

The Voice

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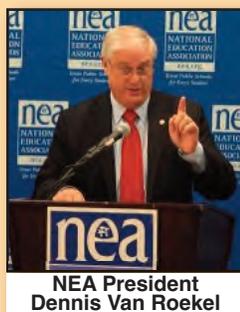
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Columbus Education Association

December 19, 2011

NEA's redoubled path to quality schools

Our nation's leaders have been looking for ways to improve our schools. The National Education Association asked its members across the country for input and on Dec. 8 released a new platform as part of its Commission on Effective Teaching report.



NEA President
Dennis Van Roekel

NEA President Dennis Van Roekel announced a number of steps to achieve these three goals:

- * Raising the bar for entry: year-long residency for new teachers followed by a rigorous classroom-based performance assessment
- * Ensuring great teaching: "novice" status for newcomers to the profession, with increasing levels of responsibility based on performance, and more work and pay for those who have reached the professional level; and mentoring by master teachers inside and outside the classroom
- * Providing transformative union leadership: union-led teacher training and evaluation to improve professional quality

To implement the platform, NEA will:

- * Collaborate with higher education and other partners to implement at least 50 high-quality residency programs and teacher performance assessments in at least 10 state licensure systems.
- * Establish at least 100 new Peer Assistance and Peer Assistance and Review programs over the next three years, based on the successful examples in Columbus, Oh. and Montgomery County, Md.
- * Develop training and materials for all local and state affiliates to use as part of quality evaluation systems and fair dismissal policies
- * Disseminate best practice descriptions, research and other information
- * Use its national training networks to deliver leadership skills to teachers recognized for their effectiveness
- * Train educators from all 50 states in educational and policy leadership based on its new, innovative curriculum

"NEA aims to ensure that every student has a qualified, caring and effective teacher," Van Roekel said. "We will support a stronger profession of teaching, and I will put the full weight of our national organization behind this effort.

"Five years from now, we want people to look at NEA as a major catalyst for bringing about the kind of education all Americans want, all teachers can deliver and all children deserve."

Go to www.nea.org/leadingtheprofession to learn more about the new NEA agenda.

Need a shoulder?

Holidays are joyful, but they can be stressful, adding emphasis to the problems many of us deal with all year.



It's nice to have someone to talk to. That's why CEA has negotiated a benefit called the Employee Assistance Program. It's a way to get help coping with some of life's challenges, including financial difficulties; family relationships; health and wellness; legal problems; dependent care for children and the elderly; emotional and psychological concerns; community resources; and alcohol and drug abuse.

It's confidential. You can read about it in Article 815 of your contract, but here are the highlights:

Our program is run by People Resources and allows you five visits to a counselor at no cost to you. It is confidential and private. No one will know if you use it.

You also can find therapists, financial advisors, eldercare specialists and legal consultants; read helpful articles; and perform a self-assessment by setting up your own account.

Don't wait until stress builds to a health-threatening level. To use the service, call People Resources at 800-765-9124. Operators are available 24 hours. You may also register at www.WorkLifeTools.com. Enter Columbus Public Schools as the company name to read articles, take self-assessments and find out more about the services.

Tell your children: I was there

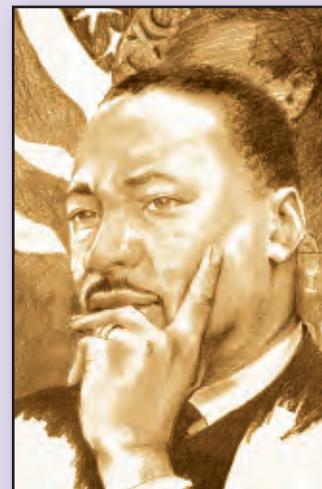
Don't miss CEA's 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner, Thursday, Jan. 12, at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus. We are lucky to welcome one of the most dynamic speakers in the country, Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Hear this American civil rights leader, Baptist minister and former U.S. presidential hopeful talk about his ongoing work for human rights worldwide.

That's not the only highlight of the evening. We also will honor this year's award winners. It's a special year, as we have dual winners of the MLK Humanitarian Award: Pastor Dale B. Snyder of Bethel AME Church in Linden; and Priscilla R. Tyson, Columbus City Council Member.

Our recipient of the Helen Jenkins Davis Award is Jimmie K. Beall, guidance counselor at Monroe Middle School. Beall is a courageous leader in the fight for civil rights awareness for GLBT students and school employees.

Don't delay. Get your tickets today. Reservations can be made by calling CEA at 253-4731. Tickets are \$30 and tables of eight are \$240.



Get involved in *your* Association

The OEA/CEA elections are coming up. Make your voice heard. Run for a position.

The following positions will be open in the CEA Spring 2012 Elections: President and Vice President (two-year terms); Governors for Districts 2 (unexpired term ending July 31, 2013), 3, 6, Elementary School At-Large and two High School At-Large (three-year terms); 2012 NEA Delegates; and 2012–13 OEA Delegates.

Members may declare candidacy for these positions until Feb. 3, 2012. The formal campaign period is from Feb. 4–Mar. 5. Voting will take place from Feb. 21–Mar. 5. The Elections Committee will tabulate votes on Mar. 6.

In the event of a run-off election, the formal campaigning period will be from Mar. 12–Apr. 2. Voting takes place Mar. 20–Apr. 2. The Elections Committee will tally votes on Apr. 3.

Give to I Know I Can

In the midst of the holiday season, we share this message from Alyssa Petrella, a Ft. Hayes graduate who is the Development and Public Relations Director of I Know I Can:

Dear Educators:

As we enter this holiday season and the start of a new year, we ask all CEA members to consider I Know I Can in charitable giving this year. Our mission is to inspire, enable and support CCS students in pursuing and completing a college degree. Each year, we host dozens of events to guide families through the college application and funding process. I Know I Can is making great strides in ensuring post-secondary success for CCS students. With your help, we have guided CCS graduates to earn more than 22,000 grants valued at nearly \$23 million and leverage more than \$300 million in additional financial aid. We also have shown middle school families how they can start planning now to afford college tuition.

But each year there is a new group of students looking forward to a college education and not sure how to get there. We know that you are a major factor in their lives. I Know I Can is an important way you can make sure your influence and caring follow them after graduation.

To ensure their success, visit iknowican.org, and click on "donate." If you have questions, call me at 233-9510.



Legislative Assembly: Attend and know

It's easy to keep up with Association developments. Attend the CEA Legislative Assembly (LA) meetings. Faculty representatives, in particular, need to attend these meetings and get first-hand experience listening to the important issues that are presented. Meetings are open to all CEA members.

The LA is the policy-making body of the Association. It consists of faculty representatives, governors and CEA officers. Meeting attendance is important to ensure effective representation.

The following buildings/units were represented at the Dec. 1 Legislative Assembly:

6th St. Annex, A.G. Bell Program, Alpine ES, Art, Avalon ES, Avondale ES, Beechcroft HS, Berwick K–8, Briggs HS, Brookhaven HS, Burroughs ES, CAHS, Cassidy ES, CEA Office, Cedarwood ES @ Stockbridge, Centennial HS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus Spanish Immersion K–8, Como ES, Devonshire ES, Dominion MS, Duxberry Park ES, Eakin ES, East Columbus ES, East HS, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, École Kenwood K–8, Fairwood ES, Forest Park ES, Georgian Heights ES, Gifted & Talented, Guidance Counselors, Highland ES, Hilltonia MS, Hudson Comm. Ed. Ctr., Hudson St. Warehouse, Huy ES, Independence HS, Indian

Springs ES, Indianola K–8, Johnson Park MS, Leawood ES, Liberty ES, Lincoln Park ES, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Academy K-6, Livingston ES, Maize ES, Maybury ES, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, Music, Northgate Center, Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakmont ES, Ohio Avenue ES, Olde Orchard ES @ Old Shady Lane, OT/PT, PAR, Parkmoor ES, Phys. Ed., Pupil Services, Ridgeview MS, Salem ES, Scottwood ES, Shady Lane ES, Sherwood MS, South HS, South Mifflin STEM Academy K–6, Southmoor MS, Speech & Language, Starling MS, Stewart ES @ Beck, Sullivant ES, Tutors, Valley Forge ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West Broad ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Windsor STEM Academy K–6, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES, Woodward Park MS and Yorktown MS.

Bottles, cans & newspapers...Oh my!

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) is making it more convenient for you to recycle. Check out the 200+ drop-off sites in neighborhoods throughout Columbus, including Columbus City Schools buildings. SWACO has provided an online map that lists all of its locations at <http://locator.swaco.org/Map.aspx?zip=43215>, or visit swaco.org, which contains a zip code locator tool.

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman also rolled out a city-wide, curbside recycling plan he hopes can begin in the spring. Here's what you may recycle now in the city's drop-off bins:

Bottles and Jars

- ♻️ Plastic bottles (any)
- ♻️ Glass bottles and jars

Cans, aluminum

- ♻️ cans, gutters and siding
- ♻️ Steel soup, food and aerosol cans

Paper

- ♻️ Newspaper, including all inserts
- ♻️ Magazines, catalogs and telephone books
- ♻️ Mail, scrap paper and envelopes (windows OK)
- ♻️ Brown paper bags
- ♻️ Paperboard (such as cereal or snack boxes)
- ♻️ Cardboard boxes (break down and, if needed, cut to 3 feet by 3 feet)

Special notes

- ❑ Join the Central Ohio Labor Council AFL-CIO and the **Columbus Blue Jackets** for a fun night with your family and other union families on **Feb. 24, 2012, 7 p.m.**, at the **Nationwide Arena**. Call **Tom Johnson** at **246-4241** or send an email to tjohnson@bluejackets.com to purchase tickets. Tickets sell for \$30 or \$65 each.

Enjoy your break!

CEA wishes you a wonderful winter break and a happy new year, filled with laughter, love and some much-deserved time to relax.

*Rhonda Sally
Ezetta Bob Tracey Rick Carol
Judy N. Cora Judy M.
Michele Tom Beth
Phil Karen*