The 211 process under way

This is the time of year when vacancies are posted and interviews conducted. As you enter into this process, it is important you keep in mind that the CEA contract contains a number of procedures and protections that are meant to eliminate any discrepancies or missteps.

The contract language found in Article 211 must be strictly followed. Principals and faculty representatives participated in 211 training, which emphasized that all applicants be treated fairly. Communicate any concerns you have to the CEA office as soon as possible.

Here are some of the rules for posting positions:
- All known teacher vacancies for the following year must be posted by Monday, Mar. 19.
- To apply, submit a cover letter, copy of your teaching certification/license and your résumé to the building or unit administrator and the Senior Faculty Representative. Proof of certification is available on the ODE Website at http://bit.ly/6GJqJl.
- If you have a three-year commitment, you may not participate in the 211 process, except to apply for a “career opportunity” (i.e., Common Core Instructional TOSA, Gifted & Talented Coordinator, Reading Specialist).
- The staff reduction process is completely separate from the layoff process. Staff reduction is an involuntary transfer within the system dictated by enrollment and program changes. Staff-reduced teachers still have jobs.
- Staff reductions automatically apply to the following:
  - Teachers assigned through Human Resources in the spring of 2010
  - Teachers who selected a position at the job fair in the spring of 2010
  - Teachers staff reduced and assigned by HR due to reorganization or layoffs
  - New hires assigned by HR for the 2011–2012 school year

Please take some time to review the complete process. If you have any questions, call CEA. The complete 211 calendar is available at http://bit.ly/ykgiv9.

Here are the upcoming dates:

| Monday, Mar. 19—Round 1 Postings OPEN | Monday, May 14—Round 2 Interviews CLOSE |
| Tuesday, Mar. 20—Round 1 Interviews OPEN | Tuesday, May 8—Round 2 Postings OPEN |
| Thursday, Mar. 22—Round 1 Postings CLOSE | Wednesday, May 9—Round 2 Interviews OPEN |
| Mar. 26–Apr. 5—Intersession (No interviewing of year-round school applicants) | Friday, May 11—Round 2 Postings CLOSE |
| Apr. 6–13—Spring Break (No interviewing at all) | Monday, May 14—Round 2 Interviews CLOSE |
| Monday, Apr. 16—Round 1 Interviews CLOSE | Wednesday, May 30 & Thursday, May 31—Job fair |
| Tuesday, Apr. 16—Round 2 Postings OPEN | All Job Fair results will be posted on Friday, June 1. |
| Friday, May 11—Round 2 Postings CLOSE | |

Educators in the Statehouse

Victory is contagious. After our defeat of Issue 2/Senate Bill 5, many OEA members across central Ohio caught political fever and have decided to keep the momentum going and are running for office. Ten OEA members are on the November ballot for the Ohio Senate and House of Representatives:

- Tanyce Addison, retired from Elgin Education Association, Senate District 26
- Jeffrey Bunck, retired from Anthony Wayne Education Association, House District 47
- Judith Cross, retired from Brunswick, House District 69
- Michael Kassalen, Little Miami Teachers Association, House District 62
- Matt Lark, Norwalk Teachers Association, House District 57
- Donna O’Conner, Dublin Education Association, House District 21
- John Patterson, Jefferson Area Teachers Association, House District 99
- Maureen Reedy, Upper Arlington Education Association, House District 24
- Teresa Scarmack, Logan Education Association, Senate District 20
- Bill Young, Clyde Springs Education Association, House District 88

Look for these names when you go to the polls for the General Election. We have a chance to make our voices heard in a way that could far exceed our recent political efforts. We have a chance to be political insiders.

“Ohio’s teachers and education support professional understand the need for lawmakers who create and vote on legislation that values, respects and supports all Ohioans and sustains and supports a public education system where students learn and thrive,” said OEA President Patricia Frost-Brooks.
Make a commitment to UNCF
Many of us know firsthand the obstacles that face college students. At a recent CEA meeting, we asked UNCF-Columbus to share a brief overview of the organization and to highlight students from Columbus City Schools who have been impacted by UNCF support. One of the most profound moments beyond the wonderful student speakers was when UNCF Area Director Natalie Coles asked the crowd to raise a hand if they were the first in their families to attend college. It was overwhelming how many hands were raised. So many of our fellow staff have overcome the same challenges our children face today to reach their full potential. It was confirmation that participating in the UNCF campaign is critical to the long-term success of our students.

Hopefully, you have already received your pledge card. We encourage you to fill it out, as the campaign will close on Monday, Mar. 26. Once completed, turn it into your site coordinator. Remember, 50 percent of everything that we raise will be designated to provide scholarships for Columbus City Schools students.

With your help, together we can change the destiny of the children we serve. Please make your donation today, because, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste.”

Know your CEA Governor
The CEA Constitution and Bylaws designate the Board of Governors (BOG) as the Associations executive arm. This week’s Voice features Kevin Jackson, Governor of District 5. Kevin graduated from Northland HS and currently teaches math at Champion MS. He has also worked at Northland HS and Africentric Early College HS. Jackson was first elected as the Governor of District 5 in the spring of 2011.

Jackson has participated in the Fall OEA Representative Assembly and the NEA Mid-Atlantic Regional Leadership Academy, held in Washington, D.C., in January.

Schools in District 5 include: Alum Crest HS, Beatty Park ES, Berwick K–8, Champion MS, Clearbrook MS, Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus City Prep. School for Boys, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, East HS, Eastgate ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, Juvenile Detention Center, Monroe MS, Ohio Ave. ES, St. Vincent Center and Trevitt ES.

March for premature babies
Join all of us concerned with the health of babies for the annual March of Dimes March for Babies, Sunday, Apr. 29, at the Sports Barn at Easton. The fundraising event consists of a 3-mile walk, a 1-mile Buggy Brigade, a Kid Zone with kid-friendly activities and information tents about the March of Dimes’ mission, saving premature and sick babies.

Premature birth is the #1 cause of newborn death and is the biggest threat to babies’ health today. Through the March for Babies, the March of Dimes is funding important research to find out why premature birth happens and what can be done to prevent it.

If you would like to volunteer as an organizer, contact modvolunteerscolumbus@gmail.com. To join the walk, register online at www.marchforbabies.org.

A call to action for veterans and military family members
The Ohio Democratic Party will be hosting a day-long training for members of Ohio’s military community on how to recruit and organize itself to help elect candidates in 2012. The training will teach people on topics ranging from grassroots organizing and messaging to how to speak with the media and voters comfortably and confidently.

The training will feature pro-veteran and military family legislator U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown.

Individuals who attend the training will work alongside trainers from both the Truman National Security Project and Vote Vets, nationally known veterans and foreign policy advocacy organizations based in Washington, D.C. The training will take place on Saturday, Mar. 24, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., at the Ohio Democratic Party Headquarters (340 E. Fulton St., Columbus, OH 43215).

This is a first of its kind training in the country with high interest and limited space available. Please RSVP at: http://action.ohiodems.org/march24-veterans as soon as possible to reserve your seat. Lunch and drinks will be provided for all individuals who attend.

Deduct your educator expenses
As you file your tax return, keep this in mind: You may be able to deduct personal expenses related to your teaching job. Qualifying expenses include books, supplies, computers and software. A maximum deduction of $250 is allowed, but additional deductions may qualify.


Special notes
☐ The CEA Spring Run-Off Election will be held according to the following schedule: Formal campaigning, March 19–Apr. 16; voting, Mar. 26–Apr. 16; and tallying of votes by the Elections Committee, Tuesday, Apr. 17.

☐ The CEA Reach Out and Read Book Drive has ended. FRs can drop off donations to the CEA Office between the hours of 9 a.m.–5 p.m. this week. If there is problem getting your books to the office by Friday, March 23, contact Tracey Johnson at 253-4731; or email her at johnson@ceaohio.org.

☐ Fee waiver applications for Summer 2012 should be in mailboxes on Monday, Mar. 19. Completed applications are due back to Northgate by Friday, Mar. 30, 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.

☐ Senior FRs must submit requests by fax (253-0465) for alternative interview panels to the CEA President prior to interviewing. These are the buildings/units that have been approved since the last edition of The Voice: Africentric EC ES, Arts Impact MS, Binnis ES, Clearbrook MS, Clinton ES, Colerain ES, Dominion MS, Hilltonia MS, Lindbergh ES, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, Speech & Language, Valley Forge ES, Wedgewood MS and West HS.

☐ The online teacher application for Summer School 2012 is now available. This application is open only to CCS-certified full-time teachers. Contact the Office of Supplemental Services at 365-5010 with any questions. Go to: http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/summerschool to download an application. The deadline to apply is Monday, Apr. 16.