



Cleveland Teachers Union

News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1st Vice President
Issue 12 – October 25, 2014

ELECTION DAY

Election Day is only 8 days away. Kurt Richards wants to make sure that everyone has a voting plan. Are you going to the polls on Election Day or did you request an absentee ballot? If you have an absentee ballot, have you voted and mailed it back yet? Besides the important pro-labor candidates that need to be elected, Issue 4 the school Bond Issue is also on the ballot. Passage of Issue 4 will enable 20-22 new schools to be built, 23 more to be revamped, and create a maintenance fund. All of this without raising taxes - and don't forget that 2/3 is paid for by the state.

Phone banks will be closed on October 30 (first home Cavs game) and October 31. There are still plenty of other times that are available.

Wednesday, October 29 - PHONE BANK 4:00 – 8:00
(Pro-Labor Candidates)

Thursday, October 30 - CLOSED

Friday, October 31 – CLOSED

Saturday, November 1 – LABOR WALK @ PJ McIntyres. Pick up a packet between 10:00 & 3:00. A walk takes about 2 hours, and then enjoy a beverage, food, and camaraderie with your fellow walkers. (Pro-Labor & Issue 4)

Monday, November 3 - PHONE BANK 4:00 – 8:00
(Pro-Labor Candidates & Issue 4)

Tuesday, November 4 – VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE
VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE

WORK THE POLLS FOR ISSUE 4

Thanks to all of the CTU members that have volunteered to work at every polling location that is a CMSD school in Cleveland to distribute literature for Issue 4 before and after school. If you would like to help support Issue 4 at a polling location – contact Kurt Richards (216) 861-7676 or krichards@ctu279.org.

TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS RATING

The Grievance Team wants to remind everyone again that if you are planning on grieving your Teacher

Effectiveness Rating for the 2013-14 school year you have 60 working days from your first day of work this school year. For most of us the deadline is November 4, 2014. If your school year started prior to August 11, 2014, count how many days you worked before August 11th and your 60 day deadline is that same number of days before November 4th.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNT

The count that determined special education funding used to be on December 1, 2014. This year it has been moved up to October 31, 2014. This is why many of our members are being pressured to complete all ALERTS (IEPs for students who transferred in from other districts) and any IEPs due during October. There needs to be time given for our members to get this important work completed. Please work with your administrators and APT to ensure that time is allotted.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Michael Kulcsar wants everyone to be aware that November is Open Enrollment Month for healthcare. This is the one month of the year that you can change your health insurance, amend dental, add an FSA, etc. Nothing has changed in any of the plans since the contract was ratified in 2013. If you are happy with your coverage as it is – you do not need to do anything. However, it is always recommended by the CTU that you check and make sure that all of the information is correct and that you have the coverage that you signed up for. The dates for Open Enrollment have changed slightly – the Open Enrollment period will be from Monday, November 3 through Tuesday, November 2. This was done so that the open enrollment period would not begin and end on a weekend.

There are 2 information sessions for anyone that is interested in learning more about the plans. The first is on Wednesday, October 29 and is geared for employees new to the district and Wednesday, November 12 which is geared for all employees. These sessions will be held at East Professional Development Center (1349 East 79th Street) in the Media Center from 5:15-6:15.

TDES MESSAGE VIA EMAIL

TDES Committee wants to make sure that everyone saw the joint email of what to do – if you have not had your first walk-through by the due date. Here is some of that message:

If your evaluator has not completed your observation event by the deadline, you need to **email your evaluator** noting your concern about your missing observation.

For example, "Dear Mr. Principal, The deadline for Walkthrough 1 is tomorrow and I have not yet had my Walkthrough 1. I am sending you this notice in accordance with the CBA Article 13, Section I and look forward to my observation. Sincerely, Mrs. Teacher"

You can also Cc TDES@clevelandmetroschools.org on your email to the evaluator, and should email the TDES mailbox if the lack of observation continues. The email will be kept in the TDES mailbox and a copy will be sent to the co-chairs of the TDES Steering Committee (Christine Fowler-Mack and Jillian Ahrens). You do not need to email the co-chairs individually if you use the TDES mailbox. They will be able to read your email and a copy will be kept for future reference if necessary. **This is the best way to document your lack of observation: 1. Email the evaluator 2. Cc the TDES mailbox.**

TDES FORMAL ANNOUNCED

Administrators are beginning to conduct formal announced observations. Remember, after your conference you have the opportunity to review what was submitted and add additional evidence to create a richer and fuller record of the lesson. Adding evidence that reflects the whole picture is important. If after your post conference – there is a discrepancy a teacher has the right to request intervention and/or support from the Academic Superintendent within 10 working days.

ELECTIONS MATTER

David always says that elections are important, each day our lives as educators are impacted by the decisions that elected officials make. Don't miss your opportunity to cast an important vote and please remember to vote ALL THE WAY DOWN THE BALLOT. There are so many important races in this county and in this state. Here is a list of endorsed candidates from AFL and OFT:

North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor 2014 Endorsements

Governor – **Ed Fitzgerald**
Secretary of State – **Nina Turner**
Attorney General – **David Pepper**
Treasurer – **Connie Pillich**
Auditor – **John Patrick Carney**

US Congress:

CD 9 – **Marcy Kaptur**
CD 11 – **Marcia Fudge**
CD 14 – **Michael Wager**
CD 16 – **Pete Crossland**

Ohio Supreme Court:

John O'Donnell

Tom Letson

Ohio Senate:

SD 21 – **Sandra Williams** (Endorsed by OFT:
SD 23 – **Mike Skindell** SD 13: **Gayle Manning**
SD 25 – **Kenny Yuko** SD 29: **Scott Oelslager**)

Ohio House:

HD 6 – **Anthony Fossececca**
HD 8 – **Kent Smith**
HD 11 – **Stephanie Howse**
HD 13 – **Nickie Antonio**
HD 14 – **Marty Sweeney**
HD 15 – **Nick Celebreeze**
HD 16 – **Todd Leveck**

(Do you live in Medina
County? Vote for
one of our own
Elisa Kazek
for Medina County
Commissioner)

Cuyahoga County:

Executive – **Armond Budish**
Council:

District 9 – **Shontel Brown**
District 10 – **Anthony Hairston**
District 11 – **Sunny Simon**

Judicial Races:

Court of Appeals - 8th District – **Anita Laster Mays**
Common Pleas, Beg'g 1-5-15 – **Sherrie Midday**
Common Pleas, Beg'g 1-10-15 – **Shannon Gallagher**
Domestic Relations unexpired term 1-12-17 – **Francine Goldberg**

State Board of Education:

7th District – **Michael Charney**
5th District – **Roslyn Painter-Goffi**

Issues:

Issue 6 (Tri-C Levy) – YES

Issue 4 (Cleve. Metro. School Dist. Bond) – YES