



# Cleveland Teachers Union

## News & Notes

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### 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, psychologists, nurses, speech language pathologists, therapists, sign language interpreters, and social workers.

Thanks Amy Such for alerting me of my error in omitting psychologists in the introduction in previous issues. I apologize for this unintentional mistake and I am glad to have the chance to correct it.

### OCTOBER 21 CONFERENCE DAY

Michelle RR wants to make sure that everyone is clear about the times for the October 21 Conference Day. If you look at the District Calendar that was approved by the Board, the times assigned for the Conference Day are 12:30PM - 7:00PM **or Based on Family Convenience**. This also applies to the March 24 Conference Day. Michelle worked with the District to enable schools to be able to provide times that are good for families to attend. There are schools that are conducting surveys of parents (surveys sent home with students, survey available at Open House, etc.) to help determine what time suits the parents of their school the best.

### THIRD GRADE GUARANTEE

Jillian Ahrens and Tracy Radich meet with several district representatives to confer over the law, implementation of the law, ODE directives, etc. relating to the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Here are some updates from that group that we want to make sure all teachers know.

There may be a number of parents that are hoping that their child can be passed from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> this year, if their child passes the October administration of the OAA. The district does NOT have a Board approved mid-year promotion policy. It is not believed that it is in the best interests of students to promote a student after missing a half of a year of 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This has been messaged to principals. Also note that meeting the cut score on NWEA (that was established last year by ODE) does

NOT fulfill the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Guarantee. There are only 2 administrations of the NWEA per year when the district can count the NWEA score – the very beginning of the school year will NOT be one of the administrations that count.

Reading Improvement Plans(RIMPs) will be required for all K-3 students that are “off-track” based on the KRA for kindergarten and NWEA for grades 1-2.

The District is exploring the possibility of adding RIMPs to SchoolNet and we should know by Thursday if this is a real possibility for this year or not. We will keep you posted.

The district is planning to use Aimesweb to provide progress monitoring for all students who are “off-track”. This tool is an improvement for our teachers and students and will really help teachers easily keep the needed data ... The Third Grade Guarantee Committee believes that this will be a really beneficial tool. This tool was originally proposed to help Special Education teachers with their progress monitoring, but is so well-received that it is going to be utilized to aid more teachers and students. More information – including training will be provided.

### RESIDENT EDUCATOR MENTORS NEEDED

Mark Baumgartner wants to make sure that everyone knows about the need for Resident Educator Mentors. A message went out today to all principals and chapter chairs regarding Resident Educator Mentors. There is a huge need in the district for RE Mentors for this year and years to come. The Resident Educator Program is a mandate of the state and serves as the development pathway for new teachers. Any teacher who is rated Skilled or Accomplished on their eTPES Composite evaluation and would like to be a Resident Educator mentor needs to let their principal and chapter chair know by this Friday, September 12, 2014. More information will follow about next steps and acceptance as a mentor. As an FYI, the compensation for mentors is \$2,500 per year and all mentors accepted into the program will attend two days of state training on September 22 and 23 at a Cleveland location.

### SLOs

It's that time of year again when teachers need to be thinking about creating their SLO(s). The district is putting all the data into the SLO portal on October 1, 2014. A due date for SLO submission will be around the middle of October and principal/team approval about a week later. Once the portal is open, teachers can start working on the parts of the SLO that can be filled in without data (ex. student population, etc.). The portal is scheduled to open within the week. Appendix D (which is the list of assessments for each grade/subject) will be out soon.

If you have any questions about either of these issues, feel free to contact Mark Baumgartner through email or at the Union office.

### **STAFFING TIMELINE**

Here is where we are in the Fall Staffing. This is the last time this year that there will be Necessary Transfers due to enrollment. There is not a second staffing after ADM week. Since 2010, the CBA calls for all fall staffing to be completed by October 1.

- September 9 - HR notifies Principals and Chapter Chairs of proposed positions subject to Necessary Transfer via email.
- September 10 & 11 – Principals and Chapter Chairs have 2 days where they may provide alternative recommendations to Human Resources.
- September 12 – HR will notify each school's Principal and Chapter Chair of the final positions subject to Necessary Transfer via email.
- September 12 – 14 -The Principal and Chapter Chair will notify the staff of the affected grade/subject areas. Staff will also have the opportunity to volunteer to be Necessary Transfer.
- September 15 & 16 – Staff members will have 2 working days to notify HR to volunteer to become the Necessary Transfer.

Please also note that if you are interested in volunteering to be a Necessary Transfer, the email must be sent to Human Resources.

### **CTU WELCOMES NEW TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS & RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS**

New Teacher Orientation was held in July. 102 new teachers attended, all have become members. Members were told about all the things CTU has to offer. Several Executive Board members were in attendance and shared valuable information. If you have a new member in your

building, please assist them with the alphabet soup of working in Cleveland. If you have a new member who was not in attendance, please contact Wendi Kral for a new member application.

### **CMSD EMAIL**

One of the outcomes of the Blue Institute was for the district to provide weekly Curriculum & Instruction updates. The original emails were entitled C&I. The emails are now entitled CMSD ACADEMIC UPDATES. These updates include links for Journeys, Springboard, contact people, etc. The most recent one has 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Guarantee, PSAT Resource tool, Open House resources. Everyone is encouraged to check these weekly emails which are slated to come out on Fridays or over the weekend.