



Cleveland Teachers Union

News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1st Vice President
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News & Notes is intended to be a weekly publication. Please make sure that you are receiving N & N from your Chair or checking on the CTU website for the latest N & N.

FEBRUARY 9

Michelle Rzucidlo wants to remind everyone that Thursday, February 9 is an extended day for conferences. On February 9, students will have a half a day of school. All students will be dismissed at open house times. Conferences will be held in the afternoon and continue 2 hours after the regular student dismissal time. The 2 additional hours are a part of the 6 additional hours that we work in order to have the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off. The first 2 hours were scheduled on the Thursday or Friday before school started. The final 2 hours are scheduled for the week of April 24-28 (schools will choose the day and it is not early dismissal for kids in April, just 2 hours after school is dismissed). Since there is no additional pay for this day, the additional 2 hours will NOT be entered in Workday.

OVERAGE FORMS

Overage forms for the 3rd Interim period have been sent to the schools. If you have overages make sure you are complete the appropriate form and submit documentation by February 17.

WORKDAY VERIFY & SUBMIT

This Friday, February 10 is a day to go into Workday, enter the days worked, verify what is in the system, and submit. This is the end of a two-week cycle. DO NOT add the 2 additional hours for conferences on February 9. These hours are not for additional compensation and should not be added. Consider this like a regular work day in WorkDay.

ENTERING SNOW DAYS IN WORKDAY

CTU members do NOT enter anything for the two snow days that occurred on January 30 and 31. Do not enter any comments. Do not check in. Leave January 30 and 31 blank. Yes, when submitted it will indicate that you have worked for 8 days. The snow days will be automatically be entered for everyone and everyone will be paid for 10 days on the February 24 pay check (assuming you are to be paid for 10 days).

UNPAID DAYS IN WORKDAY

This is important. There are still members that are selecting Unpaid Time from the drop down menu in WD on days that they are to be paid. Do NOT enter Unpaid Time (Days) in Workday, unless you are NOT supposed to be paid for that day. The only times a person would enter Unpaid Time (Days) in Workday are when serving

an Unpaid Suspension issued by the Board or if on an approved unpaid leave. These are very rare circumstances. No one should enter Unpaid Time (Days) for any other reason.

NEW SUB CENTER PHONE NUMBER

The Sub Center has a new phone number. The new number is (216)838-4SUB (4782).

STATE BUDGET

Always critical to the educators and students in CMSD. The Governor has touted an increase in the budget that will go to education, but wait until actual district by district budgets are released to see how many actually have any sort of increase. Seems like the rhetoric is not going to match the reality. From Gongwer News: *"An early Innovation Ohio analysis of the proposals shows that while the K-12 education funding line will get about \$200 million more next biennium as was touted by the governor, they'll see larger decreases through other policies. About half of all districts will lose funding under Gov. John Kasich's budget and more than half will either see cuts or be flat-funded, according to administration estimates. Innovation Ohio, however, notes that many districts will also see the loss of tangible personal property tax reimbursements and a decrease in special education and career tech enhancements, among other items. Skepticism of the budget was also voiced last week by the Ohio Federation of Teachers and a coalition of education groups including Ohio Association of School Business Officials and Buckeye Association of School Administrators."*

SHARE YOUR OPINION ON ESSA

If you know that there is too much testing for kids and that student test scores should not be tied to teacher evaluations, please make sure to share your opinion with the ODE. ESSA is the new federal education law that replaces NCLB. This new federal law shifts a great deal of responsibility from the federal government to the state government. Instead of a federal one-size-fits-all mandate, the states are to develop individual plans and submit them to the federal government for approval. The state of Ohio has released its ESSA draft plan to the public earlier this week. There is now a month-long window that is OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. The state has a [public comment link](#) that will end on March 6, 2017. It is important that our voices are heard via [public comment](#). This is a real chance to advocate for a law that makes sense for all educators and for the students we teach. We need to be our voices and our students' voices. This is our chance to let ODE know how

bad the testing is for kids and how unfair it is for student test results to be tied to teacher evaluation. If you have any questions about the process please contact Mark Baumgartner.

ARTICLE 15 GRIEVANCES

All Grievances that are the result of violations to Article 15 must be submitted on a newly created Article 15 Grievance form. Article 15 includes student assaults, student discipline, SEL, SST, classroom meetings, planning center, etc. The actual form is a salmon colored form. An electronic version the form has been sent to all Chairs and is available on the CTU website. This new Grievance form will also follow a new procedure. Step One of Article 15 Grievances DO NOT go to the principal. Step One of Article 15 Grievances will be sent directly to grievances@ctu279.org. The Grievance Team will send it to the Director of Labor Relations who must respond within 5 days. Again Step One does not go to principal for Article 15, it is sent directly to grievances@ctu279.org and the Grievance Team will process and send to the Director of Labor Relations. Student assaults are a part of this new procedure. Remember that before you file a Grievance on Assaults/Menacing you must follow the procedure that is outlined in the contract which includes appealing to the Network Leader if you do not agree with the principal's decision.

LINKAGE

Mark Baumgartner wants to remind everyone that there will be Linkage in the spring and that this year it is very important because the Pause on PARCC ends next year and the data from the OSTs and end of course exams this year will count for our value added score for next school year. In the 2017-18 school year teachers in a value added grade or subject your final Teacher Effectiveness Rating will be comprised of 50% TDES, 35% Value Added, 15% SLO. The grades and subjects that have value added as 35% of their final Effectiveness Rating are the grade and subjects that must go through Linkage this spring. Linkage will take place April 19-May 9. The following grades and subjects will link:

GRADES 2, 3, 4, 7 – ELA & Math

GRADES 5 & 8 – ELA, Math, & Science

GRADE 6 – ELA, Math, Social Studies

HIGH SCHOOL – Algebra I, Geometry, Int. Math I & II, English I & II, American History, American Government, Biology.

STAFFING

Staffing for the 2017-2018 school year will be starting soon. First, SBB will be done in schools. Seems like February is going to be SBB season. The BEST Rubric will be sent to principals and Chairs to be completed by February 1. Paraprofessionals DO NOT need to complete the BEST Rubric. Preferences also need to be collected from teachers in the month of February and submitted to the principal and Chair. Please check with your Chair on the form needed and deadline for preferences at each school. The contract calls for all preferences to be turned

in by April 15, the reality is that staffing happens way before that and preferences need to be considered BEFORE staffing decisions are made. A staffing timeline has been proposed, but has not been agreed upon yet by CTU and CMSD. When it is agreed upon, then it will be sent to all members.

All subject and grade levels subject to value added and thus Linking are determined by state law.

LICENSE RENEWAL

All CTU members with a license, certificate, or permit that expires June 2017 – PLEASE RENEW NOW. All renewal licensure and permit applications are completed online per ODE requirements. Payment for the new license or permit is also done online. After applying and paying online, teachers and related service providers must submit a sealed transcript or CEUs, IPDP approval email, a copy of current license, and a copy of proof of payment receipt from the ODE website, which is issued after successful completion of the online application. Documentation will not be accepted without the ODE proof of payment receipt. Teachers, related service providers, and paraprofessionals must also be fingerprinted. Fingerprints are required, by law, for all employees every 5 years.

FINGERPRINTS

Educators who are renewing and have lived continuously in Ohio for the previous 5 years and have a BCI check on file – will only need to have FBI background check. If you have NOT lived continuously in Ohio, then both BCI and FBI are required. CMSD Safety & Security does fingerprinting at East Professional Center (formerly East High) on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 9:00-11:00 and 2:00-4:00. You can contact their office at (216) 838-0420 to make sure that hours are not changed over break. The cost for fingerprints through CMSD are BCI = \$22.00 and FBI = \$24.00. This is payable ONLY by money order. Again, educators who are renewing and have lived continuously in Ohio for the previous 5 years and have a BCI check on file – will only need to have FBI background check.



Cleveland Teachers Union 279



@ctu279



TEXT ALERTS

A text service is available for members of the CTU. You can sign up right now to receive mobile text message alerts from AFT-Cleveland Teachers Union. You will receive updates, notices, and reminders. Get your phone out right now and send a text message with the word ctu279 (lowercase, no spaces) in your message box. Send to the phone number 69238.

AFT-CTU will never charge you for text messages, your carrier's Message & Data rates may apply.