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Dear Colleague:

Congratulations on your appointment to a position in the Columbus City Schools. On behalf of the more than 4,200 members of the Columbus Education Association I want to say welcome. CEA is an affiliate of the Ohio Education Association (OEA) and the National Education Association (NEA), which unites us with more than 2.7 million educators throughout the nation.

CEA is your voice and your representative in bargaining with the Columbus Board of Education. Our Association is more than 125 years old and has been built by thousands of volunteers who have sacrificed tremendously to improve our profession. Because of those efforts, CEA has one of the most elaborate contracts in the nation. We hope that you will become an active member of CEA so that we can continue to keep our Association strong.

The teaching challenges of today can be eased by taking advantage of all your Association has to offer. In your building or unit, our CEA faculty representatives are always available to assist and guide you.

Through our weekly newsletter, *The CEA Voice*, email blasts, social media and our website, <u>www.ceaohio.org</u>, CEA makes it possible for you to continually monitor the district news, staying current with important topics such as insurance updates, member benefits and licensure changes.

Working in an urban public school system is a tremendously rewarding job. However, our members face great challenges every day as we strive to meet the needs of over 50,000 diverse students in one of the fastest growing and most dynamic cities in the country. You can be proud that you are now a part of a great legacy of leadership in education.

Never hesitate to call or visit the CEA office. Remember that the CEA officers and staff, along with the faculty representatives in the buildings, stand ready to help you as you join our ranks serving the children of Columbus. Best wishes and have a great school year.

Sincerely,

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John Coneglio President