

The Voice

www.ceaohio.org

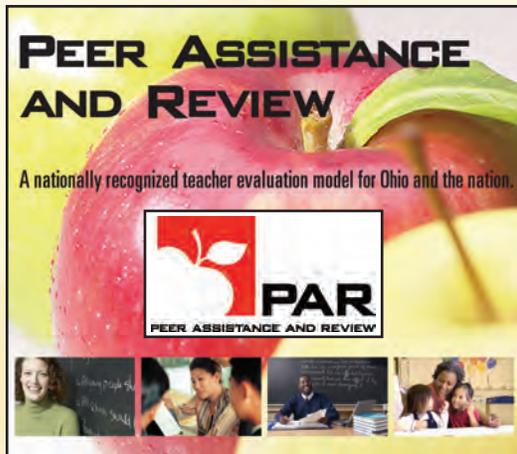
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Columbus Education Association

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PAR pool open

Your colleagues need you. Your expertise can help someone who is entering the classroom for the first time or someone who is struggling in their assignment. Consider becoming a consulting teacher in the Peer Assistance and Review program.



When you become one of our consultants, you join a special program that, since 1986, has been nationally recognized by many organizations, including the NEA. More than 9,000 teachers have been served by this program.

PAR Consulting Teachers (CTs) evaluate and assist entry-year teachers and experienced teachers who may be having difficulties in the classroom. They provide coaching, feedback and support services to interns and interventions. PAR CTs also serve as mentors for participants in the Ohio Resident Educator program.

As a PAR Consulting Teacher, you will visit the classroom and establish goals for your interns. You observe 20 to 30 times during the school year and meet with your interns to work on various areas, including teaching performance, classroom management, staff relations or pupil relations.

In addition to a letter of interest and a résumé, each applicant is required to submit the following documents to CEA President Rhonda Johnson: reference letters from your building principal or your immediate supervisor, from your Senior Faculty Representative (or district governor if you are a faculty representative), from two teachers from the building or program, and a 20-minute videotape of a lesson or session. Since the job description for PAR CTs has changed significantly, teachers who are currently in the PAR pool must reapply for a position.

Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in education, an active teaching license with the Ohio Department of Education, a minimum of seven years of teaching experience (at least three years in CCS), and a proven outstanding performance record as evidenced by evaluation results.

Applications will be accepted from Jan. 7–Feb. 4. Interviews begin Jan. 22. Starting Dec. 17, go to www.ceaohio.org, click on "Professional Development," then click on "Peer Assistance and Review" to download the Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) Consulting Teacher Posting Information and Job Description document. If you have questions, call CEA President Rhonda Johnson at 253-4731.

Is your teaching license current?

A number of teachers have received notices from CCS HR Director Mira Wright about their certificates/licenses expiring June 30, 2013. Make sure your credentials are up to date. You must complete the required coursework or CEUs necessary for renewal in order to be certified by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for the 2013–2014 school year.



Teachers who possess a limited contract must submit a completed application, fee and official transcripts showing the completed coursework and/or CEUs to the Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) by Feb. 1 or risk non-renewal in April. The LPDC will forward all approved applications to Human Resources by Mar. 1. Anyone renewing a license needs to also have a current BCI and FBI background check on file with the ODE.

Teachers who possess a continuing contract must submit a completed application, fee and official transcripts showing the completed coursework and/or CEUs to the LPDC before June 30, 2013. Failure to do so will result in suspended employment with the district.

Those renewing a five-year professional license are responsible for the creation of an Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP) based on the needs of the educator, the students, the school and the school district, subject to approval of the LPDC. The educator must complete 6 semester hours, 9 quarter hours and/or 18 CEUs of coursework related to classroom teaching and/or the area of licensure as approved by the LPDC and in accordance with the approved IPDP. Coursework and CEUs may be combined.

Any educator with an expiring eight-year professional certificate must transition to a five-year professional license. To do so requires completion of 6 semester hours, 9 quarter hours and/or 18 CEUs of coursework relevant to classroom teaching and/or area of certification since the latest date of the certificate to be transitioned. A completed IPDP must be submitted and then approved by the LPDC prior to completing any coursework.

To find out more about the requirements for these and other categories, please contact Nancy Young, Teacher Certification/Licensure, at 365-5658. Questions concerning CEU credits are available through the Northgate Center at 365-5039.

It is critical that you do *not* mail your application directly to the Ohio Department of Education. Send all renewal materials to the LPDC at Northgate Center.

Gainsharing, PAS delays continue

The payout of Gainsharing and PAS funds for the 2011–2012 school year continues to be delayed due to the State Auditor's investigation of Columbus City Schools. The State Board of Education has delayed the official release of the state report cards and will not vote to release them until the auditor's investigation is complete. The auditor has stated publicly that the investigation should be finished in January. Keep reading *The CEA Voice* for updates.

Get your King dinner tickets

Don't forget to reserve your spot for the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner scheduled for Jan. 17 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. Each year at this event, we honor the memory of Dr. King and also give out awards to individuals who exemplify the spirit of his work.

This year, we honor urban-neighborhood advocate Napoleon A. Bell and Northland HS STEM adviser Sybil Brown. Our speaker is Michael Eric Dyson, an author, scholar, ordained minister and media commentator. In his books, Dyson has taken on some of the toughest and most controversial issues of our day, including Martin Luther King, Jr.'s radical legacy.

Tickets are \$30. Tables of eight are \$240. Call CEA at 253-4731 to make a reservation.

CCS snow removal policy

The first day of winter is December 21. The first day of snow may occur at any time and with little notice. It is important to be aware of our surroundings and take special care going to and from your vehicle at home and on the job.



At Columbus City Schools, parking lots will be plowed only when they are empty and when snow accumulation reaches three inches at Port Columbus. When appropriate, internal staff will salt entrances, exits and stopping points.

Walks, entranceways, landings, steps and other necessary areas are taken care of by custodial services. However, playgrounds, all of which have an infrastructure that cannot support heavy equipment, are not cleared.

Be a change agent

You haven't lived until you have attended an OEA or NEA Representative Assembly. When you become a delegate, you guide the directions of the state and national associations. As a CEA member your voice is heard. As an OEA RA delegate, you are one of 1,300 educators who are part of the top governing body of our state association. NEA delegates join more than 9,000 fellow educators at a national meeting to address the issues that will reach Congress and the President.

Consider running for a delegate position for the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly and the 2013–14 OEA Representative Assemblies. Declaration forms are available at http://bit.ly/Zh8W5g_Declare and at the CEA office. The declaration period ends Jan. 18. The formal campaign period is Jan. 19–Mar. 4. Voting is Feb. 19–Mar. 4. Votes will be tabulated on Mar. 5.

Positions are also open in the CEA Spring Elections for Governors in District 3 (unexpired term ending July 31, 2015), Districts 2, 7, 8 and 9 (three-year terms beginning Aug. 1, 2013). Call CEA Elections Committee Chairperson Michele Mays at 253-4731 with questions.

Professional leave fund almost exhausted

CEA is fortunate to have in its contract an article that provides us the means to refresh ourselves through professional development. Each year, \$200,000 is available to bargaining unit members to pursue professional development opportunities outside the school district. These include attending a conference or workshop or traveling in a teacher education program.

To take advantage of this opportunity, download and print an application and forms from the district's Human Resources Intranet. Here are the guidelines:

- ◆ Advance approval is required.
- ◆ Preference is given to workshops in the Columbus area and in Ohio. No trips are allowed outside the continental U.S.
- ◆ Applicants are limited to \$1,800 over a two-year period.
- ◆ Leave is limited to two teachers per building for the same conference.
- ◆ Only five teachers in the district may attend the same out-of-state conference.
- ◆ Professional memberships generally are not reimbursable.
- ◆ Approved applicants reserve and pay for lodging expenses and are reimbursed.

The fund has approximately \$10,000 remaining. If you have been considering a special training activity, apply as soon as possible. The purpose of the leave, whether it is for a conference or a workshop, is to provide teachers with an opportunity to grow professionally and to share best practices with colleagues.

Special notes

- ❑ CEA thanks the following buildings/units that have recently completed their **United Way campaigns**: Columbus Africentric EC ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus Global Academy, Indian Springs ES, International HS and Siebert ES.
- ❑ Enjoy traveling? **Join CEA for a journey through the Holy Land.** Some of the sights include Capernaum, Nazareth, the room of the Last Supper, the Garden Tomb, Masada and the Dead Sea. There are **only 24 spaces available**. The cost, excluding air fare (TBD), is \$2,495. To hold your spot, send a deposit of \$100 to Bexley Travel, 2719 E. Main St., Columbus, OH 43209, or call Marty at 235-8813.

Enjoy your break!

