



# Cleveland Teachers Union

## News & Notes

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### **NEWS & NOTES**

News & Notes is a weekly (that's the goal) publication that has been ongoing since August 2014. It is available on the CTU website and through Member Mobilization emails. This is 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. Please make sure that your Chapter Chair has your email address so that the News & Notes can reach you.

### **NEGOTIATIONS SURVEY**

On Tuesday, September 15 our first Negotiations Survey was sent to members via personal email. Members that did not receive this 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](mailto: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.). To protect the integrity of this survey by ensuring that only members of the CTU are able to take this survey – this link cannot be forwarded and each member will only be able to take the survey one time. 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.

### **CDCS AWARDS/DIFF COMP**

The portal is open for teachers and related service providers to verify their number of ACs, attendance above 95% (for \$280 bonus), etc. This is each member's chance to verify the accuracy of the data. There appears to be an issue with the link from the CMSD website to Battelle. The best way to verify is to follow this link:

<https://www.battelleforkids.org/login-portal?ssl=true>

After logging in, go My Awards, click on the dollar amount on the "Award Amount" line and see a detailed description of ACs and bonuses.

If members have issues, they should try to use the inquiry/support ticket link. If you are not found in the system, e-mail Jill Cabe and cc Shari Obrenski with your name and job title so that they can see what is happening. We had a number of people last year that weren't showing up in the portal.

There was also a communication that went out from a source other than CTU that stated that if you didn't acknowledge your award by this Friday that you will not receive your money. That is patently false. If you do not receive the monies owed to you it is because there is a problem with the information at the district. We will work to fix that.

Please verify information in the portal by Friday, September 18.

### **PAY FOR SUMMER COACHING**

If you are a coach who has not been paid for summer coaching (1/19th), you need to file a grievance at the building where you are coaching for the payment. There now appear to be a few of our differentials that Payroll is refusing to pay but have been paid in previous years. We need each impacted coach to file a grievance for two reasons: 1) So we know who is impacted, 2) So that we can get an answer from the principal saying that the individual completed the work and should be paid.

Once those grievances have been filed and answered (or not answered after three days) then please send the grievances with the appeals to Jillian Ahrens, Mary Moore, or Shari Obrenski at the CTU. We will turn them into a class action appeal once we have five or more impacted members.

There may be some coaches or ADs who did receive their 1/19th or 2/19ths where the payment did not include a movement to the next level on the CDCS salary schedule. Those should also be grieved and appealed as described above.

Please contact Shari Obrenski if you have any questions.

### **PACK & MOVE DAYS**

Teachers (and paraprofessionals) being transferred for any reason from one building to another during the school year shall receive 1 day (with no pupils) to pack

up in their old assignment and shall receive 1 day (with no pupils) in the new building in order to become organized. Teachers whose assignment has changed within the building during the school year, which requires a grade level or classroom move or change, shall receive 1 day with no pupils to pack and unpack for the new assignment.

### **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 this 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 LaTrecha 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.

### **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 4th 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](mailto:eabraham@ctu279.org)) for more information.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE READING GUARANTEE**

3<sup>RD</sup> Grade Reading Guarantee law is still in effect. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.