

The CEA Voice

www.ceaohio.org

Volume XLII, No. 13

Columbus Education Association

November 14, 2011

Major victory upholds workers' rights

On Nov. 8, we made history. Thanks to you, we soundly defeated Issue 2 and brought to a halt the current Ohio administration's attempts to discredit and destroy many years of work to develop a strong, united workers' voice. Thanks to everyone who helped make SB 5 a thing of the past. In the great tradition of union activism, you demonstrated at rallies, made phone calls, used social media, canvassed, talked with friends and family members and got out the vote. Your effort is a fitting tribute to those who secured the rights you fought to protect. Many of you are too young to remember how long and how hard we stood for the right to bargain, how many times we went to court and how often we took to the streets to make our case. It wasn't pretty. In Ohio, this battle took more than 40 years until collective bargaining rights became law in 1983. There was NO way we were going to hand over the progress we had achieved in a single day at the polls. We thank you for stepping up.



CEA also thanks you for being there for our endorsed candidates who emerged victorious as well: Mayor Michael Coleman, elected to a fourth consecutive term; city council winners Andy Ginther, Michelle Mills, Zach M. Klein and Hearcel F. Craig; Columbus School Board President Carol Perkins and members W. Shawna Gibbs, Bryan Steward and Gary Baker; Franklin County Municipal Court Judge Michael T. Brandt. The race between Judge Andrea C. Peeples and her opponent won't be decided until Nov. 29 when all provisional and absentee ballots have been counted. Lori Tyack retains her position as Clerk of Municipal Court.

Also approved: The tax issue that keeps the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities afloat.

We appreciate Canal Winchester voters for approving a tax issue to support their schools. Unfortunately, voters rejected most of central Ohio's school tax issues. Our hearts go out to those who must now endure drastic budget cuts. We will be there for you as you fight to make things right for your students.

The photos of CEA members were taken on Election night during the live broadcast of MSNBC's "The Ed Show."

Get ready for MLK

CEA is taking nominations until Nov. 22 for award recipients to be recognized at CEA's 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner on Thursday, Jan. 12. Nominate individuals for the following awards:

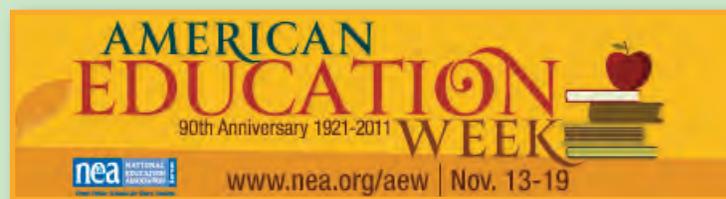


- ▶ The MLK Humanitarian Award recognizes those who have demonstrated efforts to keep alive the ideals and spirit of the late Dr. King. Former recipients include the late Jerry Hammond, State Senator Charleta Tavares, Mayor Michael Coleman, former State Representative Joyce Beatty and former Ohio Treasurer Kevin Boyce.
- ▶ The Helen Jenkins Davis Award is named in honor of the first black teacher hired by the Columbus City School District. The award is presented to a Columbus teacher who has worked to promote social justice, diversity and human and civil rights. Former recipients include Dorothy Wilson, Cathy Nelson, Carol Moyer, Sandra Waters-Holley and Barbara Yarborough.

Nominations for both awards are due to the CEA office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 22. Applications have been sent to senior faculty representatives and can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/rjMs7a>.

This year's speaker is the Rev. Jesse Jackson. While an undergraduate, Jackson became involved in the civil rights movement. In 1965, he went to Selma, Alabama, to march with Dr. King. He was in Memphis with King when the civil rights leader was assassinated on Apr. 4, 1968. In the 1980s, he became a leading national spokesman for African Americans. After being appointed special envoy to Africa, he was awarded the 2000 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

This event promises to be well attended. Get your tickets early. They are \$30. Tables of eight are \$240. Watch for information about the dinner in upcoming issues of *The Voice*.



Nine decades strong

Nov. 13–19 marks the 90th annual commemoration of American Education Week. We should take time to look back at the progress we have made as professionals. Distressed that 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate and 9 percent were physically unfit, representatives of the NEA and the American Legion sought ways to generate public support for education.

The week's events include several days to recognize specific groups that help us all make a difference. You can use the tool kit found at www.nea.org to plan activities at your

See *Nine decades strong* on back page

Working in good faith

The *Master Agreement* is a binding and legal agreement between the Columbus Board of Education and the Columbus Education Association. It is unfortunate that not everyone honors this agreement. We want to remind our teachers and our administrators that we bargain in good faith and work very hard to establish guidelines with which we can all live. Please stay current on the statutes and keep up your end of the bargain. At this time, we resolved the following grievance:

Building/Unit/Administrator	Statement of Grievance	Relief Requested	Disposition
The Association on behalf of Kindergarten teachers in the CCS District	The CEA/Board Agreement was violated, misinterpreted and/or misapplied when the Board/Administration started using kindergarten instructional assistants to teach The Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) Program.	That the Board Administration immediately cease and desist using the kindergarten instructional assistants to teach the LLI program.	Step 2 hearing—Based on the information presented at the grievance hearing the district was in violation of the contract due to the teachers not being trained on the LLI Program. However, the teachers are currently being trained on the LLI Program. Therefore, the relief requested is granted.

Nine decades strong from front page

school. Here's the schedule of special days:

- ✦ Monday, Nov. 14: Kick-off Day
- ✦ Tuesday, Nov. 15: On Parents Day, schools across the nation will invite parents into classrooms to experience firsthand what a school day is like for their children.
- ✦ Wednesday, Nov. 16: Education Support Professional Day focuses on the importance of those school employees who take care of students every day, making sure they have the tools they need to succeed in school.
- ✦ Thursday, Nov. 17: Educator for a Day provides an opportunity to invite individuals from the community to serve as educators and get a glimpse of a day in the life of a school employee.
- ✦ Friday, Nov. 18: Substitute Educators Day is a day to celebrate how these educators serve as the educational bridges when regular classroom educators are absent.

CEA also takes this time to show our solidarity with our sister association, OAPSE. Their members are equal and essential partners in the education process. In Columbus City Schools, this group of custodians, secretaries, bus drivers and food service workers is led by Lois Carson. Please take some time to say, "Thank you" to our support professionals.

I Know I Can spotlight on Dean Fowls

Since its founding in 1988, I Know I Can has had the support of CCS Staff Development Specialist, Dean Fowls. Giving to I Know I Can since 1991, Dean began supporting this organization because he saw the equity that could be achieved if everyone in the union offered support to I Know I Can's mission: inspiring, enabling and supporting CCS students in pursuing and completing their college educations.



Working as I Know I Can's CCS staff representative for several years, Mr. Fowls says, "I Know I Can is an important venture" that allows students to be highly educated and strong contributors to society. "No place provides so many students who aren't top performers in high school with the chance to do better in college." I Know I Can helps students get through college by removing some of the financial barriers standing between themselves and college.

When asked why he, and all educators, should support I Know I Can, Mr. Fowls simply stated, "I think it's a very noble cause. Everyone—especially educators—should be donating to I Know I Can. These are our kids—we need to help as much as we can" and I Know I Can is one of the best vehicles for district representatives to do so.

I Know I Can is so grateful to Mr. Fowls for his loyal support. It is with the help of teachers and district personnel like Dean that I Know I Can is able to continually expand its reach and impact among students across the district every year.

Thank you for being United

We thank all school employees for participating in this year's United Way campaign. Because of you, many of our families will receive services and assistance they need to stay warm in the winter, ensure their



young ones are prepared to begin school, assess their skills for a job search, feel secure in a safer neighborhood and so much more.

Thank you to the following buildings/units that have completed their campaigns since the last edition of *The Voice*: Broadleigh ES, Brookhaven HS, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus International HS, Duxberry Park ES, École Kenwood, Fifth Ave. ES, Food Service, Ft. Hayes CC, Gables ES, Hamilton STEM ES, Heyl ES, Hudson Comm. Ed. Ctr., Northgate Ctr., Indian Springs ES, Innis ES, Southmoor MS, Southwood ES, Trevitt ES, Weinland Park ES and Woodcrest ES

Special notes

- ❑ **CEA needs your contact information.** Don't be the last to know about an important matter affecting your job. Fill out the **lime green card** we sent you with your cell phone number and personal email address.
- ❑ CEA neglected to mention and thank **Innis ES** for participating in the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk** on Oct. 23. We apologize for this omission.

Job-Sharing Request • 2012–2013

If you are looking for a job-share partner, fill out the form below and return it to the CEA office. A list will be printed and mailed to each person who submits the form to assist in finding a partner for job sharing. Even if you submitted your name last year, **fill out a new form this year**. Please return this form to **Carol Wagner** at CEA by **Tuesday, Nov. 22**.

Name: _____

School: _____ Phone: _____

Present Assignment: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

Certification Area(s): _____

Mobile Phone: (____) _____

Teaching Preference for Next Year: _____

Email Address: _____