



## Results from the CEA Staff Survey

The annual 2025–2026 CEA Staff Survey, as provided for in the *Master Agreement*, is complete. Our members study the results closely during the 211 process as they consider applying for posted positions. The results are available at [www.ceaohio.org/cea-surveys/](http://www.ceaohio.org/cea-surveys/). Below are the highest- and lowest-ranking work locations based on the following category averages:

	Vision	School Climate	Administrator-Teacher Relationship	Democratic Process	Instructional Programs	Instructional Resources	Professional Environment	Student Behavior	Family & Community
1	WEDGEWOOD MS	OAKMONT ES	WEDGEWOOD MS	WINTERSET ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	BINNS ES	AVONDALE ES	WINTERSET ES	NORTHGATE INTERMEDIATE
2	OAKMONT ES	AVONDALE ES	CRANBROOK ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	CRANBROOK ES	COLERAIN ES	OAKMONT ES	CRANBROOK ES	WINTERSET ES
3	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	NORTHGATE INTERMEDIATE	OAKMONT ES	WEDGEWOOD MS	OAKMONT ES	OAKMONT ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	SCOTTCOOD ES
4	CRANBROOK ES	COLERAIN ES	WINTERSET ES	CENTENNIAL HS	WINTERSET ES	AVONDALE ES	WINTERSET ES	MAIZE ROAD ES	CRANBROOK ES
5	WINTERSET ES	WINTERSET ES	MAIZE ROAD ES	OAKMONT ES	AVONDALE ES	CRANBROOK ES	WEDGEWOOD MS	OAKMONT ES	WEDGEWOOD MS
6	CENTENNIAL HS	CRANBROOK ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	AVONDALE ES	WEDGEWOOD MS	MAIZE ROAD ES	BINNS ES	WEDGEWOOD MS	OAKMONT ES
7	BEATTY PARK ES	SIEBERT (K-6)	CENTENNIAL HS	BINNS ES	COLERAIN ES	COMO ES	CRANBROOK ES	AVONDALE ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES
8	SCOTTCOOD ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	AVONDALE ES	MAIZE ROAD ES	BINNS ES	STEWART ALT ES	MAIZE ROAD ES	SIEBERT (K-6)	MAIZE ROAD ES
9	AVONDALE ES	SALEM ES	BINNS ES	WEST BROAD ES	GIFTED ACAD@EVERETT MS	WEDGEWOOD MS	CENTENNIAL HS	COLERAIN ES	COLS SPANISH IMM (K-5)
10	MAIZE ROAD ES	WORLD LANGUAGE MS	BEATTY PARK ES	WORLD LANGUAGE MS	MAIZE ROAD ES	INDIAN SPRINGS ES	WORLD LANGUAGE MS	CENTENNIAL HS	PARKMOOR ES
😊	WEINLAND PARK ES	CHAMPION MS	COLS CITY PREP GIRLS MS	OLDE ORCHARD ES	BURROUGHS ES	SHERWOOD MS	ARTS IMPACT MS	BERWICK ALT (K-8)	WEINLAND PARK ES
😊	LEAWOOD ES	YORKTOWN MS	FOREST PARK ES	AVALON PRIM (K-3)	STARLING (K-8)	EAST COLUMBUS ES	DOMINION MS	INDIANOLA INF (K-8)	YORKTOWN MS
😊	GABLES ES	LEAWOOD ES	FOREST PARK ES	LEAWOOD ES	BRIGGS HS	OLDE ORCHARD ES	SHERWOOD MS	STARLING (K-8)	
😊	BRIGGS HS	DOMINION MS	DOMINION MS	COLS CITY PREP GIRLS MS	DOMINION MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	SHERWOOD MS	LEAWOOD ES	ARTS IMPACT MS
😊	STARLING (K-8)	WEINLAND PARK ES	OLDE ORCHARD ES	BRIGGS HS	SHERWOOD MS	NORTHGATE INTERMEDIATE	AVALON PRIM (K-3)	STARLING (K-8)	RIDGEVIEW MS
😊	SHERWOOD MS	BERWICK ALT (K-8)	WEINLAND PARK ES	WEINLAND PARK ES	WESTMOOR MS	COLS AFRICENTRIC EC MS	BRIGGS HS	DOMINION MS	COLS CITY PREP GIRLS MS
😊	OLDE ORCHARD ES	BRIGGS HS	BRIGGS HS	LEAWOOD ES	WEINLAND PARK ES	YORKTOWN MS	WEINLAND PARK ES	WEINLAND PARK ES	COLS AFRICENTRIC EC MS
😊	DOMINION MS	STARLING (K-8)	SHERWOOD MS	WESTMOOR MS	BRIGGS HS	WEINLAND PARK ES	LEAWOOD ES	WESTMOOR MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS
😊	WESTMOOR MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	WESTMOOR MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	COLS AFRICENTRIC EC MS	AVALON PRIM (K-3)	WESTMOOR MS	BRIGGS HS	BRIGGS HS
😊	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	WESTMOOR MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	SHERWOOD MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	WESTMOOR MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	COLS CITY PREP BOYS MS	WESTMOOR MS

Note: Results include work locations with a participation rate of 50% or higher on the 2025–2026 CEA Staff Survey.

## A Message from the CEA President

CEA members,

As you are aware, the District is in the process of reducing its operating budget by \$50 million dollars for the 2026–2027 school year, most recently abolishing vacant administrative positions and suspending a number of administrator contracts at Tuesday's Board Meeting. As we have said in our previous updates, these cuts are a direct result of decisions made by politicians who are mandated by our state constitution to secure a "thorough and efficient system of common schools".

Instead, the Ohio legislature spent over one billion taxpayer dollars on religious and private school vouchers, in addition to \$600 million on a billionaires' football stadium. Locally, our district is missing out on \$84 million in tax revenue thanks to tax abatements for wealthy developers. These cuts are part of an intentional, and so-far successful, effort to gradually kill public education in Ohio. CEA will continue to fight these efforts both internally and externally, and today we have some new updates to share with you:

### The Good News: CEA negotiates two job security agreements for all CEA members

Thursday afternoon, after negotiations, CEA signed both a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a new Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the District, which together provide two very important job security provisions for all potentially impacted members:

1. Any CEA bargaining unit member who, following the reduction in personnel process outlined in Article 704 of our *Master Agreement* is without a position for next year, is eligible to retain employment with Columbus City Schools through the ODEW supplemental licensure pathway or the ODEW Alternative Licensure pathway for Intervention Specialist Teaching Fields (P-12). Additionally, the District will offer financial assistance for necessary related coursework on a first-come, first-served basis. Accordingly, regardless of the number of CEA members ultimately impacted by position reductions for the 2026–2027 school year, every single impacted CEA member left without a position for the 2026–2027 school year will have the option through this MOU to retain employment with Columbus City Schools as an Intervention Specialist (with a three-year right to return to their prior position if it becomes vacant or any vacant position for which they are certified).
2. The February 1st deadline for notification of STRS retirement for increased severance pay, otherwise known as "super severance", has been extended to April 30th. What this means practically is that once the final list of CEA bargaining unit members impacted by personnel reductions is known, other CEA members within those departments and/or work locations who are eligible for STRS retirement, will have the option to notify the District of their retirement in order to save a less senior CEA bargaining unit member's position, and still collect "super severance" as if they had notified CCS of their intent to retire by the traditional February 1 deadline.

The full text of the new MOU and new LOA will soon be posted on the CEA website in the "Contract" section at

<https://www.ceaohio.org/cea-contract/>.

### When will we know which positions, and which bargaining unit members, are impacted?

The first indication of which CEA bargaining unit positions will be cut is already occurring through the staff reduction

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## Grievance Update

CEA works 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 regularly inform you of grievances we are working to resolve. Go to: <https://www.ceaoio.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Grievance-260209-23.pdf>.

Continued from Page 1

process in Article 211. The staff reductions prior to the 211 process may not constitute all cuts to be made, but those notices are reflective of positions to be cut in line with budget reductions for next school year. Our Article 211 process should produce a fairly accurate pool of members left to be placed (matching certification with available vacancies) based upon attrition. There are other positions where members are not typically eligible to participate (i.e. Building Substitutes) who may also be impacted but not yet notified. As soon as CEA has the final list of positions to be eliminated, we will share that information with members ahead of the formal School Board vote.

It is critical to remember that positions do not equal people. Article 704 contains our process for individual bargaining unit member contract suspension which includes consideration of seniority within evaluation "buckets." We will have much more to share on that process later in the spring. However, at the end of the 211 process, bargaining unit members who have positions for next year may still be impacted based upon the Article 704 language, and those who do not may be placed in positions based upon that language. Ultimately, the goal of CEA is to accomplish every possible reduction through attrition (retirements and resignations), with the understanding that if there are more bargaining unit members than available positions matching their licensure, we still have the new MOU as an option to retain employment.

### What can CEA members do now?

Those who have received staff reduction notices should absolutely participate in the Article 211 process to ensure maximum choice in placement for next school year. In addition, CEA is working with our allies in the Columbus Education Justice Coalition, pushing our School Board to pass a new budget shortfall policy which would provide much greater transparency and stakeholder input instead of doing the bare minimum to solicit feedback (with the decisions already made behind closed doors). We are asking each CEA member to read the policy and sign the public petition to support its adoption by the School Board prior to making cuts: <http://bit.ly/4qYj561>.

We will continue to communicate regularly and continue to ask all CEA members to take action to support our community any impacted members of our Union family.

In Solidarity,



John Coneglia  
CEA President

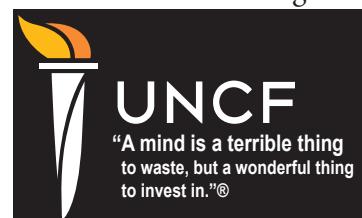
## Meet The Candidates Nights

CEA will be hosting two in-person Meet the Candidate events for members to meet the candidates running for positions in the Spring Election. The meetings will take place on Thursday, Feb. 19, at **The Berwick Party House**, 3250 Refugee Rd. Columbus, OH 43232 beginning at 4:30 p.m. The second meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 25 at the **Plumbers & Pipefitters Union Hall**, 1250 Kinnear Rd, Columbus, OH 43232 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Members can select which meeting they would like to attend. All candidates running for a position should plan to attend both meetings.

## UNCF Helps Columbus Students

UNCF is the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization. UNCF plays a critical role in enabling more than 60,000 students each year to attend college. We are ready to begin our Columbus City Schools' UNCF Workplace Campaign. Half of every dollar raised is designated for scholarships for CCS students. Many of our students do not have the resources to consider higher education. Your donation is an investment in our children, our community, and our nation.

Please be generous in your giving. This drive is very important, as we prepare our students for jobs in the global community. More than 60% of UNCF scholars are the first in their families to attend college and their successful education changes lives. Your investment can help break the cycle of poverty and despair in a family. The impact of your gift will be felt for generations to come. Donation information will be sent to all members.



## Apply for a CEA Scholarship

Do you have a child graduating high school? Would you like some financial assistance with their college education? Consider applying for a CEA and CEA-R Scholarship. These competitive scholarships are a wonderful opportunity for our members' children to earn scholarship dollars toward college. Applications are due by 4 p.m., Friday, Mar. 20, 2026. You can download the application at [https://bit.ly/4sYfAOU](http://bit.ly/4sYfAOU). The scholarship application must include a statement of the student's personal philosophy and goals and include two references: One from a current academic instructor with whom the student has studied during the past year and one from someone other than a relative. Applicants must be the children of a CEA or CEA-R members for their dependent(s) to be eligible. A teacher must:

- Be a current CEA or CEA-R member
- Have taught in Columbus City Schools for the four (4) years prior to applying for the scholarship unless the applicant taught for four (4) years prior to:
  - Going on an approved leave of absence
  - Going on an approved disability retirement
  - Retiring and maintaining membership in CEA-R
- Be the child of a CEA or CEA-R member.



- Be graduating high school seniors or students already enrolled in an undergraduate program at a college or university.
- Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above, which must be verified by an official high school or university transcript. Copies will not be accepted.
- Be a full-time student while enrolled in college.
- Include a copy of the Student Aid Report from FAFSA.
- Indicate all financial aid (other than student loans) which they expect to receive.

The Christa McAuliffe Memorial Scholarship is granted each year to a student majoring in education (unless no education applicants apply). This scholarship will be 1½ times the amount of any other scholarships awarded. Send completed applications to: **Columbus Education Association, Attn: Spring Scholarship, 929 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205.**

## Article 211 Calendar: 2025–2026 (updated: Feb. 2, 2026)

Calendar to coordinate Article 211 activities with the district stakeholders for the 2026–2027 School Year's needs. All communication regarding the Article 211 process should utilize the Article 211 email article211@columbus.k12.oh.us.

<b>February</b>		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2/9/2026</b>	Alternative Interview Panel Due to CEA
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2/9/2026</b>	Deadline to provide written notification to staff of reorganizations & staff reductions (Please ensure written notification) *Future reorganizations may be necessary due to vacancies that occur*
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2/11/2026</b>	<b>Round 1 Postings OPEN</b> [All known openings] by 2 p.m.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2/16/2026</b>	<b>Round 1 Postings CLOSE</b> (NO SCHOOL – PRESIDENT'S DAY) Applications no longer accepted after 6 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2/17/2026</b>	<b>Round 1 Interviews OPEN</b> – Interviews conducted by Zoom only (All known openings) (Building Substitutes with an ODE license & Full and Part-Time Hourly teachers are eligible for this round; special education teachers that selected a "guaranteed" position during bidding are not eligible) Interview Times are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary &amp; K-8: After 3:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Middle &amp; High Schools: After 2:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2/24/2026</b>	<b>Round 1 Interviews CLOSE</b> – Interviews end at 6 p.m. Offers begin at 6 p.m. Selection Agreement Forms & Rosters sent by Talent Department to Principals (electronically) by 12 p.m.
<b>March</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3/5/2026</b>	<b>Round 2 Postings OPEN</b> [All known openings] by 2 p.m.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3/9/2026</b>	<b>Round 2 Postings CLOSE</b> – Applications no longer accepted after 6 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3/10/2026</b>	<b>Round 2 Interviews OPEN</b> – Interviews conducted by Zoom only [All known openings] (Building Substitutes with an ODE license & Full and Part Time Hourly teachers are eligible for this round; special education teachers that selected a "guaranteed" position during bidding are not eligible) Schools and Departments. Interview Times are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary &amp; K-8: After 3:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Middle &amp; High Schools: After 2:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3/16/2026</b>	<b>Round 2 Interviews CLOSE</b> – Interviews end at 6 p.m. Offers begin at 6 p.m. Selection Agreement Forms and Rosters sent by HR (electronically) to Principals by 12 p.m.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3/25/2026</b>	<b>Job Fair</b> – 4:30 p.m. (3700 S. High Street)

## Every School a Community School...The Future of Columbus

The term "community schools" has become quite familiar in our membership over the past few years, but what do you really know and understand about community schools? Over the next few weeks, we'll share some information on what a community school is, what it is not, and why we should all be fighting for them.

### *What in the world is a community school?*

To be completely honest, community schools embody how education should function in a healthy democracy - they're public schools (in CCS we call them Community Campus Schools, in Ohio they may often be called Community Learning Centers or CLCs) that provide services and support which fit each neighborhood's needs. They are schools collaboratively organized by the people who know our children best - families, educators, community organizations, local governments, and the students themselves - all working together.

Community schools provide not only tremendous opportunities for learning and success for students, but they also offer hope, opportunity, and transformation to entire communities.

It would be easy to look at this and say, "don't we already have schools like this?" or "we're already doing that with [insert your favorite community organization here]." The truth is that strong schools have strong community partnerships. However, wrap-around services alone do not make our schools community schools. All of our schools have different levels of community engagement, family engagement, and resource—and not all of these differences are equitable and fair. When we say community schools, we're talking about the full-service community school model. Your union specifically advocates for the NEA Community Schools Model that includes six pillars of practice. Like most public education models, they are adaptable to the needs of an individual school's students, staff, families and community. This ensures that our families, students, and members receive the individual needs and attention that each building deserves.

In 2022, you won language for a pilot community school as a result of our strike. Northland HS was selected through an application process to become our pilot community school in 2024. Now, we're fighting to fully support and expand the model so that every school becomes a community school. Your union and our partners at the Columbus Education Justice Coalition believe that this is our answer for growth in our school district.

Take a look at the following videos to learn more about sustainable, full-service community schools, then watch The Voice for

more information on why and how community schools will benefit every member and every student in Columbus City Schools.

### NEA Community Schools Model

<https://youtu.be/5dTXujuJRc0?si=zFgh5ILtZ48tm2dV>

### Why Every School Should be a Sustainable Community School (Chicago Teachers Union)

<https://youtu.be/iC33ELIZ2oM?si=4G413riYANVgRCDh>

### Want to learn more about community schools?

Join us and our partners at the Columbus Education Justice Coalition for The People's State of Our Schools: A Community-Led Town Hall on Saturday, Feb, 21, 2026 from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. at the Maroon Culture Lab (formerly the Pythian Theatre).

This powerful community gathering will examine the impact of school closures in Columbus City Schools and launch the coalition's "Nothing About Us, Without Us!" Community Schools Campaign—a movement to reinvest in neighborhood schools and advance the NEA Community Schools Model as a sustainable path forward.

- Documentary screening
- Community & national voices
- Clear ways to take action

This is more than an event—it's a call to organize, imagine, and fight for the schools our communities deserve. Save the date and bring a colleague.

## ICE Belongs in Your Coffee, not School—Join Your Community in Keeping Us Safe!

The Columbus Education Justice Coalition, our partners at Pint Size Protesters, and Defend & Recruit have been diligently working with grassroots organizations and neighbors across Columbus and Central Ohio, Chicago, and North Carolina to develop local neighborhood and school patrols in response to ICE presence in our communities.

We have developed neighborhood ICE Watch teams. Now we are building our school patrols. School patrols involve volunteers who have been trained in ICE Watch to surround schools and monitor the area for ICE activity. They notify the community in the event that ICE does show up. The main goal for school patrols are to keep targeted parents who are dropping off/picking up their kids safe AND to show kids and staff that they are not alone — we keep us safe!

School Coordinators will be connected with the lead organizers in their neighborhood patrol, as well as a chat for all school coordinators to check-in, discuss protocols and tactics, etc.

If your school building is interested in being connected to your neighborhood team, please reach out to Izetta Thomas at [thomas@ceaohio.org](mailto:thomas@ceaohio.org) to be connected. We will make sure that you are trained, connected to your neighborhood team, and supported in every way.

## Fee Waiver Application Window Extended

**Summer 2026 Fee Waivers:** The application period has been extended to **Feb. 18, 11:59 p.m.** Access the online application from home or work using your CCS email username and password. Have your college ID number available when applying. You will automatically be sent a confirmation email once your application is submitted. To complete the online application, Go to <http://bit.ly/2jhWSjd>. If you have Priority I or Priority II status, upload the proper documentation with your online application. Documentation is required with each fee waiver process. Your priority status will change without the proper documentation. For assistance with frequently asked questions, links to each of the universities, priority status, and documentation guidelines, go to <https://www.ccsoh.us/Page/4815>. Call (614) 365-5039 or email [feewaivers@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:feewaivers@columbus.k12.oh.us) if you need assistance. *Check your CCS email regularly for updates.*

## Do You Have Your Continuing Contract?

It is that time of year where you can apply for a Continuing Contract. Bargaining unit members submit their Continuing Contract application using Google Forms only. Bargaining unit members will have to be logged into their CCS email account to utilize the online form. To utilize the online application process, go to <https://bit.ly/4jKUq22>.

All the eligibility requirements must be met to be considered. In accordance with *CEA Master Agreement*, Article 401.08, to be eligible to receive a continuing contract, you must have the following:

- A five-year professional license or a permanent certificate shall be on file in Human Resources. The certificate/license should be received in Human Resources on or before Mar. 6, 2026.
- At the conclusion of this school year, you must have completed three years of successful Columbus teaching experience within the last five years or if you previously had a continuing contract in Columbus or another Ohio district, you must have completed two successful years of Columbus experience. Under the new licensing standards, you must also meet the following coursework requirement:
  - If you hold a master's degree at the time of initially receiving a teacher's certificate/license, six (6) semester hours of graduate coursework in the area of licensure or in an area related to the teaching field since the initial issuance of such certificate or license is required.
  - If you do not hold a master's degree at the time of initially receiving a teacher's certificate/license, thirty (30) semester hours of 300 level coursework or above in the area of licensure or in an area related to the teaching field since the initial issuance of such certificate or license is required.
  - If you believe that you will be completing the requirements making you eligible for a continuing teacher contract for the 2026–2027 school year, you must complete the online application and provide original transcripts. Only digital transcripts will be accepted and should be sent to [transcripts@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:transcripts@columbus.k12.oh.us).

The electronic form and original transcripts must be received no later than Mar. 6, 2026.

Questions regarding this information should be directed to Teacher Certification & Licensure at (614) 365-6680 or [license@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:license@columbus.k12.oh.us). All applicants will receive an electronic confirmation. Applicants must check their email (spam or clutter folders) to ensure they receive the confirmation as additional information may be requested. Approvals, denials, or delay

notices for the Continuing Contract applications will be sent via email by Mar. 31, 2026. \*Note: Official transcripts must be emailed to [license@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:license@columbus.k12.oh.us) to verify if the transcripts on file are up to date.

## Capital District RA and Elections

The Capital District Spring Representative Assembly (RA) will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 22, 2026, at **The Boat House**, 679 W. Long Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. and the RA starts at 5:30 p.m. Alternates are welcome to attend the RA. A key focal point of the Capital RA will be the Spring Elections for Capital District President and Vice President. CEA Members may declare their candidacy starting Jan. 20, 2026, through Friday Mar. 27, 2026. Voting will take place during the Capital RA on Apr. 22, 2026. Go to <https://bit.ly/4jNr4QM> to download a declaration form.



The Capital District seat on the Ohio Education Association Board of Directors is also up the deadline Jan. 30, 2026. Contact William Baird (baird@ohea.org) at OEA for more information. The seat will be voted on at the Capital RA.

## Is Your License Expiring?

If your license from ODE is expiring June 30, 2026, and you have a limited employment contract, you must complete the required coursework or CEUs necessary for renewal and apply before May 11 to be licensed by ODE for the 2026–2027 school year. If you have a continuing contract, you have through June to complete your coursework and submit your application. Failure to renew your license may result in suspension of pay and initiation of termination/non-renewal proceedings.

In addition to the online application, you will need to complete a background check if it has been 5 years. If you have questions about the date of your last background check, or you don't plan to renew your license, contact Leslie Butler, Human Resources, Teacher Licensure, at [license@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:license@columbus.k12.oh.us). Contact Leslie about questions concerning CEUs or the license renewal process at [LPDC@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:LPDC@columbus.k12.oh.us).

## Special Notes

**Transplant Needed for CEA Member:** Robyn Chernack, Intervention Specialist at **Cedarwood ES**, is in need of a kidney donation from a living donor. Such donations are typically very successful and ideal when made by living donors. Eligible donors have matching blood types and are free of diseases including high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, kidney and heart disease. Donors are able to lead normal lives. To become a donor, go to: [bit.ly/40y23zN](https://bit.ly/40y23zN).

**Make a donation to the Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank:** When someone experiences a life-threatening illness or injury, and they are out of accrued time, they can apply for catastrophic leave. When approved, sick leave days can be donated, allowing them to remain in paid status and receive healthcare benefits. The following member has been approved for Catastrophic Leave and is in need of donated days: **Maria Flora**, Yorktown MS. To donate, complete the Catastrophic Sick Leave Donation Form, available on the CEA and CCS websites. Submit the completed form to [leavesofabsence@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:leavesofabsence@columbus.k12.oh.us).

**CEA Spring Elections:** There will be an election for the following CEA offices and positions: **President; Vice President; Governors for Districts 1, 4, 5, 10, and Minority-at-Large; 2026 NEA Delegates; Local Delegates; 2026 NEA State-At-Large Delegates\***; and **2026–2027 OEA Delegates**. Declaration Forms are available on the CEA website and at the CEA office. Declaration Forms were due at the CEA office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6. Voting will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 24, and will end on Tuesday, Mar. 10. Ballots will be collected and tallied by the Elections Committee on Wednesday, Mar. 11. Contact Brittany Pierce, CEA Elections Chair, at (440) 225-2631 with questions. \*NEA State-at-Large Declaration Forms must be submitted to William Baird at OEA by January 31, 2026.

**The Linden-McKinley Marching Band**, also known as **TUMMP**, has been invited to perform in the vibrant Mardi Gras parades in New Orleans, LA. This is an incredible opportunity for LMHS students to showcase their talent on a national stage. Consider donating to their GoFundMe at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-tummps-journey-to-new-orleans>.

**2026**  
HELEN JENKINS DAVIS  
SCHOLARSHIP

**AWARD**  
6 awards available  
in the amount of  
\$3,000 each

**The Process**

\*Complete application and  
PROVIDE  
- official transcript  
- FAFSA Student Aid Report  
- 2 signed letters of recommendation  
- essay  
- bio  
application close date  
March 6, 2026

**The Scholarship**

Named in memory of  
*Helen Jenkins Davis*

\*born of a slave  
\*waited for two years to be appointed to teach in Columbus Public School System  
\*taught for 37 years and was one of the first Black teachers to teach in an integrated school  
\*an encourager of students to excel in educational and personal goals

**The Eligibility Criteria**

\* graduating senior of Columbus City Schools in need  
\*3.0 gpa or higher  
\*plan to attend 4 year accredited college or university

Encouraging High Scholastic and Ethical Standards

**The Lunch Bunch**  
sponser of the Helen Jenkins Davis Scholarship

Visit our website  
[WWW.HELENJENKINSDAVISSCHOLARSHIP.ORG](http://WWW.HELENJENKINSDAVISSCHOLARSHIP.ORG)

Contact us  
[lunchbunchscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:lunchbunchscholarship@gmail.com)

Scan Me