



Cleveland Teachers Union

News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1st Vice President
Issue 29 – September 10, 2015

NEGOTIATIONS SURVEY

On Wednesday, September 9 around 5:00pm a Test Negotiations email was sent to all CTU members via personal emails. Beginning the week of September 14 the Cleveland Teachers Union will send out our first Negotiations Survey to our members via personal email. Members that received the test email are all set, in our system, and will receive the Negotiations Survey on Monday. Members that did not receive this test email will need to contact the CTU with their personal email so that they can be added to the list to receive the survey. Members that did not receive this email will need to send an email with their name, school or department, job classification, and personal email address at: yolanda@ctu279.org.

This initial survey is for all CTU members. Future surveys will be broken down by chapter (paraprofessional, related service provider, teacher, substitute, etc.). Thank you in advance for your time and input as we prepare for a successful contract negotiation. Your voice matters to help us bring back a contract that is fair for all members and allows us all to do our jobs the way we know is best for our schools and our students.

STAFFING TIMELINE

- This is where we are regarding fall staffing for 2015. **September 10 & 11** – Principals and Chapter Chairs have 2 days where they may provide alternative recommendations to Human Resources.
- **September 14** – HR will notify each school's Principal and Chapter Chair of the final positions subject to Necessary Transfer via email.
- **September 14 -15** – 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.

NECESSARY TRANSFERS

For all teachers and paraprofessionals that were identified as a Necessary Transfer during this fall staffing period these dates are critical to you.

- **September 17** - Necessary Transfer notices emailed to all teachers and paraprofessionals identified for Necessary Transfer. Teachers and paraprofessionals who have been identified as subject to Necessary Transfer shall be notified in writing that they will be required to participate in the Open Position Application period. The notice will be given no later than the first day of the applicable Open Position application period.
- **On or before September 18** – All open positions posted and Open Position List available.
- **September 18 & 21** – Anyone that was a Necessary Transfer at the end of 2014-2015 school year, where there is an opening (in the certification area that was taught last year) at the school that they were transferred out of last year may choose to submit an Interest to Interview Form to their previous school. **
- **September 18– 25** – Schools with openings will interview candidates through the Personnel Selection Committee.**
- **September 25** – All selection paperwork from the Personnel Selection Committee and Email Acceptances from interviewees due to HR.
- **September 28** – All assignments made by HR.
- **September 29** – Pack day.
- **September 30** – Move day.
- **October 1** – First day in new assignments.

** For schools that have teachers or paraprofessionals that were Necessary Transfers at the end of the 2014-2015 school year where that position or position in that certification area is now open – two days must be given for those members to submit an Interest to Interview Form (September 18 & 21). The Personnel Selection Committee must consider and act upon the Interest to Interview Form within three (3) working days of its receipt prior to considering other applicants. Neither an interview nor a position is guaranteed.

STAFFING NOTES

Only teachers and paraprofessionals that are identified as Necessary Transfers are able to submit Interest to Interview Forms and interview for open positions during fall staffing. The only exceptions are teachers or paraprofessionals that were identified for Necessary Transfer at the end of the 2014-2015 where a position

has now opened at their old school (the school where NT out of). Those teachers and paraprofessionals may submit Interest to Interview to their old school. That Interest to Interview must be considered before any other interviewing can take place.

Interest to Interview Forms will be available next week.

An updated Open Position List reflecting new openings and changes as a result of this fall staffing will be available on or before September 18. The current Open Position List **does not** reflect the changes that are occurring right now as the staffing process moves forward.

PD FOR ALL PARAPROFESSIONALS

Cherylane Jones-Williams and the Paraprofessional Chapter have a series of workshops planned for the entire school year. A flyer with all of the dates and topics was sent to all schools via school mail. Coming on September 24 is "Knowing the Agreement" presented by LaTreacha Rice. On October 15 is "Domains 1 & 4" presented by Terrence Wooten. Both sessions are at East Professional Development Center from 3:30 – 5:30pm.

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

Cindy Antonio and the Educational Issues Committee present A Back to School Fair on Tuesday, September 15 from 3:30 – 6:00pm at the East Professional Center. Field trip information from local organizations (Zoo, Aquarium, Botanical Gardens), STRS, organizations to help with annuities and financial assistance, as well as door prizes every half hour are all on tap for the Fair. Please RSVP via email to Cindy Antonio (cantonio@ctu279.org) or Debbie Paden (dpaden@ctu279.org) with your name and building. A confirmation email will be sent. Space is limited.

WALK INTO THE LIGHT

Join Ellen Abraham and the Community Relations Committee as they meet with schools and students from northeastern Ohio and Walk Into the Light. The event is sponsored by LifeAct. LifeAct works to prevent the unfathomable loss of a child to suicide and helps teens live healthy, productive lives. Sunday October 4 at the Cleveland Zoo 6:00 – 8:30pm. Join the CTU team! See the flyer in your school to register or mail Ellen Abraham (eabraham@ctu279.org) for more information.

3rd GRADE READING GUARANTEE

3RD Grade Reading Guarantee law is still in effect. 3rd graders must pass NWEA test (winter or spring) or the new ELA Assessment that is being developed by AIR in order to pass to the 4th grade. NWEA cut score and passing score for ELA Assessment have not yet been

determined by ODE. Fall administration of the NWEA will determine which 1-3 graders are "off track". KRA determines for kindergarten. This fall administration DOES NOT count toward a student passing to 4th grade. The winter and spring administration of the NWEA are the tests that if students score high enough that will enable the student to pass to the 4th grade.

UPCOMING DATES TO KNOW

K-8 Open House is on September 16. Senior High Open House is on September 17. All students are dismissed early. 11:00 (early early schools), 11:20 (early schools), 12:30 (early late schools) and 12:50 (late schools) are the dismissal times. CTU members must report back to school for the 6:00-8:00 Open House. In the past David and Eric have sent a letter recommending that schools plan to use the part of the 200 minutes on that day for Open House preparations in the classrooms.

No School on October 12 for Columbus Day. If Veterans' Day (in November) is observed on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday then we as a school district are off on Veterans' Day in November. In years when Veterans' Day is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday then the school district is closed on Columbus Day.

First Conference Days of the school year will be on October 28 (high schools) and October 29 (PK/K-8 schools).

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.

INNOVATION FUND

This year the American Federation of Teachers funded an unprecedented 4th year of the Innovation Fund. We are looking for 13 math teachers of grades 8-12 that may be interested in writing curriculum. The curriculum will focus on math in grades 8-12. There will be an Informational Meeting at East Professional Development Center on Wednesday, September 23 from 4:00-5:45. This is not a formal presentation, just an opportunity to ask questions and see examples of previous years' work. Interested teachers may drop in anytime to get more information. After three years there are over 420 lessons in English and Math for grades K-12 that have been produced.