



# Cleveland Teachers Union

## News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
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### STATE BUDGET

As you make decisions on who to vote for as voting officially opens on October 7 – David wants to add one more thing for everyone to consider when voting in the race for Governor. The Governor will have to put out a new biennial budget in February. Remember, that Kasich’s first budget in 2011 decimated school budgets and city budgets all across the state. Cleveland lost millions of dollars which lead to additional lay-offs. In Kasich’s second budget in 2013 – the cuts remained in place and only slightly got worse. However, the Governor promised that if he were to be Governor in 2015 that the guarantee for schools would go away. The Columbus Dispatch is already projecting the loss of the guarantee funds (which significantly helps Cleveland) will cost school districts \$900,000 in losses. This is just one more thing to consider in the race for Ohio’s next Governor.

### EARLY VOTING DELAYED ONE WEEK

Did you know that early voting was supposed to begin on September 29? Attorney General, Mike DeWine and Secretary of State John Husted made a last minute petition to the U.S. Supreme Court to block early voting. On September 28, the Supreme Court (5-4) granted the Republicans’ stay and put early voting on hold. This ruling delays the start of early voting, ends the opportunity to cast an early vote in person 2 weeks before the election (that goes directly to stop Souls to the Polls intuitive that takes place before voting day), and eliminates Golden week (the week where people are able to register to vote and cast a vote on the same day).

While the news broke of the Supreme Court ruling, Governor John Kasich and Governor Chris Christie were at an early vote rally in Independence. That’s pretty ironic or other words that are not fit to print.

Early voting begins Tuesday, October 7. 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 – <b>Sandra Williams</b>	(Endorsed by OFT:
SD 23 – <b>Mike Skindell</b>	SD 13: <b>Gayle Manning</b>
SD 25 – <b>Kenny Yuko</b>	SD 29: <b>Scott Oelslager</b> )

### Ohio House:

HD 6 – **Anthony Fosseccecca**  
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**

## **SCHOOL BOND ISSUE**

Issue 4 - A Bond Issue for Cleveland Schools is on the ballot this November. If approved by the voters, Issue 4 will enable 20-22 new schools to be built and another 20+ to be revamped. Part of the money will also be used for maintenance. The state of Ohio pays \$2 for every \$1 from the city. **THIS IS NOT A TAX INCREASE.** As Duane Gibson, the President of Local 777 said last week (Local 777 are our custodian brothers and sisters) – This bond issue will not only pay for upgrading and building new schools, but also will be invested in maintenance – that keeps needed general fund money out of the boiler room and in the classroom. He also invited everyone to think of the bond issue this way – with the state paying \$2 for every \$1 that we invest it is like putting in a new driveway and have your neighbor pay for 2/3 of it. Love this analogy.

## **VALUE ADDED**

Around September 30 teachers should have received an email from EVASS. I do not fully understand the first part of the email which reads: The 2013-14 EVAAS district- and school-level reports for the OAA, OGT, TerraNova, and End-of-Course assessments are now available on the EVAAS restricted site. Student projections will also be available through the various EVAAS reports. However, I do understand this for everyone that has value added as one of their growth measures: **Individual teacher Value-Added reports will be available in late October/early November.** So, if you get an email from EVASS in October or November – it will be your value added that will be a part of your student growth measures on the 2014-2015 final evaluation. The TDES, SLOs, Vendor all are from this year – value added lags one year.

## **KNOW YOUR CHARTER**

The Ohio Education Association and Innovation Ohio today announced the launch of a new website for parents, taxpayers and educators that will allow detailed comparisons between charter schools and traditional public school districts. The new on-line tool - [KnowYourCharter.com](http://KnowYourCharter.com) - not only provides access to the state's most recent Report Card information, but improves transparency by aggregating this and other relevant data at a single, easy-to-use website. Previously, locating this data required visiting multiple sites and extracting the information from numerous and often confusing spreadsheets.

"With nearly 400 charter schools operating in Ohio, with fewer accountability standards than exist for traditional public schools, we believe it is important that parents,

educators, taxpayers and policymakers have the tools they need to see the comparative performance of charters, as well as the costs they impose on local school districts," said Becky Higgins, President of the Ohio Education Association.

## **PARENT CONTACTS**

Remember, one part of HB 525 requires all parents to meet with teachers for a conference prior to December 15. To help track parent participation, once again teachers will be asked to mark on the report card if there has been a parent conference so far this year. Open House counts as a meaningful parent conference. Throughout the year, you will be able to indicate additional parents that have come in for conferences, SST, etc.