

# The CEA Voice

[www.ceahio.org](http://www.ceahio.org)

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Columbus Education Association

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## One classroom, please

Five million records can't be wrong. That's how many the Ohio Students Mobility Research Project looked at when studying the effects of frequent school moves on student achievement.

It found, among other things, that highly mobile student environments:

- Worsen educational outcomes
- Add stress for teachers and administrators
- Affect the ability of more stable students to learn

Transfer this thinking from a school district to a school building, where stability is the key to success. Many of you know what it's like to arrive in your room after a break, plans in hand, class lists organized, only to find out that many of the faces you see are not familiar. Or worse, you get less than a month into the semester and suddenly several of the students you've been working closely with are gone. Students whose names you know and whose work you know are suddenly gone because the allocations team needed to equalize the numbers.

Try being the suddenly-shifted student. Your developing bond of trust is severed. Your anxiety is back as you wonder if you will find friends in your new classroom, if your new teacher will know your challenges and your strengths or if your bus driver will remember you are supposed to be on his or her route.

Some of our students have had as many as three teachers this school year, moving from overcrowded rooms to those without permanent appointees, then to classes with new teachers who did not start their jobs until November.

We say, "Stop the music." We don't need this game of musical classrooms (or schools) every time we come back from a break. We call on the administration to do a better job forecasting student enrollment. We deserve to know how many children we will have in our schools and in our classrooms. At the least, we deserve the chance to learn and to remember all of their names. Most importantly, our children deserve to work continuously with the same teachers who know them, care about them and want to help them achieve from the first day of school.

Tell your administrator you are on board with the "Stay in One School" campaign and our slogan, "One Classroom, One Teacher." Let us know what's going on in your building, and let's get this situation resolved.

If you want to read more about the Ohio Students Mobility Research Project, visit [www.researchpartners.org](http://www.researchpartners.org), or the Fordham Institute website, [www.edexcellence.net](http://www.edexcellence.net).



## New district grades are coming, fast

Under a proposed grading system, as many as one-third of the state's school districts could see a drop in their state report card rating if Ohio legislators approve a new rating system.

HB 555 changes the current state report card ratings to an A–F system of grades.

It could be awaiting the Governor's signature by winter break.

It's a swift timeline, and our state's urban school districts have urged lawmakers to slow down.

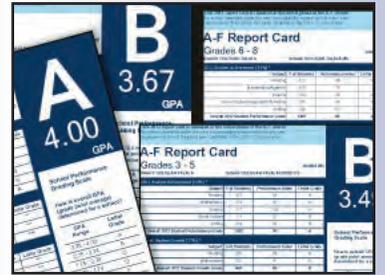
An outspoken critic is Adrian Allison, who just left his position as the state's senior accountability director to become Canton City Schools superintendent. He was quoted as saying, "My biggest concern is that we vet all of the issues and we have an opportunity to look at all the unintended consequences that can happen from it. We have a diverse state in Ohio [sic], and it's really important that we have an inclusive process that gets all of those issues on the table, all the issues from all the diverse stakeholders."

HB 555 will reflect report card ratings for two years, beginning in 2014–15, and Allison says this is a good thing. But so many other elements of the new system are unknown, among them are the elements of the new high school exams. Teachers also need time to adjust to using the Common Core Curriculum.

The bill also includes a new performance index for gifted students, and some object to the comparisons among districts where students arrive at various levels of preparation for school. School lobbyists are also urging lawmakers to remove the stipulation that students at schools receiving a "D" or an "F" be eligible for vouchers to attend private schools.

The bill also would change the membership of the Ohio Accountability Advisory Committee to remove educator expertise and bi-partisan representation. OEA opposes this change.

Keep reading your *CEA Voice* for more on these upcoming changes.



## More scholarship recipients

CEA proudly announces two more CEA Members Scholarship Fund recipients who were inadvertently left off the list in the Nov. 26, 2012, issue of *The Voice*.

Member	CEA Unit	Student	College
Amanda Ameter	Dominion MS	Andrew Ameter	The Ohio State University
Brent Krelko	Northland HS	Rebecca Krelko	Ohio University

With these two additional recipients, we have awarded \$500,000, to date, to help our members pay for their children's education.

## The last briefing, much work ahead

More students have diabetes than ever before. The number of blood-sugar checks CCS performs at schools has tripled since 2006 to 17,115 last year. More students have asthma and dental problems. Columbus students also struggle in reading and lag behind their peers statewide at the start of kindergarten and at the end of third grade. See a relationship between these sets of facts? We do. So does Mayor Coleman. The question is, what can the Columbus community do to help our students do better in school and in life?

Several community leaders described some of their current activities during the final of four briefings on education in Columbus provided Nov. 16 at the Franklin Park Conservatory for Coleman and City Council President Andrew J. Ginther, with assistance from the city's education adviser, Eric Fingerhut, who also is Vice President of Education and STEM Learning at Battelle Memorial Institute.

Fingerhut opened the discussion noting that the Columbus City school district is the only Ohio urban district where the population and job base are growing significantly. "We have the opportunity to make it possible for our children to participate in that growing economy."

Fingerhut updated the mayor on Battelle's \$6 million investment in the STEM program at the Metro HS—an example of a successful, private-public sector partnership. Then he turned the floor over to Pat Losinski, CEO of the Columbus Metropolitan Library; Ellen Grevey, Director of Audience Services at the Conservatory; Dr. Kelly J. Kelleher, Vice President of Health Services Research at Nationwide Children's Hospital; and Stephanie Hightower, President and CEO of the Columbus Urban League. Each shared statistics from their specialty areas and described current projects.

Nationwide Children's has sent mobile-health units to 15 schools, and they have conducted 1,500 consultations already. The hospital is starting two nurse-practitioner clinics in schools. Teen prenatal services are growing to ensure that teen moms will continue their educations. Nationwide also is developing cutting-edge kiosks where students can get in-school health information and treatment referrals.

The Columbus library system is expanding its Ready to Read Corps, which links parents to library resources in high-poverty areas. Last year, 67,000 children visited the branches' Homework Help Centers, and library managers want to help more kids access them. The library also is looking for ways to minimize summer knowledge loss with a large summer reading program. OSU is studying the impact of the program.

The Columbus Urban League will expand its Head Start Academy early-education program, a key element of the League's commitment to help close achievement gaps that still exist between suburban and urban school districts. Hightower, a former Columbus school board president, described the League's work toward housing support, workforce development and connections for people overcoming specific challenges keeping them from living stable and productive lives.

The Franklin Park Conservatory is bringing more science to young people. It offers classes and programs, both onsite and at Columbus schools, exposing more than 30,000 students annually to the natural world. Its edible gardening program teaches students about nutrition and features vegetable tastings to introduce urban students to new, healthy foods.

Building upon these efforts, Coleman says he will assemble a commission that will work with leaders to develop specific recommendations to the school district. He observed that support for this approach appears to be growing, as the briefing audiences have grown considerably. Coleman said, "People are realizing educating kids is a community effort ... It's time to stack hands."

## United Way prize winners: The real prize is your commitment

We drew these names of winners in our United Way prize giveaway. CEA thanks OAPSE, CAA and the CSCSA for joining us in providing the funds to purchase the prizes.

Congratulations to the winners below:

### \$500+ Leadership Grand Prize—\$150 Target Cards

Lori Cannon (Ft. Hayes CC, CEA)  
Sharee Wells (CAHS, Administrator)

### \$60+ Level Payroll Deduction Prize—\$100 Target Card

Esty Cegala (CEC, OAPSE)

### \$250+ Level Prizes—\$50 Lowes Cards

Dawn Hasselbach (Eastmoor Academy HS, CEA)  
Nancy Papineau (Nurses, CEA)

### \$50 Best Buy Cards

Natalie James (Ridgeview MS, CAA)  
Gary Leidheiser (Hilltonia MS, CEA)

### \$125+ Level Prize—\$30 Target Cards

Linda Allen (Linden-McKinley STEM 7–12, CEA)  
Julie Crosby (5th Avenue K–8, CEA)  
Donna Davis (Valley Forge ES, CEA)  
Stephanie Howell (CEC, CSCSA)  
Walt Jeffries (Berwick K–8, CAA)  
David Madison (Northgate Center, CEA)  
Elizabeth Shelley (Walnut Ridge HS, CEA)  
Sherry Zingelmann (Devonshire ES, OAPSE)

### \$60+ Level Prizes—\$10 Gas Cards

Dan Martin (Northland HS, CAA)  
Dorothy Kardatzke (Dominion MS, CEA)  
Kristin Whiting (Moler ES, CEA)  
Merele Wilder (Weinland Park ES, CEA)  
William Womack (CAHS, OAPSE)

The drawing for CEA-R will take place at the conclusion of their campaign.



## Spring elections are coming

We just voted for the President and for our state and local officials. But election season is just getting into full swing for CEA. We encourage members to serve the Association by running for an office or delegate position. Open positions are as follows: Governors in District 3 (unexpired term ending July 31, 2015), Districts 2, 7, 8 and 9 (three-year terms beginning August 1, 2013); delegates to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly in Atlanta; and delegates to the 2013–14 OEA Representative Assemblies.

The declaration period ends Jan. 18. The formal campaign period is Jan. 19–Mar. 4. Voting is Feb. 19–Mar. 4. The CEA Elections Committee tabulates the votes on Mar. 5.

Declaration forms are available by request at the CEA office. If you have questions, call CEA Elections Committee Chairperson Michele Mays at 253-4731.

## Special notes

- CEA would like to recognize the following veterans whose names were not listed in the Nov. 12, 2012, edition of *The Voice*: **Army**—Russell Bartholomew ★ Renea Hushour ★ James Moody ★ **Marines**—Michael Hicks ★
- Leadership Givers** (\$500 or more) are invited to attend a **special event** to thank them for their generous contributions to this year's **CCS United Way campaign**. If you did not receive an invitation in the mail, please join us at the **Capital Club** from **4:30–6:30 p.m.** on **Monday, Dec. 3**. Please call the CEA office if you plan to attend.
- The **Staff Development Dept.** is **accepting applications** for individuals interested in becoming **trainers for the district's new teacher evaluation system**. Check your CCS email. For information, go to the *CCS homepage*, click on "Staff," "Professional Learning," "I LEAD" and "Evaluation."