

The Voice

www.ceaohio.org

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Columbus Education Association

November 12, 2012

Four more years

President Barack Obama will be able to continue leading us to economic recovery while continuing to fight for the jobs of our nation's teachers and the future of our young people.

Our President has been a fearless advocate for the middle class and has been tireless in his efforts to reform health-care access. Thousands of people in our community now are stronger and better off because of the work President Obama has begun. When we fought against SB 5/Issue 2 here in Ohio, Mr. Obama spoke up for us and made national headlines.



Our President also supports our public education system. He wants to design a new version of his Race to the Top education program that would reward states for keeping college tuition low while improving student outcomes. We stand behind his efforts, especially to work across party lines to preserve essential funding that could be cut off Jan. 2.

"President Obama's re-election is a victory for students and their educators," said NEA President Dennis Van Roekel. "Americans have spoken, and they've chosen to continue moving forward. Voters made clear that they value public education, workers' rights, healthcare, women's rights and a strong middle class."

We also congratulate the CEA-endorsed candidates who won in these contested races: U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown; U.S. Representative Joyce Beatty; Ohio Representatives Mike Curtin, Michael Stinziano, Heather Bishoff, John Patrick Carney, Kevin Boyce and Tracy Heard; Franklin County Commissioners Paula Brooks and John O'Grady; Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott; Franklin County Recorder Terry J. Brown; Franklin County Treasurer Edward Leonard; State Board of Education members Michael L. Collins and Stephanie Dodd; Supreme Court Justice William O'Neill and Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Kim Brown.



Endorsed, uncontested candidates who will take office include: State Senator Jim Hughes; Franklin County Clerk of Common Pleas Maryellen O'Shaughnessy; Franklin County Engineer Dean Ringle; Franklin County Coroner Jan Gorniak; Court of Appeals Judges Gary Tyack and Peggy Bryant; Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judges Guy Reece, David Cain, Charles Schneider, Stephen McIntosh and Elizabeth Gill.

We also thank voters for supporting bond and tax levies in Dublin, New Albany and Worthington, as well as Issue 56, the Senior Options levy.

CEA thanks you if you attended a Ten-Minute Meeting, canvassed, made phone calls or talked to your friends and family members about supporting our candidates who emerged victorious.

Veterans Day



U.S. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed Armistice Day on Nov. 11, 1919 by saying:

To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations.

Today, we celebrate Veterans Day on Nov. 11, and our sentiment hasn't changed. Because of those who served our country, here and on foreign soil, we enjoy a free society. Please join us in thanking those among our membership who have served in the Armed Forces. When you see them, tell them how much you appreciate their service.

Army—Russell Bartholomew★ Dawn Berenzweig★ Thomas Clapham★ Sean Gill★ Erica Harris-Raymore★ Alexander Hernandez★ Diana Kirby★ Witheria Moore-Williams★ Michael Munsell★ Alan Snow★ Gary Thomas★

Navy—Bob Hern★ J. Sanchez★ Alan Schmiedebusch★

Marine Corps—Tiesha Willis★

Air Force—Gonnie Goins★ Angel Negron★ James Noice★ Jerry Rohrer★ Charles Steele★ Daniel Walker★

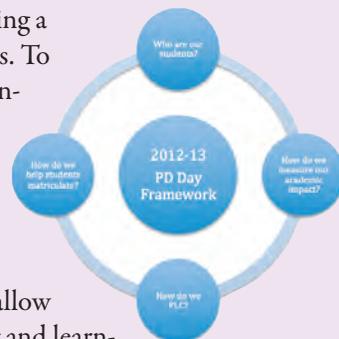
Coast Guard—Keith Beveridge★ Paul Dragin★

If you are a veteran whose name was not listed, send it to bhern@ceaohio.org to be included in the next issue of *The Voice*.

Your PD day

This Wednesday is the first of the district's three Professional Development days. We urge each of our members to attend these important professional learning days. They will not be facilitated by some corporate vendor but by our own knowledgeable staff. Teams of administrator and teacher facilitators who work in the feeders and clusters have planned a meaningful day for you to learn with and from your colleagues. Feeders and clusters will meet together to continue developing a PreK-12 community across schools. To ensure district alignment and to continue the important work of increasing literacy that teachers are engaged in each day, we are using the framework shown at the right for these PD Days.

This collaborative inquiry will allow our teachers to share their teaching and learning processes, to build their formative instructional practices and to begin learning about the language of Student Learning Objectives required by ODE in the new teacher evaluation system. If you are unsure of your PD day location, check your district email. Your active participation in these PD days will make them successful and, ultimately, will benefit our students.



It's our week

Nov. 11–17 is American Education Week, and this year's theme is Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility.

The special week started in 1921. 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 includes several days during which to recognize individual groups that help us all make a difference. You can use the toolkit found at nea.org to plan activities and print banners and posters for your school. Here's the schedule of special days, also found at nea.org:

- Sunday, Nov. 11: Veterans Day
- Tuesday, Nov. 13: Parents Day. Invite parents to visit your classroom.
- Wednesday, Nov. 14: Education Support Professionals Day. Thank the support professionals in your building.
- Thursday, Nov. 15: Educator for a Day. Use this day to introduce community members to your classroom as your teaching partners.
- Friday, Nov. 16: Substitute Educators Day. These professionals help us ensure our year runs smoothly. Take some time to let them know you appreciate them.

You're the experts, you tell us

Your Association and CCS recognize that the key to improving your students' learning is improving their literacy. Members of the superintendent's senior leadership team and the officers and staff of CEA have begun to meet to co-construct an action plan to support our efforts to improve student literacy.

The first step in this plan is to survey the experts—you—on how CCS and CEA can support your work in improving your students' literacy. In the CCS/CEA Best Practices survey, you will be asked what supports you need, which current district programs, practices and processes are helping you improve student literacy and what internal and external barriers you face in this task. Your participation in this survey is urgently needed so that we can determine our plan of action.

The survey opened Friday, Nov. 9, and will close at 11:59 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 18. You should have received a message from CEA to your personal email address containing a link to the survey. If you did not get the email message, or if CEA does not have your current personal email address, send it to tellcea@ceaohio.org to participate in the survey.

Job sharing

Job sharing has taken place for many years and has been very successful. It provides a way for teachers who have additional responsibilities to stay in the classroom. Most job shares are a 50/50 split, but other arrangements can take place. CEA will provide a list of teachers who need job share partners. We have provided a tear off in *The Voice* with the information we need. Our goal is to have the list of job share partner requests prepared and sent out immediately following Thanksgiving so that partners can be found quickly.

Job shares require the approval of the principal of the building where the job share is to occur. A packet is being prepared with the information and forms that need to be completed, which can be downloaded from the CCS website. The documents must be signed by both job share partners and the principal or supervisor. Once these forms are accepted, the job share cannot be dissolved unless all parties agree (teachers, principals and HR). Completed applications must be sent to Ida Smith in Human Resources by

early to mid February.

One note: If you are planning to job share and you carry insurance through CCS, the rate you will pay will be considerably higher than what you pay as a full-time teacher.

We are Making Strides

More than 100 people walked downtown with Team CEA on Oct. 28 in the annual Making Strides walk benefiting breast cancer research. It was a drizzly day, but our walkers' enthusiasm never washed away. Many thanks to those who joined us for the 5K walk downtown.

Breast cancer impacts so many of us, and it is only through our commitment to raising funds for research that we will defeat this disease. CEA's efforts on behalf of the American Cancer Society raise more than \$12,000 annually toward the cause.

The following buildings/units participated in the walk: Avalon ES, Berwick K–8, Briggs HS, Buckeye MS, Cedarwood ES @ Stockbridge, Centennial HS, Champion MS, Clearbrook MS, Clinton ES, Columbus City Prep. School for Girls, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus International HS, CEA Office, CEA-Retired, Dominion MS, East Columbus ES, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Fairwood ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Gables ES, Georgian Heights ES, Hamilton STEM Academy K–6, Independence HS, Indian Springs ES, Indianola K–8, Innis ES, Lindbergh ES, Linden STEM Academy K–6, Neil Avenue, Maybury ES, Northgate Center, Olde Orchard ES, PAR, Salem ES, Shady Lane ES, Starling MS, Sherwood MS, Watkins ES, Whetstone HS, West Mound ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Wedgewood MS, Weinland Park ES, West HS and Woodward Park MS.

CEA also thanks our volunteers: Karen Andermills, Tai Hayden, CJ Jamison, Robin Jeffries and Janet Byas White, who volunteered at the CEA Making Strides tent. To view photos from this event, go to <http://bit.ly/stridescea12>.

United Way campaigns completed

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*: 5th Street Annex, 6th Street Annex, Arts Impact MS, Berwick K–8, Binns ES, CEC, Cedarwood ES @ Stockbridge, Como ES, Cranbrook ES, Eastmoor Academy HS, École Kenwood K–8, Fairwood ES, Ft. Hayes CC, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Highland ES, Hudson Center, Indianola Informal K–8, Lindbergh ES, Ohio Ave. ES, PAR, Trevitt ES, Walnut Ridge HS, Wedgewood MS and Windsor ES.

Special notes

- ❑ CEA is **accepting nominations** for the **Helen Jenkins Davis Award** and the **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award**, to be presented at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner on **Thursday, Jan. 17**. You may also download a form from the CEA website.
- ❑ If you have not voted in the **CEA Special Election**, contact your SrFR for your ballot. If you have **questions**, call **CEA Elections Chairperson Michele Mays** at 253-4731. **Voting ends Nov. 12**.
- ❑ The **CCS/OSU Outreach Courses for Spring Semester 2013** will be **open for online pre-registration until Nov. 15**. Go to <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/osu>, click on "Spring 2013 Courses," for more information and to pre-register.

Job-Sharing Request • 2013–2014

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. 20**.

Name: _____ School: _____ Phone: (____) _____
Present Assignment: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____
Certification Area(s): _____ Mobile Phone: (____) _____
Teaching Preference for Next Year: _____ Email Address: _____