

CEA 2026 Spring Election Results

Your Association thanks every member who participated in the recent CEA Spring Election by running as a candidate or taking part in the democratic process. Congratulations to all the winners. Here are the results listed in order of votes received:

CEA President

John Coneglio (2,103) Kelsey Gray (622)

CEA Vice President

Phil Hayes (2,148) Chris Monteiro (567)

CEA District 5 Governor

Regina Fuentes (193) Keith A. Emrick (65)

CEA Minority-At-Large Governor

Carla Davis (1,263) Jocelyn S. Collins (620) Jamel C. Ammons (230)



2026 NEA Local Delegate Election Results (July 3–7, 2026, Denver)

Traci L. Johnson (1,219), Benita Wright Smith (1,119), Tai Hayden (969), Kelsey Gray (899), Larry Carey (761), Tracie L. Helmbrecht (746), Carla Davis (722), Dwayne Zimmerman (674), Angel Dyer Sanchez (628), Cassandra D. Daniels (595), Omowale Crowder (568), Cynthia Smithers (560), Marty Flood, Jr. (534), Chris Monteiro (479), Annelise Taggart (469), Clarence Daniels, Jr. (456), Heather Giles (413), Megan Hinz (404), Chris Weyand (403), Lisa R. Johnson (379), Christopher O. Kopp (360), Jada Harper (348), Jacquia Hearn (331), Denise Sizemore (318), Zachary Traxler (311), Sandra Bopp (300), Jason Lewis (294), Courtney Coman (275), Tabettha Baumann (261), Brittany Saunders (231), Rachel N. Rowen (210), Janaya Lynne Foster (204), Jamel C. Ammons (202), Mikasa Barton (200), Lindsay Rice (198), Ardelia L. Young (184), June Ann Andrews (180), Garrett M. Merle (169), Sheeva Yanga (153), Michelle Fosnaugh (151), Trenice Davidson (148), Rebecca E. McGrath Hinkle (144), Bronda Jackson (117), and Caitlynn Dauterman (111)



2026 NEA State-At-Large Election Results

Traci L. Johnson (NEA) (1,116), Larry Carey (NEA) (736), Cassandra D. Daniels (NEA) (558), and Marty Flood, Jr. (NEA) (487), Clarence Daniels, Jr. (442), Chris Weyand (362), Denise Sizemore (331), Lisa R. Johnson (313), Courtney Coman (305), Rachel Rowen (249), Brittany Saunders (239), Janaya Lynne Foster (220), Lindsay Rice (203), and Jamel Ammons (164)

The following building was not counted in the election results: Oakland Park ES.

Losing One of Our Own

We regret to inform you that the Columbus Education Association and Columbus City Schools has lost one of our own. **Robert “Bob” F. Ryan**, (Columbus Online Academy 7–12) passed away last week. Our hearts and thoughts go out to his family and his colleagues.

MIMPS—Time to fight back!

In January 2025, Republican Senator Andrew Brenner introduced Senate Bill 19 (SB 19) in the Ohio Senate. The goal of the bill is to improve student achievement in mathematics, specifically by making changes in: academic intervention services and math improvement, math curricula, instructional materials and intervention, advanced learning opportunities in math and math teacher proficiency and professional development.

SB 19 passed the Ohio Senate 33–0 in November, and is currently in the Ohio House Education Committee, having received its third hearing on March 3. OEA is opposed to this bill, mainly because of the inclusion and requirement of Math Improvement and Monitoring Plans (MIMPS). The bill would mandate MIMPS similar to how RIMPS are currently required. OEA President Jeff Wensing testified at the last House Education Committee.

“I can tell you that our members are hard-working, dedicated, and care deeply about their students. I can also tell you they are stressed, frustrated, and in many cases, burned out. They feel they were called to the teaching profession to actually teach. They want to engage with students, dive deeper into subjects, and spark the joy of learning. All too often their focus is diverted from time spent on teaching and learning in the classroom.”

SB 19 as it stands before this committee today calls for a Math Improvement and Monitoring Plan (MIMP) to be created for every qualifying student beginning next school year. From the experience of Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plans (RIMPs) I can tell you that this is an onerous task that will often fall on classroom teachers. Educators’ time is in too short supply to add more paperwork, administrative tasks, and exercises in compliance. It’s in the interest of students to have teachers focus on providing the instruction and interventions needed and called for in the bill.”

“...I urge removal of the MIMP requirement from the bill—especially given its unrealistic timeline. There are a lot of good things in SB 19. If this body enacts a bill that requires appropriate interventions, district improvement plans,

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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.ceahio.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Grievance-260316-28.pdf>.

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high-quality curriculum and instructional materials, advanced student learning opportunities, and professional development...that's real progress. Adding MIMPs to teachers' already overloaded plates is a recipe for sinking that progress."

OEA is looking for members to provide written testimony in opposition to MIMPs in the bill for the next House Education Committee Hearing where this bill is being considered. If you are interested in providing written testimony, contact Robert Davis, OEA Lobbyist at davisr@ohea.org.

CCS Summer School Application Period Closes March 16

The CCS Summer Experience Program (Summer School) application is open and **will close at 11:59 p.m., Monday, Mar. 16**. As you may recall, your Union filed a grievance against the administration with regard to how the application process was followed last year. As a result, the administration has changed how the application process works to follow what the contract requires. Gone is the first-come, first-serve application process from last year; CEA members can apply at any time during the application window and not be "closed out" of a potential position.

To apply, go to <https://applications.columbus.k12.oh.us/ccsdas/>. The district expects to notify applicants of their status regarding summer school the week of Mar. 23. If you have questions, call the Summer School office at (614) 365-5010 or email extendedlearning@columbus.k12.oh.us.

Records Day is Remote

On **Wednesday, Mar. 18**, there will be no PD pullouts, no forced TBTs, no suggested meetings by supervisors or administrators. This is your day to spend working remotely 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 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.

Deadline: Grant Opportunity: Teachers' Dream Grant – Apr. 13

This grant will provide individual opportunities ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to Columbus City Schools teachers to assist in improving teaching and learning in CCS. This is an excellent opportunity for interested teachers to acquire resources to support a unique, creative, innovative project to increase student achievement, improve social climate and/or promote social justice. The funder does not fund package programs, equipment/furniture needed for classrooms.

All applications must be submitted in CCSDAS by 4 p.m., Apr. 13, 2026. This is a district-sponsored grant; applicants will not need to submit a Grant Endorsement Form to apply but will need their principal's or supervisor's approval. **NOTE:** A CCS email account is required to submit an application.

Go to: <https://applications.columbus.k12.oh.us/ccsdas/dreamGrantRequest/create>. Use your CCS login credentials starting March 2, 2026 to submit your application.



CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet

CEA is holding its 50th Annual Awards & Retirement Banquet on Friday, May 15. It will, again, be at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. If you are retiring this year, contact CEA today so you can attend. As a retiree, your evening will be provided at no charge. Guests will be charged \$50 per person.

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/4sYfA0U>. 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 Applicants must:
 - 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 (as of Feb. 11, 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.

March		
Monday	3/16/2026	Round 2 Interviews CLOSE 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.
Wednesday	3/25/2026	Job Fair – 4:30 p.m. (3700 S. High Street)

LA Attendance

One of the many duties of Faculty Representatives is to attend the CEA Legislative Assembly (LA). Held on the first Thursday of nearly every month of the school year, the LA is the policy-making body of your Association. Your elected Faculty Representatives receive vital updates from CEA Officers and Staff and vote on important issues affecting your Association. Any CEA member is welcome to attend the LA. The next LA will be held on May 7. The following is a list of buildings/units that were represented at the Mar. 5 Legislative Assembly:

17th Ave. Service Center, Alpine ES, Arts Impact MS, Attendance Specialists, Avalon ES, Avondale ES, Beatty Park ES, Beechcroft HS, Berwick Alt. ES, Binns ES, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, Buckeye MS, Building Substitutes, CAHS, Cassady ES, CEA Office, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Champion MS, Climate & Culture Systems Consultants and PBIS Coordinators, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Gifted Acad., Columbus Int’l HS, Como ES, Devonshire ES, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park ES, Eakin ES, East Columbus ES, East HS, East Linden ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Acad. HS, ECE @ Central Enrollment, École Kenwood, Elementary Art, Elementary Music, Elementary Phys. Ed., Fairmoor ES, Fairwood ES, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Ft. Hayes CC, Georgian Heights ES, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Hubbard ES, Huy ES/A.G. Bell Program, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal K-8, Innis ES, Johnson Park MS, Liberty ES, Lincoln Park ES, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Acad., Linden-McKinley STEM Acad., Livingston ES, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, North Linden ES, Northgate Intermediate ES, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakmont ES, Ohio Ave. ES, OT/PT, Psychologists, Ridgeview MS, School Counselors, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, Social Workers, South HS, Southland, Southwood ES, Special Ed TOSAs, Speech & Language, Starling PreK-8, Stewart Alt. ES, Student Support Center, Sullivant ES, Trevitt ES, Valley Forge ES, Watkins ES, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West Mound ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Winterset ES, Woodward Park MS, World Language MS, and Yorktown MS.

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>

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.

Bargaining & Contracts 101: A Virtual Panel with LRCs

Join us for an interactive, virtual panel featuring Labor Relations Consultants (LRCs) Herman Pipe and Marcus White-amire on Wednesday, Mar. 18, 6–7:30 p.m. Designed especially for Early Career Educators, it will break down key terminology such as RIFs, involuntary transfers, grievances, arbitration, and unfair labor practices, while explaining how collective bargaining works in Ohio and why your negotiated contract matters. Learn how LRCs support members at the bargaining table and behind the scenes, how to better understand your contract without feeling overwhelmed, and why their role is essential to the strength of CEA. Learn more and register at: <https://www.ohea.org/one-beyond-the-classroom/>.

Special Notes

Please consider making an Organ Donation! A transplant needed for CEA Member Robyn Chernack, Intervention Specialist at Cedarwood ES. She 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.

Paid Holidays: Know Your Leave Balance Section 1501.03 of our contract provides for certain paid holidays throughout the school year, including the six days of Spring Break. However, pay for holidays is not a given. Members who are not in a “paid” status the day immediately preceding the holiday and the day immediately following the holiday will not receive holiday pay. If you are absent and not on paid sick leave or personal leave, you will forfeit the pay for those holidays. Call the CEA office if you have questions.

Know Your Contract: Personal Leave In the 1980s, CEA was able to negotiate language out of the contract that prohibited members from using personal leave for things such as: recreational purposes, moving from one home to another, purchasing an automobile or major electrical appliance, accompanying a spouse on a business trip, extending sick leave or attending a fraternal function. In exchange for removing those restrictions and allowing unlimited accrual of sick leave, we went from being credited three days per year to two. As recently as the 2022 negotiations, the Board put forth a proposal that would have put severe limits on members’ ability to use personal leave. Under the Board’s proposal, any member who wished to utilize their accrued personal leave would have to make a written request to their supervisor at least two school days in advance for only one- or two-day increments. If something happened and a member requested personal leave less than two school days before the day of usage, the member would have to provide proof of an emergency. Additionally, the Board’s proposal would allow the Superintendent or their supervisor in a department or work location to deny members’ personal leave requests if, in their judgment, it would jeopardize the safe or efficient operation of the district or the continuity of instruction for students. Your Union negotiated, and the Board agreed to require members to notify their principal or supervisor in writing at least five school days in advance of their intention to take personal leave except in unusual or unforeseen circumstances. Additionally, the contract contains language allowing members to sell up to two personal days each year in the spring for 85% of the BA Minimum Salary. For the past 10 years, the Board has gone to the bargaining table seeking to limit the number of personal days our members take each year, when they take them and why they take them, and your Union has successfully fought back their efforts each and every time. Let’s make sure we follow the rules of personal leave.

CEA Members & Families—Bank where you belong! All CEA members and their families can become members of Education First Credit Union! Enjoy exclusive financial benefits, low-rate loans, high-yield savings, and personalize service. Join today at www.educu.org.



If you know someone new to your building or unit, approach the person and ask them to become a member of CEA. We have made joining CEA simple. **Step 1:** Click “JOIN” on the homepage at www.ceahio.org; **Step 2:** Download the CEA Membership Form to your device and complete it. (It is a fillable pdf for your convenience); **Step 3:** Email the completed form to membership@ceahio.org. Call CEA at (614) 253-4731 with questions.

Join The SPECIAL EDUCATION CAUCUS

OUR PURPOSE

1. Advocate for the needs, rights, & working conditions of special education professionals within CEA.
2. Provide a forum for members to share resources, concerns, & strategies related to special education.
3. Support & advise CEA leadership on issues impacting special education.
4. Build community, professional development, & solidarity among members.

ALL active CEA members welcome!!

SCAN ME

CECE Come join us!

MARCH SOCIAL
@ BUDD DAIRY FOOD HALL

Friday, March 27, 2026
4:30 p.m.

1086 N 4th St.
Parking Lot (free) or Street Parking

feat. march madness bracket teacher edition, and fun games with fellow columbus educators

Can't make it? Scan the QR code for future dates!

Email columbuscece@gmail.com for questions.