

The CEA Voice

Volume XLIV, No. 35

Columbus Education Association

May 5, 2014

Celebrate National Teacher Day on Social Media



Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4–10 and includes National Teacher Day, Tuesday, May 6. Thousands of communities will take time out to honor their local educators and acknowledge the contributions they make to our lives.

CEA recognizes the crucial role teachers play in making sure every child receives a quality public education and hopes administrators will take the time to convey to parents and the community the hard work educators do each day to make public schools great for every child.

So spread the word. Get onto your Twitter account and tweet one of these:

- If you learned a second language, #thankateacher
- If you can write an essay, #thankateacher
- If you love to read, #thankateacher

Join thousands showing their support for our nation's teachers. Show some love on Facebook and Twitter or get creative and create your own six-second video "thank you" on Vine. Follow these steps. It's easy. Here's how:

- ❶ Vine is available as a free download on all three major smartphone platforms, including Android, iOS and Windows phones. After installation, you'll be prompted to sign up with either your Twitter account or email address.
- ❷ Start recording! Press the camera icon in the top-right corner of the app. Holding your finger to the screen begins recording and releasing your finger pauses it.
- ❸ Once you've recorded your video, press the arrow in the top-right corner of your screen and preview your finished product. If you'd like to rearrange your sequence of clips, press the Edit button and simply drag and drop your individual clips to their new places in your timeline. You can delete clips by dragging them to the top of the screen into the trash can icon.
- ❹ When you're finished editing, press Save, and then press the green checkmark at the bottom of your screen. You'll be brought to the Share screen where you can add a caption and the #thankateacher

hashtag.

- ❺ Share your Vine on your Facebook and Twitter and ask your network to #ThankATeacher.

CEA would love to share your #ThankATeacher Vine. If you share your Vine on Facebook, make sure you tag Columbus Education Association. If you share your Vine on Twitter, make sure to include @columbusea in your tweet.

Make sure to "follow" us on Vine, "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter. Help us show the world what a positive impact teachers make on students' lives every day.

Go to the CEA website (www.ceaohio.org) to view videos of CEA officers and staff members thanking their favorite teachers.

National School Nurse Day

If you think school nursing is all about flu shots, BAND-AIDS and record-keeping, you haven't been inside a school lately. School health professionals juggle a complex array of medical and social issues, seeing thousands of students and often moving from school to school throughout the district.

National School Nurse Day is Wednesday, May 7. Let's say THANKS! We love our school nurses, and we will do whatever we can to support them, making sure that CCS continues to provide this service for children.

Nurses are accomplished multi-taskers, giving immunizations, health care screenings, hearing and vision testing; helping students manage diseases such as diabetes and asthma; educating families about student obesity; providing special needs like tube-feeding; preventing the spread of disease through blood exposure; and helping students deal with the fallout from mental, emotional and social problems.

As public health workers, nurses are the leaders in the development and evaluation of school health policies. It's a monumentally important job.

So, to our nurses and their 76,000 peers across the country: THANK YOU!

Affirming our strength

The OEA Capital District has new leadership. Kriston Crombie Stotik (Northgate Center) was elected President. Gerry Curran (PAR) was elected Capital District Vice President. J. Sanchez (Northland HS) will represent Columbus teachers on the OEA Board of Directors.

The Capital District Spring Representative Assembly met Apr. 23 to elect its officers and to hear briefings from our state education organizations. The program included Tim Meyers, OEA Secretary-Treasurer, presenting the OEA budget. Tai Hayden, who sits on the STRS board, gave her



annual report. Scott DiMauro delivered the OEA President's and Vice President's reports. Tom Busher, Capital District Treasurer, updated everyone on our financial position and presented the Capital budget.

CEA President Rhonda Johnson was tasked with making the ask on behalf of the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education. We are very proud that we raised more than \$2,200 for this non-partisan, political-action fund for candidates who support the values of public educators.

The assembly also heard from candidates who took to the stage to make their leadership cases. This year, there is only one contested race for an OEA office: We endorsed Andrea Beeman (Maple Organization Support Team) for the OEA Board of Directors At-Large position. The election will take place at the OEA Representative Assembly on May 8.

Emily Osterling (Lakota E.A.-Butler) and Janifer Trowles (Dayton E. A.) are running unopposed for NEA Director positions. Karen Wright (Wellington School SS) is running unopposed for OEA Board of Directors At-Large ESP.

Forty-three delegates/alternates attended, along with fourteen guests. A special thank you goes to CEA-R members who helped with registration and voting: Bonita Agnew, Judy Valentine, Joyce Willeke, Marilyn Allen, Jeff Corbin, Debby Huffman-Mirib and Michele Mays.

A big thank you

Ohio Superintendent Richard Ross sent out a thank you message to school districts that participated in the first round of field tests for Ohio's Next Generation Assessments—the PARCC math and English language arts tests and the science and social studies tests.

CEA joins Ross in appreciating your help as the state develops these important exams. Here is some of what he said:

I appreciate the district technology coordinators who worked to make updates. I also thank the 180,000 students and their teachers who participated in all of these field tests. These individuals have helped Ohio take a big step toward building a better testing system.

The Ohio Department of Education will use what it has learned to work with test vendors and technology coordinators to improve the assessments and local technology before the Next Generation Assessments launch in spring 2015. We'll also use the experience to create professional development materials to help teachers and schools better understand how to make the Next Generation Assessments successful.

Another field test is coming this month for the end-of-year tests.

Get fit

This is an ideal time to get outside and to be active. Remember, as a benefit to CCS staff we have an offer for complimentary Shape Fitness Gym memberships. In addition, the staff Wellness Committee has worked hard to create programs that offer something for everyone.

Visit www.wellness.columbus.k12.oh.us to log in your weight and height, get valuable health information and learn about district fitness options and discounts. You can also fill out your membership form for Shape. Examples of the topics you can read about on the site are nutrition tips for diabetics and how to determine if a food labeled "organic" truly is.

For questions about the wellness initiative, send an email to wellness@columbus.k12.oh.us.



Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

May is Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month. We celebrate the contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders to the progress of our country. We also recall their history as immigrants and their struggles to become fully-recognized U.S. citizens.

Among many milestones, we commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

Many cultures are included in this annual commemoration, including those of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island).

You can emphasize many aspects of Asian-American history, including immigration, the influence of Asian arts on American movements, the service of Asian Americans at war and the treatment of Asian Americans during various periods of history.

Draw upon your Asian-American students' own experiences. Involve parents in your school community. For history of API month and for lessons on how to celebrate their heritage, go to: <http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/teaching-api-month.html>.



Special notes

- ❑ **Attention retirees:** We still have a few tickets available for your **CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet**. Call CEA (253-4731) to make your reservation. The event will be held on **Saturday, May 17**, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. **Social hour** will begin at **6 p.m.** and **dinner** will be served at **7 p.m.** If you are a retiree, please attend this banquet. It is being held in your honor.
- ❑ **Fee waiver applications** for **Autumn 2014** are **due back** to Northgate by **Tuesday, May 6, at 5 p.m.** If you have **Priority I** or **Priority II** status, include the proper documentation. **Documentation is required with each fee waiver process. Your priority status will change to Priority III without proper documentation.** Call Norma Oldham, Northgate (365-8993), if you have any questions.
- ❑ The following **alternative interview panels** have been approved: Africentric EC ES, Curriculum Coordinators, Innis ES and South HS.
- ❑ **Chipotle Mexican Grill** will offer a **buy one, get one free special** on **National Teacher Day, Tuesday, May 6, from 4 p.m. to close.** Any educator who presents a **valid school ID** will be able to participate. This offer is **only in-store** and not eligible for online, fax or catering orders.
- ❑ **Bowl at HP Lanes Bowling Alley's** (2012 Innis Rd.) **teacher appreciation day** from **12–6 p.m.** on **May 17.** **Bowl three games for just \$7 (includes shoes).** Send an email to **Steve Hiner** (SHiner5842@columbus.k12.oh.us) if you are interested. You can still go even without responding. Please note: **The alley does not allow outside food and drinks.**