questions.

Is CEA In Your Contact List?

Your Association works hard to keep you in the loop about urgent and important matters. These communications often come to our bargaining unit members' personal email address. Recent work with our email service has improved our delivery rates. However, our email service continues to experience some delivery issues with certain email providers-- mainly AOL and Columbus/Insight "rr" domains. Additionally, bargaining unit members who utilize Gmail have noted our emails are automatically going to their "Social" or "Promotions" folder.

One way to help insure deliverability of our emails is to add CEA as a contact on your smartphone. This is the brainchild of CEA Middle School Governor-At-Large Tracie Helmbrecht (Arts Impact MS). When you create your CEA contact, include our office number

(614)253-4731, fax (614) 253-0465 our originating email address (CEA@email.nea.org) and our text message short code number (67076).

LA Attendance

CEA's opening Legislative Assembly (LA) for the 2017-2018 school year was held on Thursday, September 14. At the LAs, Faculty Representatives (FR) receive important information about the Association. It is imperative that FRs are in attendance at these meetings and take the information back to the membership. The following schools/units were represented at the September LA: 6th Street Annex, Alpine ES, Art, Avalon ES, Avondale ES, Beechcroft HS, Berwick PreK-8, Briggs HS, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CAHS, Cassady ES, CEA, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Champion MS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus Gifted Academy, Columbus Global Acad. 6-12@Brookhaven, Columbus North International HS 7-12, Columbus Scioto 6-12, Columbus Spanish Imm. K-6, Como ES, Cranbrook ES, Devonshire ES, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park ES, Eakin ES, East Columbus ES, East HS, East Linden ES, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Acad. HS, École Kenwood K-6, Fairmoor ES, Fairwood K-6, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes CC, Gables ES, Georgian Heights ES, Gifted & Talented, Hamilton STEM Acad. K-6, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Hubbard Mastery School PreK-6, Hudson Comm. Ed. Center, Hudson St. Warehouse, 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, Liberty ES, Lincoln Park K-6, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Acad. PreK-6, Linden-McKinley STEM 7-12, Linmoor Ed. Ctr., Livingston K-6, LLI, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Moler K-6, Music, North Linden ES, Northgate ES, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Parsons K-6, Phys. Ed., Psychologists, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, School Counselors, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, South HS 7-12, Southwood K-6, Speech & Language, St. Vincent, Starling K-8, Stewart ES, Valleyview ES, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES, Woodward Park MS, Yorktown MS.

Reminders:

- Sick Leave Bank enrollment ends Friday, Sept. 29. Donate two days in order to be able to borrow up to ten days. The donation form is available on the CCS Intranet under "Human Resources" or the CEA website under the "Forms" tab.
- Have a college senior? Scholarships are available from the CEA Member Scholarship Fund. Each scholarship provides \$1,250 in tuition assistance per awardee. Eligible CEA members must have taught in CCS for the past four years. Your student must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to apply. The deadline to receive the application is 4:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 20. Go to www.ceaohio.org to download an application. Call Kathy Wilkes at (614) 253-4731, if you have questions.

CEA Pre-Paid Legal Services Plan OEA/NEA Attorney Referral Program

At Cloppert, Latanick, Sauter and Washburn, we have dedicated ourselves to teachers in and out of the classroom. Our experienced personal injury, divorce, dissolution, criminal, probate and real estate attorneys are available to you at moderate rates which are lower than we normally charge our private clients.

Contact us today and allow our experience to work for you.

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