

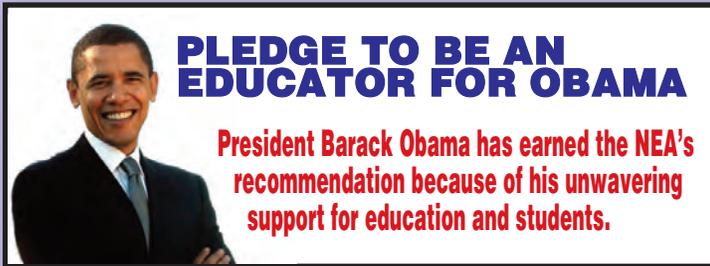
The Voice

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Columbus Education Association

February 6, 2012



PLEDGE TO BE AN EDUCATOR FOR OBAMA

President Barack Obama has earned the NEA's recommendation because of his unwavering support for education and students.

In June of 2011, an ex-New England governor currently campaigning for the Republican Presidential nomination went on record in support of SB 5. He said the law contained “crucial reforms that the state has put in place to limit the power of union bosses,” and he said, “I stand with [Ohio’s governor] and Ohio’s leaders as they take on this important fight.”

One month later, yet another Republican Presidential hopeful went on record with his support of SB 5. The congressional veteran taped a video supporting SB 5. He praised SB 5, Ohio’s governor and even went so far as to mention Ohio’s governor by name three times in the short video. The former Congressman urged the video’s viewers to donate to make sure that Ohioans would vote Yes on Issue 2.

Just two weeks before the November election, the ex-governor-turned-Presidential candidate clearly reaffirmed his support of SB 5, saying, “I am 110 percent behind Ohio’s governor and in support of Senate Bill 5.”

In April of 2011, weeks after SB 5 was signed into law, President Obama stated that he “strongly disapproves of new laws restricting public employee unions in Ohio.” He added, “Public employees should not be blamed for a financial crisis that they had nothing to do with.” President Obama understood what we were up against.

During his recent State of the Union address, President Obama stated he is fighting for an economy built on manufacturing, American energy, skills for American workers and a renewal of American values. One such American value is collective bargaining.

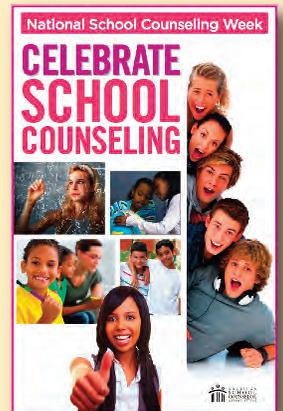
Last Labor Day while we were knocking on doors, making phone calls and talking to our friends, family and neighbors, President Obama validated our efforts. In his 2011 Labor Day Presidential Proclamation, Obama called collective bargaining a “fundamental American value.” President Obama stood with Ohioans during their fight against SB 5.

President Obama gets it. He recognizes that education plays a crucial role in putting more Americans back to work, rebuilding the economy and helping middle class families. He can’t do it alone; he needs our support.

If we fail to re-elect President Obama, the consequences for our profession and our students will be just as dire had SB 5 become law. We need to stand up and fight for the President who has stood up and fought for us. Help us win our fight by becoming an Educator for Obama. Go to <http://www.neafund.org/>. Your President, your country and your students are counting on you.

National School Counseling Week 2012

National School Counseling Week 2012, “School Counselors: Helping Students Be Brilliant,” will be celebrated from Feb. 6–10, 2012, to focus public attention on the unique contributions of professional school counselors. Sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), the week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success. ASCA supports school counselors’ efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social and career development to prepare them to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society.



The question has been posed, “What do school counselors do?” CCS counselors have rephrased the question to ask, “How are students different as a result of what school counselors do?” The CCS School Guidance Services Department is using the ASCA national model to align programs and services to provide a K–12 comprehensive school guidance program. This framework provides counselors with resources and tools to measure the impact guidance programs and services have on student success.

Last year, CCS principals and counselors participated in an online survey entitled, “Perceptions of the Role of the School Counselor.” The purpose of the survey was to determine how school principals and school counselors were alike or different in their perceptions of the counselor’s role. To compare what counselors actually do with what principals and counselors perceive they should be doing, counselors were also asked to keep a time log to determine how much of their time is spent in direct services to students (classroom guidance lessons, individual and small group counseling, academic advising, etc.) compared to system support activities (test coordination, clerical responsibilities, duties, covering classrooms for absent teachers, etc.).

One of the most significant findings of the time log data is that the average amount of time counselors spent in direct services with students was less than 40 percent. The remaining time was spent performing system support activities and duties.

The guidance department in partnership with building administrators hopes to find creative ways to increase the amount of time counselors spend in direct services with students. Strong and collaborative principal-counselor relationships are vital for counselors to be effective in supporting student success. Although we are making progress in aligning our school counseling program to the ASCA model, counselors need the district support in this endeavor.

From all of us at CEA to CCS counselors: A great big cheer of appreciation for all you do!

211 calendar mystery

CEA has received numerous calls about the dates for the Article 211 process. In last week's *Voice*, we gave the dates for 211 training. Since that time, the training dates have changed.



Because of CEA's experience with HR setting and then changing dates numerous times, we are hesitant to confirm dates for this year's 211 process. Here is what we know: The first round of the process will start sometime prior to spring break and will continue after spring break. The second round will most likely occur in May. There will be one or more job fairs sometime before the end of the school year.

But we want to be certain, so stay tuned. We will bring you the information as soon as we can verify it. We will also update you if, and when, HR changes the dates again. If you have questions, feel free to call CEA. Or, maybe, call HR.

You don't have to wait until March 6

Early voting for the Mar. 6 primary election has begun.

You may request an absentee ballot from your local board of elections. You also may vote in person at your local county board of elections now. To find out where, check

the Ohio Secretary of State's Website at www.sos.state.oh.us. A more specific link within the site will direct you to your county's voting information: <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/electionsofficials/boeDirectory.aspx>.

You may declare a party, or you may vote nonpartisan or on issues only. For your convenience, go to <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/assets/pdf/absentee/absentee-application-11-A.pdf> to download a copy of the application to vote absentee.



Write and learn this summer

Teachers from all disciplines and grade levels are invited to participate in the Columbus-Area Writing Project Summer Institute (CAWP).

CAWP Summer Institute is based on the philosophy of "teachers teaching teachers" and on the importance of teachers themselves writing as a part of improving the teaching of writing.

Participating teachers will have the opportunities to learn from each other, to study writing theory and research, to write their own compositions and participate in writing workshops and to develop leadership and professional development skills in the teaching of writing. The CAWP is an affiliate of the National Writing Project. It begins with a 3-day/2-night retreat at Kenyon College, June 13–15. Then participants meet from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days on the OSU Main Campus: Week 1: June 18–22 and Week 2: June 25–29.

If accepted for the program, you may receive 2–4 graduate semester credit hours from OSU, which you pay for yourself or with a tuition fee waiver. The three-day retreat at Kenyon and the required books are free to participants. Call 247-4292 or go to <http://cawp.ehe.osu.edu/summer-programs/summer-institute> for more information. You also may contact Melissa Wilson, Program Manager, at: mwilson@ehe.osu.edu or Robin Holland, Co-Director, at rholl10554@aol.com.



Travel with CEA

The CEA travel group is planning a seven-day Mediterranean cruise commencing June 8, and there are only six spots remaining. The trip will begin with a flight into Rome, then proceed to the port of Civitavecchia to board the ship. Ports of call include: Genoa, Corsica, Barcelona, Mallorca and Tunis. We will then sail back to Civitavecchia and return to Rome.



The cost of the trip is \$3,950 per person based on double occupancy. A \$250 deposit for each traveler is due by Friday, Feb. 10. Contact Bexley Travel at 235-8813 today.

CORRECTION: Article 211 training will be held at Northgate Center (Room G) on **Wednesday, Feb. 22**, from 8–10 a.m. for all high schools, 7–12 schools and career centers; and from 1–3 p.m. for elementary and middle schools in Regions III, IV and V. On **Thursday, Feb. 23**, training for all district programs and offices will be from 8–10 a.m. and for elementary and middle schools in Regions I and II from 1–3 p.m. **Senior Faculty Representatives and principals/supervisors should attend together.**

Special notes

- Fee waiver applications for Spring 2012** are due back to Northgate by **Friday, Feb. 10, at 5 p.m.** If you have **Priority I or Priority II status**, include the proper documentation. **Your priority status will change to Priority III without proper documentation.**
- Mar. 2 is the deadline to apply for continuing contracts.** Eligibility requirements can be found in Section 401.16 of the *CEA Master Agreement*.
- Make sure no one has to choose between getting well and having a paycheck. **Donate days to the catastrophic sick leave bank.** Use a sick leave form to make your donation. Be sure that you and your principal/supervisor sign the form.
- Save the date** for one of our best-loved events. **The CEA Awards & Retirement Dinner is Friday, May 18**, at the Hilton Columbus Easton. Social hour is at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. There is no cost for retirees, honorees and Senior Faculty Representatives to attend.
- We are now in the **campaign period of the election cycle.** We kindly ask faculty representatives and members to distribute candidates' campaign materials in their buildings. The **formal campaign period** continues until **Mar. 5. Voting begins Feb. 21.** 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.

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Go to neafund.org/ or use your smartphone to scan the QR Code to get started now.

