

The CEA Voice

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Columbus Education Association

Johnson Meets with State Officials and Parents to Share School Funding Concerns

On October 12, CEA President Tracey D. Johnson along with OEA Lobbyist Melissa Clark met with representatives from the Governor’s office and the Ohio Department of Education to discuss school funding concerns. Johnson voiced the deep concerns of CEA members regarding the school funding formula and the tough decisions facing Columbus due to inadequate state funding.



Of particular note was the way Ohio funds charter school students through a pass-through model resulting in less aid for the students who are educated in the district. This, coupled with other school funding formula elements, such as the gains cap on state support, exacerbate the problem. Officials acknowledged the issues, but also talked about the challenges posed by Ohio’s revenue shortfall when crafting the most recent state budget.

On October 16, President Johnson meet with a group of concerned parents and community members about the recent round of negotiations. Johnson thanked the group for their support of the CEA membership. She also shared with them the negotiations process, issues around school funding and the members disappointment with the Board’s final offer. Johnson asked that those in attendance join CEA in advocating for all of our students and demand that elected officials fix the school funding issue in the state of Ohio.

President Johnson is committed to continued dialogue with policy makers and education stakeholders to address the needs of Ohio’s students and to fix the state’s broken school funding methodology.

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Early Voting Has Started

On Oct. 11, registered voters in Franklin County began voting. Here is the rest of the schedule for the Franklin County Board of Elections:

Now - Oct.-27	Early in-person weekday voting	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Oct. 30 - Nov. 3	Early in-person weekday voting	8 a.m. -7 p.m.
Nov. 4	Saturday in-person voting	8 a.m. -4 p.m.
Nov. 5	Sunday in-person voting	1 p.m. -5 p.m.
Nov. 7	General Election Day	6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is noon on Nov. 4. Download an absentee ballot request form at <http://bit.ly/2yUH7o6> and submit it to your county board of elections. Franklin County residents can go to <http://bit.ly/2kDE3KP> to download a sample ballot. Follow the return instructions carefully and mail your completed ballot back to your county board of elections as early as possible.

Records Day

The first records day of the 2017-2018 school year will be Wednesday, Oct. 25. On this day, there will be no PD pull-outs, no forced TBTs, no suggested meetings by supervisors or administrators; they also get and need this time. This is your day to spend working in your building on whatever professional items you need to do such as grade cards, progress reports, IEPs, RIMPs, lesson plans, etc. Records day is a work day. All members are expected to report to work at their regular start time and work the full day. Let’s show everyone how valuable this day is to us by taking full advantage of the time we have to get those things done that take valuable time away from our ability to provide additional support for our students.

New Superintendent Search: Complete the Survey

Your voice is needed in deciding what innovative leadership trait the next Superintendent of Columbus City Schools must have to keep the District’s success on track. The Columbus Board of Education has launched an online survey to hear from students and families, teachers and staff, dedicated partners and service providers, and the community as a whole on what characteristics and skills they would most like to see in the District’s next superintendent. The New Superintendent Survey is easy to find on the District’s website (www.ccsbh.us) or on the new Columbus City Schools Mobile App. The New Superintendent Survey takes only a few minutes to complete. Responders are reminded that a long list of characteristics are desirable in the District’s next leader; the Board is interested in hearing which characteristics are "most important" for Columbus City Schools. The survey closes on October 25. In addition to the survey, the Board will hold several community meetings in late October. A focus group for teachers will be held on Wednesday, October 25 from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Linmoor Education Center.

Bargaining 101

What is bargaining and how does it work? If you’ve asked these questions then plan to come out on Thurs., Nov. 2 at 4:30 p.m. at the Columbus Downtown HS. CEA will be hosting the first of a four-part series focused on bargaining. The November session focuses on bargaining basics. You do not have to be on the bargaining team to attend this session. Go to: <http://bit.ly/Bargaining101> to RSVP or call the CEA office at (614)253-4731. CEUs will be granted for attending.

Thank You for Your Pledge

Once again, CEA has shown that it cares about our district’s families. Your contribution to United Way of Central Ohio helps break poverty’s barriers by providing people with more opportunities. Coordinated services and high-quality programs will lead to more stable outcomes that put people on a proven

path to success. Investments in high-need neighborhoods where revitalization is critical will expand resources for community partners. If you still have not pledged your support, please contact your Faculty Representative. We thank these units that have turned in their donation forms: CEA Office.

LA Attendance

Thank you to the following buildings/units for attending the CEA Legislative Assembly and United Way Kick-Off on Thurs., Oct. 5:

Alpine ES, Art, Arts Impact MS, Avondale ES, Beatty Park ES, Beechcroft HS, Berwick PreK–8, Binns ES, Briggs HS, Burroughs ES, Cassady ES, CEA, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Champion MS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus Gifted Academy, Columbus Global Acad. 6-12@Brookhaven, Columbus Scioto 6–12, Como ES, Cranbrook ES, Devonshire ES, Duxberry Park ES, Eakin ES, East HS, East Linden ES, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, École Kenwood K–6, Fairmoor ES, Fairwood K–6, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Gables ES, Georgian Heights ES, Gifted & Talented, Hamilton STEM Acad. K–6, 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, I-PASS @ Linmoor, Johnson Park MS, Juvenile Detention Center, 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 MS, Moler K–6, Music, North Linden ES, Northgate ES, Northland HS, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Parkmoor ES, Parsons K–6, Psychologists, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, School Counselors, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, Social Workers, South HS 7–12, Southwood K–6, Special Ed. Coordinators, Speech & Language, Starling K–8, Stewart ES, Valley Forge ES, Valleyview ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES, Yorktown MS.

Reminders:

- ✔ **Open Enrollment** for your medical benefits will begin Oct. 10 and end Oct. 31. Everyone must reenroll even if you are not making any changes. Look for emails and information mailed to your home from the CCS Employee Benefits Office. Also, see the Oct. 2 Voice for information on how to enroll.
- ✔ The **Spring 2018 Fee Waiver Applications** will be in all buildings on Monday, Oct. 30, 2017. Return the completed fee waiver application to: 889 East 17th Avenue no later than **Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, by 5:00pm.** If you are a Priority 1 or a Priority 2 status, please be sure to include the proper documentation with your completed fee waiver application. Documentation is required with each fee waiver process. Your Priority status will change to a Priority 3 without the proper documentation. Please call Norma Oldham at (614)365-5039 or email her at noldham@columbus.k12.oh.us if you have any questions.
- ✔ The **SEJC committee** will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at OEA, 225 E. Broad St. from 4:30-6:30. Our **professional development series will continue with Mr. James White of Performance Consulting.** Please register in CIMS. CEUs will be granted. Refreshments will be served. You do not have to be a committee member to attend this session!

**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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