

The Voice

www.ceaohio.org

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Columbus Education Association

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Federal stimulus heavy on education spending

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan recently confirmed that the first round of funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) would be available to states no later than mid-April.

**Schools
and
the
Stimulus**

Nearly \$50 billion of State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) money will be awarded to the nation's governors through a needs-based formula. By law, more than 80 percent of this money must be used to fund elementary through post-secondary education programs and services. SFSF monies that are unspent or uncommitted by a state's governor must be returned to the U.S. Department of Education at the end of the ARRA two-year period.

Ohio will receive nearly \$2.7 billion in non-SFSF funding from the U.S. Department of Education for federal programs like Title I and IDEA. Columbus City Schools will receive a one-time estimated increase of \$46 million in additional Title I money through ARRA, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

Title I funding is used to supplement district funds to finance additional academic support and learning opportunities for disadvantaged students. Of the more than 600 school districts in the state, CCS ranks second in Title I increases, just \$7 million behind the Cleveland Municipal School District.

Grossman receives award

John Grossman, former CEA president who died last year, will be remembered with this year's OEA Holloways/Human & Civil Rights Award. The award honors work that improves interpersonal school relations with programs focusing on cultural and ethnic cooperation.

John was a pioneer in this regard. He was the first and only teacher of African-American studies at South HS in the 1970s. He led the bargaining unit to voluntarily racially integrate the school system in 1978—two years before it was court ordered. He also led an effort to assure that all CEA committees and boards contain a minimum of 25 percent minority members. He was instrumental in developing the CEA Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner, now more than 30 years old.

John was a mentor to a number of notable African-American students at South HS, among them Angela Pace of WBNS-10TV. He believed that we could best champion the cause of social justice and guide disadvantaged students to



John E. Grossman

achievement by ensuring placement of high quality teachers who believe that "all means all."

The OEA Awards dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Worthington. Tickets are \$40 and tables of eight are \$320. Send registration forms and checks to: Randy Flora, OEA Awards Banquet, 225 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215. The registration deadline is Friday, Apr. 24.

2009–2010 OEA Delegates elected

The votes are in, and CEA's new delegates to the OEA Representative Assemblies are (in vote order): Dean Fowls, Greg Mild, Ezetta Murray, Barbara Flu-Allen, Tracey Johnson, Mickie Sebenoler, Judy Wright, Bob Hern, Kenya Davis, Rosie Perry, Michele Mays, Vern Miller, Dale Rucker, Deborah Starr, Susan McCoy, Carla Robinson, John Coneglio, Chris Ault, Cindy Love, Dwayne Zimmerman, Deborah Huffman-Mirib, JoAnnette Byas-Marston, Claudia Eschelbach, Ann Ventling, Michelle Stasa-Coleman, Vivian King, Beth Masters, Rita Hinz, Maggie Burnes, Karen Andermills, J. Sanchez, Andrew Merritt, Stephanie Zimmerman, Julie Myers, Ernestine Creasy, Kassie Hurley-Hook, Kriston Crombie, Cathy Williams, Jenny Plemel, Victor Kapostasy, Robert Toy, Jeff Poulton, Teri Mullins, Tiffini Pannell, Teresa Bombrys, Susie Wright, Diana Turner, Steve Paletti, Donna Baker, Annette Shaw, Charlene Gomer, Robin Lucas, Cynthia Williams, Keith Adams, Adam Viney, James McShane, Faye Love, Char Potts, Amy Glowark, Gerry Curran, Tyree Rivers, Nancy Wolfe, Deborah Ross, John Hank, Amy Spangler, Maggie Glasgow, Jimmie Beall, Robyn Lewis, Chad Wilkins, Jeanette Kuschill, Deborah McCoy, Vivian Fagalar-Haley, Joseph Wyckoff, Thearesa Coursey-Conrad and Mary Ann Shrum. Alternates are: Dan Finn, Cheryl Gulling, Andrew Nash, Tonya Temple, Beryl Thompson, John Vincent, Denny Mulloy, Te'Lario Watkins, Thomas Lloyd, Anna Bennett, Karen McMichael, Mike Mundew, Bruce Mortland, Katherine Moore, Craig Koehler, Bob Parker and Mary Briley.

By virtue of office, CEA President Rhonda Johnson, Vice President Sally Oldham and Board of Governors members Bonita Agnew, Donna Baker, Jan Bell, Lori Cannon, Greg Goodlander, Tai Hayden, Phil Hayes, Cindy Jamison, Christy Maser, Teri Mullins, Alice Munnerlyn, Diana Welsh and Dwayne Zimmerman are also delegates to the 2009–2010 OEA Representative Assemblies.

CEA has the largest delegation among the OEA locals. These fellow educators are your delegates, elected by you to represent your interests. The body decides what issues are central to the welfare of Ohio's schools, and these are the ones brought to the attention of Ohio legislators.



Nobody wants to be the bad guy

Some principals are having a difficult time talking with teachers about alleged violations of district policies or rules. Some are going around this face-to-face contact by asking labor relations representatives to hold hearings for them for every single matter.

We want to make you aware that you have rights. Weingarten Rights include five days to arrange the CEA representation of your choice. Administrators cannot demand your immediate appearance at a hearing. They must inform you of the purpose prior to meeting with you.

We also want our members and principals to know that even with this right in place, you can decide to meet together to discuss such minor matters as tardiness or prolonged or sudden absences. We are glad to see that many principals are doing things right. They seem to know when to involve the Labor Relations office and when to handle discipline at the building level.

Please let us know if an administrator seems to be hiding from his or her responsibilities in these matters.

Donation to scholarship fund from former teacher

The family of Jeanne Blair, a former Columbus teacher, is honoring her memory with a fund to support the CEA Scholarship Foundation benefiting members' children. The 13-year-old award is given in December to college seniors to offset their tuition. Jeanne, 81, died Feb. 21 of cancer.

Mrs. Blair was proud of her students and stayed in contact with many of them years after they graduated. A West High School graduate, she earned her education degree from Miami University. While she and her husband, David, raised three sons, Jeanne taught elementary school and was one of the district's most well-loved educators. She also was involved in city activities, including serving on the Minerva Park Council, establishing its public gardens for the AmeriFlora celebration in 1992.

Please join the Blair family in providing dollars for the very valuable scholarship program. Each year, we provide \$500-750 in tuition assistance for each chosen senior attending a university or other post-secondary institution. As of this year, we have awarded 592 members' children more than \$316,750 in scholarships.

Contributions can be made to: The Columbus Foundation, CEA Members Scholarship Fund, 929 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43205. Send your contribution to the attention of Lisa Jolley.

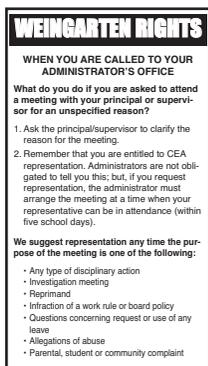
Credit Union ready to serve

MidState Educators Credit Union has money to lend.

They have loans to meet all your needs. If you are looking to purchase a new car, complete a home improvement project or if you want to take a vacation—contact your credit union first. Loans at

other financial institutions may be transferable to MidState Educators Credit Union, saving you money.

For complete details on all loan products, contact them online at www.educu.org, by phone at (614) 221-9376 or in person at 399 E. Livingston Ave., or at 8400 N. High St.



CEA-R events

Join CEA-R for two events. The first event is Saturday, Apr. 18 at 2:30 p.m. for the matinee performance of *Vaudvillities*. The cost is \$23, and dinner is pay-on-your-own afterward at Old Bag O' Nails.

On Tuesday, May 5, CEA-R will leave at 8:30 a.m. for the Newport Syndicate in Kentucky to see a Polynesian dance show and enjoy a South Seas buffet. Cost is \$81 and includes the show, lunch, bus and tips. Return will be around 5:45 p.m.

For more information about these events, contact Jeanne Stoll at jstoll5540@aol.com.

CEA members benefit: Insurance



Did you know you may obtain auto insurance through NEA? California Casualty Management Co. offers the A+ NEA Members Auto and Home Insurance program. You may be eligible for special features of this plan, including a waiver of your deductible for vehicle vandalism near school property. For information, call Ashley Sprankle at 800-964-3903, ext. 5939 or (614) 315-3683.

Pilot elementary grade card login

Kingswood Data Center is seeking elementary teachers who would like to participate in an at-home pilot for the new eSIS login procedure. If you are interested in taking part in this study, send an e-mail to bhern@ceaohio.org with your contact information.

Once the district has tested and worked out any software issues, they will release the instructions to all elementary teachers.

Call CEA at 253-4731 if you have questions.

Special notes

- Article 211 note:** The 211 process is only for bargaining unit members who hold regular teacher contracts and a select few Letter of Commitment holders in *high demand* certification/licensure areas (i.e., math, science and world languages).
- Save the date** for the **CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet, Friday, May 29**, honoring retirees, Faculty Representatives, Association colleagues and friends.
- Twenty Columbus City School Pre-K teachers have been **awarded a total of \$10,000** to purchase nutrition and fitness equipment for their classrooms as a result of participating in a Columbus Public Health Program, *Healthy Children, Healthy Weights*. Kudos, to our Pre-K staff for actively promoting healthy nutrition and physical activity for students and families.
- Alternative interview panels** have been approved for the following schools: **Dana ES, Hamilton ES, Johnson Park MS, Lincoln Park ES, Northland HS, Scottwood ES and Watkins ES.**
- Reminder:** The **deadline** to submit an application for the **CEA Scholarship** is **Friday, May 8, at 5 p.m.**
- Certificated teachers** now may **apply online** for **summer school positions** at all levels, **OGT tutoring** and **summer bridge**. The **deadline** is **Thursday, Apr. 9, at 4:30 p.m.** Visit www.columbus.k12.oh.us and click on *Staff*. For questions, call 365-5010.