

The CEA Voice



Thank you for supporting REA

With a great deal of pride, we announce that CEA members have so far donated more than \$7,700 to the Reynoldsburg Education Association's strike fund—and in only three days. This is in addition to the \$500 and over \$200 worth of snacks given to REA by the Association earlier. Keep the support flowing! Thanks to those who have contributed already:

Arts Impact MS, Art, Avalon ES, Avondale ES, Berwick K-8, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CEA Office, CEA-R, Cassady ES, Centennial HS, Clinton ES, Columbus International HS 7-12, Dominion MS, East HS, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, École Kenwood K-6 @ Northgate, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Guidance Counselors, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Independence HS, Juvenile Detention Center (JDC), Leawood ES, Liberty ES, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Music, Neil Avenue Center, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Olde Orchard ES, PAR, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, Southwood K-6, Special Education Coordinators, Speech & Language, Starling K-8, Valley Forge ES, Wedgewood MS, West Broad ES, West Mound ES, Westmoor MS and Woodcrest ES.

CEA has adopted 2 strategic goals

During the Sept. 25 CEA Board of Governors (BOG) meeting, the BOG adopted two leadership goals for 2014-2016. These goals focus the work of the BOG and provide direction of the Association to the membership:

- CEA will identify and create a database of 100 potential new CEA leaders in order to broaden the base and sustain the work of the Association by December 2015.
- CEA will organize activities and events that will help educate members about the work of the Association and increase participation in said events through multiple vehicles such as workshops, meetings, one-on-ones, school visits, etc.

Faculty Representatives will be updated on the progress of the goals at the Legislative Assemblies. We will also keep the membership informed through *The CEA Voice*.

Open Enrollment

We are pleased to share that insurance rates are not increasing in 2015. However, we want you to make sure you check your insurance benefits to ensure that every eligible person you want to cover is added. Open enrollment ends Oct. 31. Changes are effective as of Jan. 1, 2015.

You must review your benefits with a benefits counselor and inform the district of your coverage—even if you are not changing anything. Fortunately, it's easy. Last week in *The Voice* we told you about co-browsing through the Employee Self-Service System, where you can look at your package online simultaneously with a counselor. You also can meet with one in person. You may sign up through the system for a meeting at the Kingswood Data Center, 1091 King Avenue.

To make your appointment from a district computer, go to the Technical Learning Center (TLC) website: <http://cpsnet.columbus.k12.oh.us/applications/tlcRegistration.nsf/Information%20Pages/Main?opendocument>.

Lab hours are from 3-6 p.m., with hours until 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays through Oct. 31. Log in with your CCS computer username and password and follow the prompts.

To add a dependent to your benefits, bring eligibility documentation along with your ESS confirmation statement to Kingswood for your appointment. Kingswood Data Center employees will accept these documents during non-lab times.

2015 Contribution Rates for Medical Benefits for Teachers

Medical 21 Pay Plan	Select	Choice
Employee only	\$ 41.23	\$ 48.37
Employee plus one (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, or Child)*	82.22	96.44
Employee plus one (Including Spouse/DP)	233.26	247.48
Family (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, and/or Children)*	121.31	142.30
Family (Including Spouse/DP)	344.15	365.14
Medical 26 Pay Plan	Select	Choice
Employee only	\$ 33.30	\$ 39.06
Employee plus one (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, or Child)*	66.41	77.89
Employee plus one (Including Spouse/DP)	188.40	199.89
Family (Spouse on CCS coverage before June 1, 2009, and/or Children)*	97.98	114.94
Family (Including Spouse/DP)	277.97	294.92

*CEA bargaining unit members as of May 31, 2009, shall, so long as they are continuously employed by the Board, be entitled to enroll a spouse for primary coverage at these rates if a "qualifying event" occurs.

Give to United Way

By now, you should be meeting with your FR regarding this year's United Way Campaign. This is an extremely important campaign for our families. Janet Jackson, CEO of United Way of Central Ohio, spoke to our Legislative Assembly and emphasized the agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten. "This is some of the most important work we are doing," she said. "When you give, give generously, and check the box that says 'community impact on education.'"



Capital Day is for YOU

Join CEA on Oct. 17 at the Hyatt Regency for Capital Day. This event features some of the best professional development in the state. Speakers this year are Donna Brazile, a ground-breaking political strategist, and Lee Stiff, an expert on teaching mathematics to urban, African-American children. Join us at 7:30 a.m. for registration and coffee. The day concludes at 3:30 p.m. with door prizes. In between, you will have educational sessions to choose from, as well as a great lunch. Register on PD Planner at Columbus.schoolnet.com. We hope to see you there, if your building has not made other plans. If you have your own school activity planned, it must have been approved in advance. The following schools have been approved to have Capital Day activities in their buildings: Avalon ES, Berwick K-8, Broadleigh ES, Career Tech. Ed (2), Cassady ES, Cedarwood ES, Champion MS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric SS, Cols. Span. Imm. Academy K-6, Como ES, Eakin ES, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, École Kenwood K-6, Elem. Art, Gables ES, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Indianola K-8, Liberty ES, Lincoln Park ES, Linden McKinley STEM Academy 7-12, Moler ES, North Linden ES, Northtowne ES, Oakland Park ES (includes Binns, Cranbrook, Devonshire, Georgian Heights, Indian Springs, Oakland Park and Stewart ES @ Beck), Ohio ES, OT/PT, Salem ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, Special Ed. (IEP Training), South HS, Starling K-8, Trevitt ES, Valley Forge ES, Watkins ES, West Broad ES, Whetstone HS and Woodward Park MS.

The clock is ticking

As a result of the Ohio Legislature passing Ohio Substitute House Bill 362 on June 3, 2014, the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System will reflect changes for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond. One of the changes is quoted as follows: "A board of education may elect to not conduct an evaluation of a teacher who...has submitted notice of retirement and that notice has been accepted by the board not later than Dec. 1 in the school year in which the evaluation is otherwise scheduled to be conducted."

Members who would like to exercise this option must submit their notice of retirement by Oct. 30, 2014, to Human Resources. To download a copy of the retirement/resignation notification form, go to <http://bit.ly/ccsretireresign>. Your Association recommends hand delivering your notice of retirement and obtaining a time-stamped copy. If you have further questions regarding the option not to conduct the evaluation due to retirement, please contact Mira Wright at 365-8307. If you have general retirement questions not related to the evaluation process, please go to <http://bit.ly/ccsretire>.

Early voting: changes again

It is important that we vote to support pro-public education candidates and ensure we are represented. Take note of this early voting schedule. Visit your board of elections to cast your ballot. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Oct. 31. Offices are closed on Oct. 13. The election offices also are open on two Saturdays—Oct. 25 and Nov. 1—from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on the Sunday before Election Day—Nov. 2—from 1 to 5 p.m. Franklin County residents may visit the Board of Elections offices at 1700 Morse Road. Here's the link for more information: <https://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/absentee/>.

To find other county locations, visit: <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/electionofficials/boeDirectory.aspx>.

Another great LA

We thank all the Faculty Representatives who attended the Oct. 2 Legislative Assembly. This is where votes are taken and you stay informed about what's affecting you within the district. We also thank

the administrators and classified staff that joined us at the beginning of the meeting to participate in the United Way Campaign kick-off.

The following buildings/units were in attendance:

Alpine ES, Art, Arts Impact MS, Avalon ES, Avondale ES, Berwick K-8, Binns ES, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CAHS, Cassady ES, CEA, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Champion MS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus Global Acad., Columbus International HS 7-12, Como ES, Devonshire ES, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park 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 Arts & Academic HS, Ft. Hayes CC, Gables ES, Georgian Heights ES, Gifted & Talented, Guidance Counselors, 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, Johnson Park MS, Juvenile Detention Center (JDC), Leawood ES, Liberty ES, Lincoln Park K-6, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Acad. K-6, Livingston K-6, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, Moler K-6, Music, Neil Avenue Center, North Linden ES, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Ohio Avenue ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Parsons K-6, Phys. Ed., Psychologists, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, Siebert K-6, South HS 7-12, South Mifflin STEM Acad K-6, Southwood K-6, Special Ed. Coordinators, Speech & Language, Starling K-8, Stewart ES @ Beck, Sullivant ES, Trevitt ES, Valley Forge ES, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES and Woodward Park MS.

Declare your candidacy

Interested in becoming more involved in the Association? Consider running for District 6 Governor (to complete the unexpired term ending in 2015) or for a Middle School At-Large Governor (three-year term).

To run for District 6 Governor, you must be a CEA member working in the District 6 area. To run for Middle School At-Large Governor, you must be a middle school classroom teacher. Both positions require that candidates be members of CEA for two years immediately preceding this election. Members could declare their candidacy and campaign for either position starting on Oct. 6. Campaigning ends on Nov. 10. The Elections Committee will tabulate votes on Nov. 11.

Declaration forms are available by calling the CEA office or by going to the CEA website, www.ceahio.org, under "Forms." If you have questions, give us a call.

Special notes

- ❑ The Making Strides for Breast Cancer Walk is Sunday, Oct. 26, at COSI, 333 W. Broad St. Registration starts at 8 a.m. The walk begins at 10 a.m. Sign up by going to www.makingstrideswalk.org/columbus. Choose your team name or join our CEA Dream Team. Add "Columbus Education Association" as your team company. The first thirty CEA members to register online and raise \$50 will receive a free T-shirt. For additional information, contact Ezetta Murray at 253-4731 or emurray@ceahio.org.
- ❑ CEA Member Scholarships are available for your college senior. Distributed through The Columbus Foundation, this fund provides \$1,250 in tuition assistance. Only CEA members who have taught in CCS for the past four years are eligible. Your student must have at least a 2.0 GPA in order to apply. The deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24. Go to <http://bit.ly/2014CEAScholarshipApp1> to download an application. Call Cora Miller at 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.

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