

# The CEA Voice

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[www.ceaohio.org](http://www.ceaohio.org)

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This area of  
*The Voice*  
has been  
intentionally  
left blank because  
it contains a  
political endorsement.

## Vote, your job depends on it

The 2010 General Election is tomorrow, and your presence at the polls is needed. We are at a crossroads on many issues, including education, and every vote counts. This election is a battle of ideologies, and the results will hit us at the most basic levels. With so many political seats open, this is our chance to weigh in on the issues that affect our daily lives: economic policy, stimulus programs, the national debt, healthcare reform, immigration reform, the environment and education policy.

Mid-term elections are particularly important. Their results can undermine or sustain progress. Consider this: Voter turnout is generally higher in presidential elections, yet with 80 percent of eligible adults registered in America, less than half are expected to cast a ballot this November.

Here's another important fact: Tomorrow, all seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, and some in the U.S. Senate, are up for re-election. This gives us an enormous opportunity to say whether we agree with the direction being set in Washington.

We get that chance in Ohio, too. We are voting for governor, state representatives and key state officeholders. We have some extremely capable candidates this year, and we must get out and support them. The future depends on us.

Don't be one of the unheard constituents during this mid-term election. Get to your polling location tomorrow and vote.



## We make gains, we share the rewards

For more than a decade, teachers in schools that have met Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) have received a form of alternative compensation called gainsharing. The district has set aside \$2.174 million for this and for the Performance Advancement System (PAS) program. Article 908 of our *Master Agreement* outlines the process.

Each year, teachers on special assignment or those who service multiple buildings are asked to fill out gainsharing service agreement forms to attach themselves to a building for that academic year. They then work to achieve the goals set by the school's leadership team. If you are a teacher on special assignment, or you work only part of a day at one or more schools, you can choose to commit yourself to one of those schools. But you must submit a form by this Friday (Nov. 5). You can download the form from the CEA website at <http://bit.ly/9DbVNu>.

Here is a list of the schools whose teachers will receive gainsharing payments in the amount of \$1,500 based on academic performance during the 2009–2010 school year: Alpine ES, Beechcroft HS, Cedarwood ES, Clinton ES, CAHS, Como ES, Columbus Spanish Imm. Academy, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Academy, Fifth Ave. ES, Franklin MS, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic, Gables ES, Huy ES, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola Informal Alt, Lindbergh ES, Maize ES, Northland HS, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Parkmoor ES, Stewart ES, Valleyview ES, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Winterset ES and Woodcrest ES.

## Textbook committees will begin work

Congratulations to the teachers chosen for the district's textbook selection committee. The committee will have its first meeting from 8 a.m.–3 p.m. on Nov. 17 at the Hudson Distribution Center. The committee also will meet Dec. 9, Jan. 12 and Jan. 26. A classroom substitute will be provided for each committee member.

The committee will look at textbooks for art, dance, music, health and theater/drama/speech. The administration and the Association work together on this process and have developed a series of steps to select the committees as outlined in our *Master Agreement* (Article 504).

The Association members listed below have been selected to join the district's textbook adoption committees. **Art HS:** Jill Markey, Briggs HS; Teresa Weidenbush, Ft. Hayes MEC; Lysa Harris, Columbus Africentric Secondary; **Drama/Dance HS:** Timothy Wangler, Linden-McKinley HS; Davina Ware, Marion-Franklin HS; Drama/Dance MS: Emily Foster, Dominion MS; Karen King-Cavin, AIMS; **Fitness & Wellness MS:** Ellen McGrew, Clearbrook MS; Henry Woodfork, Southmoor MS; **Fitness & Wellness ES:** William McKinney, Columbus Africentric; Katherine Scott, Lincoln Park; **Health HS:** Alicia Dyer, Briggs HS; Sheila Evans, Columbus Alternative HS; **Music HS:** Darryl Flemming, CAHS; Betty Hill, Eastmoor Academy; **Music MS:** Donna Gehrisch, Columbus Spanish Imm.; Cory Velazco, Columbus Global Academy; **Music ES:** Brian Johnson, Maize ES; Joyce Morison, Stewart ES.

As the committee reviews textbooks, it will seek to avoid materials that contain male- and female- role stereotyping. The committee will look for subject matter that best reflects an integrated society and portrays the contributions made to Americans by all elements of our society.

Later in the year, the public will have an opportunity to review textbooks being considered. The school board will consider the committee's recommendations and will vote to determine final selections.

## Capital Day: It's about relationships

Working together, staying focused and remembering our goals: that was the message of our annual Capital Day held Oct. 15 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. More than 1,000 Columbus educators converged to learn more about the day's theme, "Relationships, Relevance and Rigor," with inspirational advice from well-known, award-winning educators.

Capital District President Tai Hayden, CEA President Rhonda Johnson and Superintendent Gene Harris began the day with greetings and a charge for all of us: Focus on building relationships, not only in our professional lives, but in our personal lives. Keynote speaker, Dr. Samuel Betances, set the tone with an inspiring story about his life as a biracial, bicultural and bilingual citizen of the world. His message: You can make it when the odds are against you.

Among those who offered additional guidance throughout the day were Patricia Hicks, who spoke about "Making Relationships Count by Being your B.E.S.T." and Brenda Sullivan, who demonstrated strategies for "Social and Emotional Learning." Marcia Benner and Nita Jones presented a class on bullying prevention and intervention.

A much-anticipated presentation by Roberta Hangtan and Nelda Brown focused on Service-Learning, and the pair introduced a class on the topic subtitled, "Great for Students, Teachers and the Community," to be offered through OSU next quarter.

Our lunch keynote speaker was Reg Weaver, immediate past president of the National Education Association. His energizing message focused on our need for continuous improvement. He praised CEA's strong collaboration with the Columbus City Schools administration as a great benefit to our staff and our students.

Throughout the day, participants could visit on-site educational vendors, get blood-pressure screenings and receive flu shots. CEA and our vendors gave out door prizes. Rhoda Clowers from Leawood ES won the laptop computer and printer.

Thanks to all that made the day successful.

## Special notes

- ❑ We are near the midpoint of **open enrollment for insurance benefits**. Less than one-third of employees have returned their personalized Verification and Open Enrollment forms to the CCS Benefits Department. **Take action to continue coverage for 2011 by Thursday, Nov. 18.** Complete and return this form **even if you do not wish to make any changes in coverage**. You must verify benefits coverage, confirm dependent's eligibility (documentation is not required if existing) and authorize payroll deductions. **Benefits counselors will enroll you in voluntary benefits only. RETURN YOUR FORM TODAY!**
- ❑ Congratulations to **Diana Welsh** (Dominion MS) who assumes the duties of **CEA District 1 Governor**. She ran unopposed for the unexpired term.
- ❑ **Fee waiver applications for winter quarter 2011** should be in mailboxes on Monday, Nov. 1. The completed applications are due back to Northgate by **Friday, Nov. 12, by 5 p.m.** If you have **Priority I or Priority II status**, include the proper documentation. Your priority status will change without proper documentation.
- ❑ **CCS/OSU Outreach Courses for Winter Quarter** will be open for **registration on Monday, Nov. 1**. To register, go to [www.columbus.k12.oh.us/osu](http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/osu) for more information.
- ❑ Our **United Way** campaign has officially ended. Even if your building campaign is over, you still can make a contribution by talking to your FR.