



# Cleveland Teachers Union

## News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Issue 25 – June 23, 2015

---

### NEWS & NOTES

News & Notes will be a weekly (that's the goal) publication that will be available on the CTU website and through Member Mobilization emails. This will be an update of the work that is being done on behalf of all of our teachers, paraprofessionals, nurses, speech language pathologists, therapists, sign language interpreters, and social workers.

### JOINT HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

The Joint CMSD/CTU Healthcare Committee has met several times since March. As called for in the CBA the Joint CTU/CMSD Healthcare committee is preparing for expiration of the contracts with all of our providers (vision, dental, medical, etc.). This happens regularly when the service contracts with our providers are about to expire. Request for Proposals are sent out and companies can show interest in becoming a provider for CMSD by responding to the RSP and presenting to the Committee. The Committee has had presentations from about 10 different vendors. The process is nearly completed. As soon as it is completed, Michael Kulcsar will have updates. Note this does not impact any of the rates that were agreed to in the CBA. Stay tuned.

### RAISE

All teachers, paraprofessionals, and RSPs will receive a 1% raise for the 2015-2016 school year. This will automatically be a part of the first check of the school year which will be on August 21. Note – the second check of the school year will come on August 28 and then we will be back on the regular biweekly schedule.

### ACs & ATTENDANCE

All members who are on the Cleveland Differentiated Compensation System (CDCS) will be notified when they can review their Achievement Credits, attendance award, etc. We anticipate this notification at the end of July or beginning of August. Movement on the salary schedule and other CDCS compensation will be paid at the beginning of the 2015-16 school year. If you have questions, please contact Shari Obrenski ([sobrenski@ctu279.org](mailto:sobrenski@ctu279.org)).

### SUBSTITUTE ORIENTATION

Cheryl Neylon wants to alert all substitutes of the Substitute Orientation July 8 and 9 for substitute teachers and paraprofessionals. It will be held in the auditorium of East Professional Center from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. A person only needs to attend ONE of those sessions. Details will be in the letter that substitutes receive this week.

### HIRING TEACHER & PARA SUBS

Cheryl Neylon wants to remind everyone that the district is still hiring substitute teachers and paraprofessionals, if you know anyone interested have them apply on line at [teachcleveland.org](http://teachcleveland.org).

### TEACHERS, PARAS, RSPs TIME TO RENEW

Hopefully everyone with a license, certificate, or permit that expires in 2015 – has already renewed. All teachers, paraprofessionals, and RSPs must have a valid license, certificate, or permit on the first day of school. If you have any questions about the renewal process contact Tracy Radich ([tradich@ctu279.org](mailto:tradich@ctu279.org)) or Jim Wagner ([jwagner@ctu279.org](mailto:jwagner@ctu279.org)).

### STATE BUDGET

David, Kurt & Tracy have been following the biennial budget as it makes its way through the Ohio House and Senate. The Governor presented his budget in February. The budget process then starts in the House. The House voted for their version of the budget prior to Spring recess. Then the budget went to the Senate, where the Senate made several significant changes. The House voted against the Senate version, so now the budget is in Conference Committee, which is composed of 3 Senators and 3 Representatives (4 Republicans & 2 Democrats). They will work out a compromised budget that will then be voted on by the full House and Senate before June 30. While this is the budget, there are several amendments in the budget that impact education. The Pause on PARCC or Safe Harbor for teachers amendment that we have all been pushing for was added in the Senate version of budget. Reducing time for PARCC or other new assessment, having PARCC or other assessment graded returned within 45 days, and charter school accountability are other amendments that were added through the Senate. The Senate budget also reduced the amount of funding CMSD would receive. CMSD will still get the guarantee and appears to remain at the same level as last year. The House version would have given CMSD a modest increase in funding. Just the Senate Omnibus version of the budget was over 800 pages, so there are many items that can impact educators in Ohio and Cleveland. One last minute addition is especially troubling. The amendment would allow charter school operators to no longer have teachers and staff enrolled in STRS or SERS. This is a terrible amendment for those teachers and staff members as well as all people that are in STRS and SERS. This can have a significant impact on STRS and SERS. You should have received an email from OFT President, Melissa Cropper on Monday asking for you to email your Senator – please take a minute to do that and try to eliminate this terrible provision from the budget. The Conference Committee is scheduled to finish their work on Wednesday.

### CLASS SIZE OVERAGE CHECKS

Per the CBA all class size overage checks are to be mailed by July 15.

**SUBSTITUTE NOTICE**

Per the CBA substitutes reappointed will be notified of their reappointment by June 30<sup>th</sup> of every year. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Cheryl Neylon ([cneylon@ctu279.org](mailto:cneylon@ctu279.org)).