Know your contract—class size

Class size can sometimes present challenges and can take time to recalculate and resolve. Usually, class-size issues are dealt with by Oct. 1. But CEA and the administration have agreed that we need to move more quickly. So this year, class-size issues will be dealt with by assigning substitutes where deemed necessary and to reorganize by Sept. 24. After that date, staff-reduced teachers will move into the positions being held by substitute teachers.

If class-size issues still have not been addressed by this time, the building’s Senior Faculty Representative should let CEA know so that problems can be addressed in a timely fashion.

Here are the size limits (Article 301 of your contract):

- Classrooms for grades 1–5 should have approximately 25 students each, but no class will exceed 29 students in K–3 and 30 students in 4–5.
- Middleschool classroomsshould not exceed an average of 30 students per class and no more than 180 students per day.
- Highschool classrooms should average 28 students in each departmental area but not exceed 36 students. No high school teachers shall instruct more than 150 students per day.
- High school and middle school physical education, music and other activity type classes may exceed 150/180 students.
- Teachers can agree to handle more students if they so elect and the principals so elect.

Set your stride

CEA is proud to once again sponsor the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk on Sunday Oct. 5. We want to show strong support of this event. Last year more than 20 teams formed to participate.

Form a team at your school and join thousands of others to raise funds for a future without breast cancer. Your team members do not have to be employees of the district. Some schools even encourage students and their parents to join their team. This is a great opportunity to involve the community in your school’s efforts.

There is no fee to register, and you can register up until the day of the event. The first 50 people to register online will receive a free CEA Making Strides T-shirt. Sizes are limited so register early. When your registration is confirmed, you will receive a shirt. To register, visit the CEA Web site; and be sure to list CEA as your team company.

Columbus Education Association • 929 East Broad Street • Columbus, Ohio 43205 • (614) 253-4731 • Fax: (614) 253-0465
Legal services plan deadline is Oct. 31

CEA offers a Comprehensive Legal Services Plan through the law firm of Cloppert, Latanick, Sauter & Washburn. The retainer fee is $425, and you can enroll until Oct. 31 to cover this school year. For payroll deduction, you must enroll by Sept. 30.

There are many benefits to enrolling, namely reduced legal fees and substantially reduced hourly rates, with a $100 deductible, for such matters as:
- personal injury and debt claims
- real estate
- workers compensation
- domestic relations
- estate planning/probate
- credit problems
- criminal/traffic defense
- small business matters

CEA urges all members to take advantage of these benefits for legal services. For more information, contact Judy Nelson at the CEA office.

Extended coverage available

Nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists and others in health-care specialties may wish to participate in the extended Educators Employment Liability insurance program from the OEA/NEA. This coverage goes beyond your current coverage. It will cover you for “rendering services,” and it will also cover claims that arise from “teaching and supervising.” Most K–12 members in health care specialties do not need this extended coverage.

If you decide you need extra coverage, OEA will pay the premium, but you must return the form to OEA Legal Services by Sept. 26. If you have any questions or need a form, contact Rose Keller at 800-282-1500, ext. 3046.

Special notes

☐ On Sept. 11, CEA’s Legislative Assembly decided which candidates and issues we would support. At press time, we did not have specifics. Look for our endorsements in the next issue of The Voice.

☐ FRs should have received a packet on the new grant approval process from John Farley, Director of the CCS Development Office. Ask your FR to share it with you. For more information, call 365-8733.

☐ CEA-R is soliciting donations to purchase a granite paver for the STRS Discovery Park in memory of John Grossman. If you would like to contribute, make checks payable to CEA and send to Marilyn Allen at the CEA office.

See us on the Web at

www.ceaohio.org

See the new CEA Website and the many new features that will be available soon.

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. Please contact us today and allow our experience to work for you. Call (614) 461-4455 or surf to: www.cloppertlaw.com for information.