A Message from the President

As of June 1st, it will be one year since I took office as your CEA President. Everyday has been a professional development day for me. I have learned so much from so many people. I am very fortunate that many of you have stepped up to help. I do appreciate your support. My position allows me to see the hard work and dedication that our members have to our students, Columbus City Schools and to the Columbus Education Association.

The year has been challenging. We endured a botched superintendent search, school board members fighting and resigning, a facilities task force that was controversial, we surged, we leveled up, we sweated and froze, our attendance was called into question and with that our professionalism. With all of that we persevered. You should be proud of the work you do in trying conditions and in some cases with very little support. I hope all of you have a wonderful summer. Rest, relax, and enjoy the things you like to do. The CEA Office will remain open this summer, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m., to serve you. Thank you for a great first year.

In Solidarity,

John Coneglio, President

Thank You for Your Years of Service

The 43rd Annual Columbus Education Association’s Awards and Retirement Banquet was held Friday, May 27, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. This year, CEA honored 34 retiring educators, and paid homage to CEA members who have worked tirelessly to benefit our schools, our community and the Association.

Marilyn Allen received the Outstanding Member Award posthumously. Marilyn spent more than 30 years teaching for CCS and was extremely active in CEA-R upon her retirement. She spent nearly a decade as the Vice President of CEA-R. Cynthia Smithers (Weinland Park ES) also received the Outstanding Member Award. A long-time SFR, Cynthia also is the chair of the Membership Action Team. Their work, under Cynthia’s leadership, has helped the Association communicate more effectively during bargaining.

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 McMillan Scholarship
  - Chloe Weiss, daughter of Kimberly Weiss-Syres, Cedarwood ES

- CEA General Scholarship
  - William Wilder, son of Merle Wilder, Cedarwood ES

- Joan Donley CEA-R Scholarship
  - Olivia Evans, daughter of Megan Evans, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS

CEA-R Scholarship
- Cole Kohler, daughter of Sherri Wukelich-Kohler, Centennial HS

John E. Grossman Memorial Scholarship
- Jordan Yeck, South HS Graduating Senior

Rhonda Johnson Scholarship
- Jackson Gehrig, daughter of Amy Gehrig, Downtown HS

David A. Thompson Memorial Scholarship
- Quan’tre Ayers, Walnut Ridge HS Graduating Senior
- David Cook III, West HS Graduating Senior

The following Faculty Representatives (by district) were named Outstanding FRs, nominated by their Governors:

Faculty Representative
1. Cynthia Smithers (Weinland Park ES)
2. Harold Howard (North International HS)
3. Susie Stoff (Columbus Scioto 6-12)
4. Denise Sizemore (Avondale ES)
5. Brenda Stone (Cedarwood ES)
6. Lori Barton (Yorktown MS)
7. Merele Wilder (School Psychologist)
8. Christy Burchfield (Art)
9. Kona Kirkbridge (Susie Stoff Mifflin HS)
10. Angela Zalenski (2. Harold Howard W oodward Park @W alden)

We congratulate our 2019 retirees who, collectively, have devoted more than 1,000 years of service to our students. The following individuals were honored at the banquet:

- Lorraine M. Beidler (Patricia A. Oliver)
- Beverly B. Carter (Renee R. Pearson)
- Kay L. Cornell (Jennifer S. Plemel)
- Tina M. Deesare (Genevieve S. Robinson)
- Jean S. Duncan (Jennifer A. Rogers)
- Leslee M. Gantner (Judie K. Bufallo)
- Julia D. Huffer (Steven E. Schack)
- Vanda O. Hughes (Pascale C. Scoyez)
- Kassie L. Hurley (Beverly A. Sexton)
- Tracy A. James (Leslie Sims)
- Elizabeth R. Klein (Vicki T. Steger)
- Juli Ann M. Knecht (James Velo)
- Grace M. Marasco (Shawn E. Webb)
- Kimberly S. Maupin (Susan M. Wener)
- Jean A. Miller (Mary A. Whitehead)
- Nancy J. Moore (Tanya M. Wielwall Duncan)
- Mary E. Morris (Crystal L. Wilson)

Mass Membership Meeting TODAY

CEA will be holding a Mass Membership Meeting TODAY, Tuesday, May 28, at the Ohio Expo Center & State Fair Celeste Center (717 E. 17th Ave). Registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. with the meeting starting promptly at 6 p.m. Your Union is asking all members to wear red for the schools #ColumbusStudentsDeserve.

You will need a photo ID to enter. Your school ID or driver’s license are acceptable forms of identification. CEA will cover the cost of parking, however, it is $5 per car so please plan to carpool if possible so we can keep our costs down. The purpose of this meeting is to inform members of the progress of bargaining prior to the beginning of summer break.

There are 83 days left until the current CEA Master Agreement expires.
Grievance Update

Your Association works hard to protect your rights and maintain the integrity of the negotiated contract. While we advise bargaining unit members to work out problems at the building level first, we know this isn’t always possible. We will inform you of the grievances CEA is working on for you on a regular basis.

Colombus Pride Parade

CEA is partnering with Columbus City Schools to support our staff and students of the LGBTQ Community. Join CCS teachers, staff, students, community partners, and more on Saturday, June 15, at 10:30 a.m., at Goodale Park for the Columbus Pride Parade. All friends, family, alumni, and allies are welcome to attend. The following is a list of buildings/units and administrators that have completed their campaigns are:

- Columbus Spanish Imm. K–6
- Cranbrook ES
- Devonshire ES
- Centennial HS
- Central Enrollment
- Clinton ES
- Colerain ES
- Columbus Education Center
- Columbus Gifted Academy
- Columbus Spanish Imm. K–6
- Cranbrook ES
- Devoshire ES
- Eastmoor Acad.
- École Kenwood K–6
- Georgian Heights
- Gifted & Talented
- Hamilton STEM
- Hubbard Mastery School
- Pektus K–6
- Huy ES/A.G. Bell Program
- Indian Springs ES
- Indiana University Informal K–8
- CEA-R
- Linden-McKinley STEM Acad.
- Mari- Franklin HS
- Medina HS
- Mifflin HS
- Northgate Intermediate ES
- Northland HS
- Ridgeview MS
- Sherwood MS
- South HS 7–12
- Southwood K–6
- Special Ed. Coordinators
- Stein ES
- Suncrest ES
- Sunview ES
- Walnut Ridge HS
- Woodcrest ES
- Woodlawn ES
- Woodward ES
- Wright ES

For more information, contact Judy Valentine or email CEA-R by emailing CEA-R at cea-r@cchs.org. Up-line information for the parade will be sent out at a later date, so we need a way to get in touch with you over the summer break.

UNCF Campaign Closes

Even though CEA has not collected all the UNCF contribution envelopes at this time, our current total so far has exceeded last year’s campaign. There are still a number of envelopes out. The winner of the Amazon $50 gift card is Becky Rammel of Burroughs ES.

Buildings/Units that have completed their campaigns are:

- 17th Avenue Service Center
- Avalon ES
- Avondale ES
- Broadleigh ES
- Burroughs ES
- CAFEC
- CDHS
- CEA
- Cedarwood ES
- Centennial HS
- Central Enrollment
- Clinton ES
- Colerain ES
- Columbus Education Center
- Columbus Gifted Academy
- Columbus Spanish Imm. K–6
- Cranbrook ES
- Devoshire ES
- Eastmoor Acad.
- École Kenwood K–6
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- Northland HS
- Ridgeview MS
- Sherwood MS
- South HS 7–12
- Southwood K–6
- Special Ed. Coordinators
- Stein ES
- Suncrest ES
- Sunview ES
- Walnut Ridge HS
- Woodcrest ES
- Woodlawn ES
- Wright ES

Join CEA-R (Retired)

CEA-R would like to congratulate the Class of 2019 Retirees. We hope to see you at one of our events soon. CEA-R publishes three brochures each year and have an average of two events per month. There are occasional one-day and multi-day trips. In addition to the brochure, CEA-R has a website and a Facebook page. Members have many opportunities to volunteer at the CEA office and in our schools including United Way and the Operation Food Drive campaigns. For more information, contact Judy Valentine (614) 666-6333 or Jeff Corbin (614) 623-9508.