

The Voice

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Volume XL, No. 23

Columbus Education Association

February 8, 2010

President Obama looks toward ESEA renewal

Education played an important role in President Barack Obama's first State of the Union Address.

"In the 21st century," said President Obama, "the best anti-poverty program around is a world-class education. And in this country, the success of our children cannot depend more on where they live than on their potential."



NEA President Dennis Van Roekel agreed with Obama's statement, saying, "A country that makes education a priority is a country bound for economic success."

President Obama discussed plans to renew the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA), formerly known by the title of "No Child Left Behind." President Obama indicated that the education reforms sparked by Race to the Top will be expanded to all 50 states by working with Congress during the renewal of ESEA.

"We applaud the President's promise to improve our schools by investing in what works," added President Van Roekel. "NEA members have worked years under the flawed *No Child Left Behind* law, so we are anxious to work with the administration to reauthorize the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* in a way that celebrates successful students, educators, and schools."

Gov. Strickland touts Ohio's schools

Governor Ted Strickland recently delivered his fourth State of the State Address to an Ohio much different from the one a year earlier. Instead of highlighting changes that will be made to education, Governor Strickland explained the systemic reforms passed under Substitute House Bill 1.



"We passed an historic education reform plan last year that gives our students and our taxpayers a system that is constitutional, accountable and incomparable," said Strickland. The Governor touted the fifth-place ranking in the nation of Ohio's education system according to a recent study by *Education Week*. He also announced that Ohio's schools had been designated the "most innovative education system in the country" by the Education Commission of the States.

"Using an evidence-based approach," said Strickland, "we have defined the resources our students need inside and outside the classroom. We have redefined our expectations and our practices with one core purpose in mind—to prepare our students to become critical and creative thinkers who will thrive in the workplace and in life."

"Let me say to our school children," said Strickland, "We don't know what your dreams will be—but our schools will give you the tools to make them come true."

CEA supports pediatric literacy

CEA is committed to ensuring that all children start school ready to learn. This is why CEA continues to participate in and be a sponsor of Nationwide Children's Hospital's Reach Out and Read Community Book Drive.

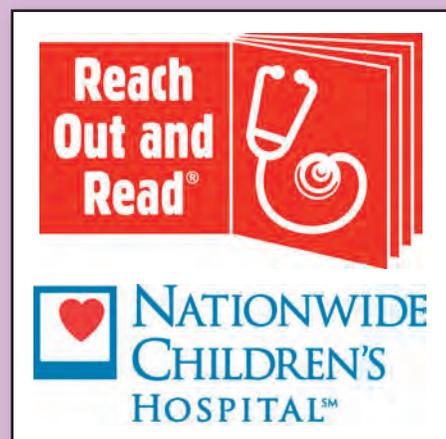
Reach Out and Read is a national pediatric literacy program dedicated to promoting family literacy activities in the home. The program gives age-appropriate books to their youngest patients during well-child visits at Children's Close To Home Clinics. An estimated 90 percent of the children serviced through the clinics are future Columbus City Schools students.

CEA is asking each member to donate two new books for children ages 6 months–5 years. Our goal is to exceed last year's collection of more than 3,200 books.

The kick-off date for CEA's campaign is Monday, Feb. 8. The book drive will continue until March 5. Check with your Senior Faculty Representative for the location in your building for donated books. Additionally, Barnes & Noble will donate a percentage of their sales from February 12–15 to CEA's campaign, if you give bookfair #10126068 at the time of your purchase.

Former astronaut and U. S. Senator John Glenn was one of the first to donate to CEA's book drive. Senator Glenn autographed a paperback copy of the children's novel *Midnight on the Moon* by Mary Pope Osborne. Ohio-born Glenn was the first American to orbit the earth and, at age 77, became the world's oldest person to go into space.

CEA will auction the autographed novel and use the proceeds to purchase more books for the book drive. Bidding will start at \$20, and the auction will run from Feb. 8–19. Interested members can e-mail their bids to tjohnson@ceahio.org. For more information regarding the campaign or the auction, please contact Tracey Johnson at 253-4731.



Congratulations NBCTs

In a recent interview with NBPTS, U. S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said that teachers who achieved National Board Certification have “demonstrated a commitment to taking their teaching practice and the teaching profession to a different level.” He added, “What if every child had a chance to be taught by a National Board Certified Teacher? I think the difference it would make in students’ lives would be extraordinary.”



In a congressionally mandated report, the National Research Council (NRC) confirmed that National Board Certified Teachers advance student achievement and learning, stay in the classroom longer, support new and struggling teachers and assume other school-based leadership roles. In support of their hard work and the impact that they make each day, CEA would like to congratulate the district’s new National Board Certified Teachers:

Daryl Curry (Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS) *Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood through Young Adulthood*; **Marcia Davis** (Marion-Franklin HS) *Adolescence and Young Adulthood English Language Arts*; **Jacqueline Hurwitz** (Oakmont ES) *Literacy: Reading-Language Arts/Early and Middle Childhood*; **Kathryn Righter** (Clinton MS) *Early Adolescence Math*; **Jeffrey Chopko** (Briggs HS) *Social Studies–History/ Adolescence and Young Adulthood*; **Michelle Hooper** (Woodward Park MS) *Early Childhood through Young Adulthood School Counseling*; **Carl Hoppie** (Beechcroft HS) *Social Studies–History/Adolescence and Young Adulthood*; **Mary Lynn Taylor** (Centennial HS) *Adolescence and Young Adulthood English Language Arts*; **Erica Payne** (Eastgate ES) *Early Childhood Generalist*; **Linda Siroskey-Sabdo** (Highland ES) *Early Childhood through Young Adulthood School Counseling*; and **Holly Wingler** (Hilltonia MS) *Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood through Young Adulthood*.

This exceptional group of educators brings our district’s total to 124. Columbus has more National Board Certified Teachers than any other district in the state. The hard work of all of our district’s NBCTs is another way Columbus teachers are making a positive difference in the lives of our students.

2010-2011 school calendar is set

CEA and the administration have agreed on next year’s school calendar. The dates are based on your preferences from our calendar survey. Key dates are as follows:

- School begins: Aug. 23, 2010
- Capital Day: Oct. 15, 2010
- Parent teacher conferences: Nov. 4, 2010, and Feb. 21, 2011
- Winter Break: Dec. 18, 2010–Jan. 2, 2011
- Spring Break: Apr. 18–25, 2011
- School ends: June 3, 2011



For the complete calendar, go to the *CEA Master Agreement* found on the CEA Web site under the “Publications” tab on the homepage. Self-adhesive inserts for pages 135–139 of the contract will be sent to members when printed. Call the CEA office with questions at 253-4731.

Making a huge difference

Columbus City Schools again has demonstrated its outstanding commitment to the well-being of our community.

Many employees contributed \$500 or more to this year’s United Way campaign. They will be invited to a Feb. 23 LIVE UNITED event. If you would like to attend, become a leadership giver and join us on Feb. 23. Contact Sally Oldham at CEA at 253-4731.



We especially want to thank the members of our special United Way Leadership Club. These individuals are: Lisa Adams, Anthony Alston, Eileen Baesmann, Kevin Bailey, Gilda Battle Taylor, Evelyn Bell, Virginia Black, Laura Boyer, Nicholas Brandt, Jamie Brandt, Kristin Brant, Nancie Cambell, Lori Cannon, Dennis Carney, Charlotte Carter, Karla Case, Debra Chaffin, Vincent Coleman, Deborah Copeland, Colleen Crook, Heather Djafi, Michael Dodds, Margaret Dorman, Barbara Edwards, Stan Embry, William Engelman, Mary Ey, John Farley, Jan Fleming, Judy Fowlkes, Mel Fowlkes, Susan Foss-meyer, Mike Fulwider, Carla Gale, Mary Gardner-Smith, Diane Ging, Daniel Graves, Bruce Green, Karen Gudger, John Hank, Gene Harris, Keith Harris, Jeri Hensley, Bob Hern, Jo Hill, Lina Himes, Charles Hollar, Shawn Hoyd, Carolyn Hughes, Wanda Jackson, Kristina Jacobson, Rhonda Johnson, Tracey Johnson, Yvonne Jones, Elizabeth Keller, Steven Keller, Barbara Koelbl, Lindsey Kubli, Donna LeBeau, Rick Logan, Beverly Maddox, Daniel Martin, Christy Maser, Wendy Mattucci, Betty Maxwell, Michele Mays, Jerry McAfee, Susan McCoy, Ann McCrystal, Lisa Milbry, Marianne Minshall, Mary Morris, Bob Murphy, Ezetta Murray, Nikki Myers, Michelle Myles, Theresa Nixon, Sally Oldham, Andrew Orlins, Jennifer Orlins, Elvina Palma, Char Potts, Karen Powers, Chris Qualls, Jeniffer Quesenberry, Jacqueline Ralls, Jean Repp, John Rinto, Susan Ripple-Rhett, Roxanne Ritchey, Brenda Ritzman, Sheila Scott, Henry Scott, Bashiel Smith, Bernice Smith, Carolyn Smith, Christie Sonnen, Karen Spooner, Sheryl Stephens, Anne Stewart, Alyce Stoops, Jaime Taylor, Polly Teeters, Melinda Todaro, Marie Tooker, Andrea Tose, Cathy Tysen, Beth Von Blon, Charles Wager, Carol Wagner, William Waldron, Anne Weinhold, Sharee Wells, Merele Wilder, Patricia Winkfield, Kenneth Woodard, Judy Wright and Dwayne Zimmerman.

If you are a leadership giver and your name does not appear in this list, please contact CEA so that you can get your invitation. We thank everyone in the CCS family who supported the campaign.

Special notes

- ❑ **CEA election campaigns** are in full swing until **Feb. 19**. **Voting** will take place from **Feb. 22–Mar. 8**. CEA members are running for CEA president; CEA vice president; Governors for Districts 2, 7, 9 and 10; 2010 NEA delegates; and 2010–11 OEA delegates. Votes will be tabulated on **Mar. 9**.
- ❑ **Secure your career. Apply for a continuing contract by Friday, Mar. 5**. Eligibility depends upon the number of years spent teaching in our district and number of additional credit hours you have accrued and type of license/certificate. Contact Cheryl Creamer at 635-5658 or call CEA if you have questions.
- ❑ **IRS deductions for union dues:** Some CEA members may be able to deduct a portion of their union dues on their income tax returns. If you are a **full-time employee** and are on **Pay Plan A** (21 Pays), you can deduct **\$778.02**. If you are on **Plan B** (26 Pays), the amount is **\$777.31**. If you have **switched from Plan A to B**, the amount is **\$724.20** and if you **changed from Plan B to A**, **\$831.13**. **Half-time employees on Plan A** (21 Pays) can deduct **\$437.18** and **Plan B** (26 Pays) would allow a **\$437.18** deduction.