something the district believes will help us move toward increasing achievement and closing gaps: a stipend program for bargaining unit members who agree to take on tough assignments.

available to CEA members who volunteer to work in high-needs buildings or are selected for immediate opportunities for planning in newly formed schools. Section 912.02 of the Master Agreement provides the details. Each eligible teacher must:

- Have five years experience
- Provide a recommendation from his or her current building administrator, other CCS administrator or CEA President
- Demonstrate a record of student achievement during the past two years by objective measures (value-added or other measures)
- Provide a written statement indicating your willingness to be assigned at the superintendent’s discretion for the next school year” to Bryan Buoni, HR Director, Staffing and Systems

CEA is currently embarking on a detailed program to work with the school district to address our most serious needs. Our efforts are being recognized nationally. This stipend program, which demonstrates a serious, concerted, cooperative effort between CEA and the administration, is designed to help us with this vital work.

Interested CEA members at all grade levels and areas are encouraged to apply and contribute their expertise to the schools in our district where it is urgently needed. Your willingness to roll up your sleeves and pour additional energy into these classrooms will become part of something extremely important for our students.

The deadline to apply is Dec. 1. Superintendent Gene Harris will review the applications and determine placements based on experience, teacher abilities and license category. Assignments will be announced Feb. 1, 2010.
Give your input on new academic content standards

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is revising the academic content standards for English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. More than 100 OEA members have participated in advisory groups and on writing and review committees. Hundreds more have shared their ideas and concerns online. Clearly, ODE is listening to educators’ concerns. Now, you can judge the progress for yourself; you can also voice your ideas and possibly influence the final results.

ODE will post drafts of the proposed standards on its Web site, www.ode.state.oh.us. The drafts will be accompanied by a survey soliciting your input during November and December 2009. To ensure that you understand the rationale undergirding the proposed standards, go to the ODE Web site regularly to learn when the live Web casts of the content areas will be presented. If the Web casts happen to be inconvenient to your schedule, know that you can access an archived version at a later date.

Your voice is important to public education in Ohio; make sure that it is heard.

Reach Out and Read at Barnes & Noble

December 5 is Educator Appreciation Day at Barnes & Noble (B&N). It is also the day B&N will donate a percentage of the sales to CEA’s Reach Out and Read book drive. All you have to do is go to any B&N, and give the book fair number 486472 at check out. A portion of the money collected from your purchases will be donated to the campaign.

Educators who show their current CEA membership/OEA Access cards or school IDs will receive 25 percent off the list price on most books on this day.

Join CEA at the Lennox Barnes & Noble located at 1739 Olentangy River Rd. from 1–3 p.m. and meet Miss Ohio 2009, Erica Gelhaus. Miss Ohio will read to children, take story time. 5 is the opportunity to win a great gift basket that includes: a $25 B&N gift card, a $25 Build-a-Bear Workshop gift card, a $35 Nurtur (an Aveda salon) gift card and an assortment of café goodies.

Help us support pediatric literacy by going to your local Barnes & Noble on Dec. 5.

FRs rate training as great

Faculty representatives attended a workshop Nov. 5 to help them in their roles as liaisons for Association members. CEA provides this valuable professional development opportunity to ensure adequate representation of you.

Reps attended sessions on FR Basics, Representing Teachers, Contract Knowledge, Organizing and Communicating with Your Staff and The Association Building Council. Participants rated the sessions and 99 percent of those who filled out surveys rated the sessions “good” or “excellent.” Participants stated the following: “Very professional.” “This was awesome.” “Very informative and insightful.” “I appreciated the openness and patience with which questions were answered.”


The next workshop will be held in spring 2010. To see a brief video documentary about the FR workshop, go to http://bit.ly/pfWa.

Get discounts with membership cards

The new OEA Membership/Access Cards have arrived at the CEA office and are being distributed to members in the buildings. Some may be delivered by U.S. Mail. Members may use the cards to obtain discounts at a number of retailers (some online) and service companies, including Kohl’s, Johnny Rockets, Coldwater Creek, Target, Verizon Wireless, Walt Disney World, Office Depot, Valvoline, Endless Vacation Rentals and many more. You can receive enough discounts to offset your dues.

To find out what discounts are available in your area, log in to the OEA Member site, type in your card number and enter your ZIP code.

Earn CEUs for attending PD days

CCS educators will be awarded 0.6 CEUs for attending each professional development day. These will be added to the PD Planner CEU database by the LPDC Office at Northgate. To be awarded the CEUs, you must sign in, be present for the entire session and sign out. As always, an educator must have an approved, up-to-date IPPD on file with the LPDC when he or she participates in professional development in order to use the CEUs awarded for renewing a license.

Thank you for giving

As we continue to tally the results of the CCS United Way campaign, CEA thanks these schools, whose participation provides vital services for the families we serve.

United Way provides childcare to about 40 percent of children of working parents in Franklin County — those families who have trouble affording or locating childcare on their own. United Way also provides health and human services to families on the verge of homelessness, staying off disease and hunger until they can get back on their feet. Thanks to: Briggs HS, Cranbrook ES, Eastmoor Academy, Innis ES, Lincoln Park ES, Mifflin MS and Windsor ES.

Special note

Get your tickets for the CEA Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner to be held on Thursday, Jan. 14, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus beginning at 6 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets call 253-4731.