

The Voice

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Columbus Education Association

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UNCF Campaign

The kickoff for CEA's United Negro College Fund campaign was Thursday, May 5. The organization serves many minority students—not just African Americans. The organization provides operating funds for its 39 member colleges, all of them small, liberal arts institutions, making it possible for them to offer their students 21st century academic programs while keeping their tuitions to less than half the average of other private colleges.



UNCF administers 400 scholarship and internship programs, allowing students from low- and moderate-income families to afford college tuition, books, room and board. Serving as a national advocate for the importance of minority higher education, UNCF represents the public policy interests of its students and member colleges, through its annual television program, "An Evening of Stars."

The UNCF has made a real difference in the lives of many CCS graduates, current staff members and local community leaders. Many students who have believed college to be an unachievable goal are now attending and graduating with distinction from institutions of higher learning throughout the United States.

Facts about UNCF:

- ♦ More than 92 percent of UNCF students require financial assistance to reach their educational goals.
- ♦ An estimated 40 percent are the first in their families to attend college.
- ♦ Approximately 50 percent are from families with a gross income of less than \$30,000, and 55 percent of UNCF students are from single-parent families.
- ♦ UNCF scholarships apply to all schools, not just historically black colleges and universities.

This drive is very important. We are preparing our students for jobs in the global community. UNCF makes the difference for many students seeking to further their education.

The campaign ends Thursday, May 26. For more information, call Ezetta Murray at CEA, 253-4731. You may spread out your payments by participating in payroll deduction for one year.

Hayden reelected to STRS Board

Tai Hayden has been reelected to the STRS Board for a four-year term. Hayden received 15,215 votes, and her opponent received 11,766 votes with 133 write-ins.

Hayden has been serving on the board since 2006.

Previously as a member of the STRS Board, Hayden voted in favor of a plan in October 2010 to make changes to the pension benefits in order to secure the long-term sol-

veny of the pension system.

In January, the STRS Board, under pressure from Gov. Kasich and the legislature, amended its plan, removing all increases in employer contributions and shifting greater benefit reductions and higher contributions onto active teachers. Hayden voted against this proposal.

Hayden has training and experience to deal with investments, pensions and health-care issues. She has been a strong and effective advocate for her fellow educators in the important role of an STRS Board member. We congratulate her and know that there will be difficult decisions the board will have to make about our retirement future. We know she will do a great job. Congratulations, Tai!

CEA delegates attend OEA RA

More than 90 CEA members represented you at the Ohio Education Association Representative Assembly (RA) May 6–7. The OEA RA is the top governing body of our state association comprised of more than 1,300 delegates elected by local education associations.



OEA President Pat Frost-Brooks greets Sen. Sherrod Brown at the OEA Representative Assembly at Vets Memorial

"We are moving forward," said OEA President Patricia Frost-Brooks in our fight against S.B. 5. "We are not going back to the way things were 30 years ago before the collective bargaining law." President Frost-Brooks noted that state legislators are "still attempting to insert provisions of S.B. 5 into the state budget and silence the voices of the voters."

OEA Executive Director Larry Wicks reported that more than 5,000 OEA members have been trained as S.B. 5 petition circulators. To date, OEA members have received more than 11,000 referendum petitions. According to Wicks, if every petition given to OEA members was filled, nearly 1 million signatures would be collected from just our members.

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown addressed OEA delegates on the first day of the RA. "Senator Brown supports public schools from preschool to higher education," said Frost-Brooks in her introduction, "and we in the OEA have watched and supported him in every state of his political life."

"The reason we have a prosperous middle class in this country," said Senator Brown, "is because in the 1930s Congress passed and President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law collective bargaining rights." To view Sen. Brown's entire speech, go to <http://bit.ly/meQZvm>.

State Senator Scott Oelslager (R-Stark County) received the OEA Friend of Education Award. The award honors a person or organization whose leadership, acts and support have contributed to the improvement of public education on a statewide or national level. Sen. Oelslager voted against S.B. 5 twice on the Ohio Senate floor.

By an overwhelming majority, the OEA RA voted to approve a one-time \$54 dues assessment. More than \$5 million will be raised over the course of one year to fund the referendum petition drive and to support the We Are Ohio campaign. RA delegates also directed OEA leadership to explore the idea of organizing charter schoolteachers and approved the 2011–2012 Resolutions Report.

Delegates and management staff contributed an all-time record of more than \$50,000 to the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education. The Capital District contributed more than \$9,000 to the fund.

Do you have your tickets?

The 35th Annual CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet on Friday, May 20, will be held at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. The social hour starts at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m.

The purpose is to recognize those in our school family, and those in the community, who have supported our work. Join us for one of the best evenings of the year, full of touching personal stories.

We also award scholarships to some very talented students whose parents are members of CEA or CEA-R. This is a valuable benefit for CEA members.

All retirees and senior faculty representatives are invited to attend at no charge. But even if you are not a retiree, don't let the name of this gathering put you off. It truly is a CEA family celebration. Please join us. The cost to attend is \$30. To make a reservation, call CEA at 253-4731 by Monday, May 16.

Signed a petition?

If you haven't had a chance to sign a petition supporting repeal of S.B. 5, please come to the CEA office. Your FR may not have a petition for the counties surrounding Franklin, but we do. We still have much work to do to collect the 231,149 signatures necessary to place S.B. 5 on the ballot.

If you were trained by CEA to be a petition circulator, we have petitions that can be picked up at the CEA office. Petitions distributed by CEA should be returned to CEA by Tuesday, May 31. Let's all do our part to get this issue on the ballot.

LA attendance

It's challenging enough to do your job in the classroom. But some of us take the extra step to serve CEA as faculty representatives.

We thank you for your work, especially during the past few months, and look forward to seeing you at the final Legislative Assembly, Thursday, May 26. The following CEA units were represented at the LA on May 4:

A.G. Bell Program, Alpine ES, Alum Crest HS, Art, Binns ES, Brookhaven HS, Buckeye MS, Burroughs ES, CAHS, CEA Office, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Clinton ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus Spanish Immersion K–8, Counselors, Devonshire ES, East Columbus ES, East Linden ES, Eastgate ES, École Kenwood K–8, Fairmoor ES, Ft. Hayes MEC HS, Gifted & Talented, Hamilton K–6, Hilltonia MS, Hudson Comm. Ed. Ctr., Hudson St. Warehouse, Huy ES, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola K–8, Innis ES, I-PASS @ Mifflin MS, Johnson Park MS, Juvenile Detention Ctr., Leawood ES, Lindbergh ES, Livingston ES, Maize ES, Marion-Franklin HS, Maybury ES, Mifflin HS, Music, Northgate Ctr., Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Olde Orchard ES, OT/PT, PAR, Parsons ES, Psychologists, Salem ES, Shepard Center, Sherwood MS, South Mifflin K–6, Southmoor MS, Southwood ES, St. Vincent, Starling MS, Stewart ES, Sullivant ES, Tutors, Valley Forge ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West HS, Westgate ES, Woodcrest ES, Woodward Park MS and Work Study.

Clippers night at Huntington Park

Thursday, May 19, is the annual CCS Employee Night with the Columbus Clippers at Huntington Park.

This event coincides with the Columbus Youth Foundation's "Best All-Around Student Awards." Since 1985, the Columbus Foundation has sponsored this award celebrating a male and a female student from each middle and high school in CCS for outstanding citizenship and achievements.

The awards event begins with a picnic for the students and their families, followed by recognition in an on-field ceremony. The Centennial HS Marching Band will perform. The game between the Columbus Clippers and the Pawtucket Red Sox will begin at 6:35 p.m.

Wear red to Thursday's game to show our solidarity.

Interested in becoming a cooperating teacher?

The Staff Development Dept. is preparing for field observations, methods and student teaching/internship placements for the 2011–12 school year. The district continues to expand the opportunities for Columbus teachers to work with university students who are interested in our profession. In order to be considered as a cooperating teacher, the minimum expectations include three years experience and Highly Qualified Teacher status. Research shows that effective cooperating teachers exhibit the following qualities:

- ◆ Positive rapport with students, parents and colleagues
- ◆ Excellent organizational skills
- ◆ Extensive content knowledge
- ◆ Effective classroom management
- ◆ Positive professional role model
- ◆ Willingness to contribute to the teaching profession by sharing classroom expertise with pre-service teachers

Productive and effective student placements are one of our most powerful recruitment tools and a mechanism to eliminate unwarranted stereotypes of urban education. If you possess these qualities and want to be on the list for consideration, talk to your principal by Thursday, May 19.

Pepsi grant: Vote for Windsor

Did you know that many CCS schools have Special Needs Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten classes? Did you know that the playground equipment is not sized for young kids? Did you know that little kids learn better if they are moving? Did you know that if we designed a space to give kids specific motor practice that their reading scores would improve? For one CCS school, they may get a chance to design an outdoor classroom just for their youngest learners. Windsor STEM Academy is competing for a Pepsi Refresh Everything Grant, but they need you to vote for their project.

You can vote at www.refresheverything.com/think-outside-the-school-box. You can also vote by texting 106314 to 73774. You can vote daily via each method and can power vote with special codes found on Pepsi products. Share on your Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Special notes

- ❑ **All terms of Faculty Representatives expire at the end of the 2010–11 school year.** Every building/unit must hold an election. Certification forms must be returned to CEA by May 31.
- ❑ **Fairmoor ES, Innis ES and Moler ES** were approved for alternative interview panels since the last edition of *The Voice*.
- ❑ The **Columbus Hearing Impaired Program** will be holding a **retirement tea** for **Tonda Thomas (CHIP)**, **Tricia Stinson (A.G. Bell)**, **Rita Sheets-Coleman (A.G. Bell)** and **Kathy McPike (Alpine)** on Thursday, May 26, from 4–6 p.m. at Huy ES/A.G. Bell Program in Room 200. *RSVP* to **Denyse Woods** at **365-5977 ext. 204** by **May 20**.