

# Cleveland Teachers Union News & Notes

Compiled by Tracy Radich, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Issue 27 – July 23, 2015

## RSP MASTERS DEGREE ATTAINMENT

If you are a Related Service Provider (members that went on the 5 touch evaluation in the 2014-15 school year) please make sure that you see the Guidelines for Master's Degree Attainment that is on the CTU website. RSPs who started a Master's Program prior to Feb. 1, 2013 and were employed by the CMSD in 2013 when the current CBA was ratified, may be eligible for a one time stipend. Please see the website for all of the details. You can also contact Shari Obrenski (sobrenski@ctu279.org). Deadline to submit information for this stipend is September 11, 2015.

#### 2 HOURS

Six hours of parent contact time must be scheduled to make up the time for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. This school year, all six hours have been scheduled by the District. Two hours of extended time will take place on Friday, August 14th, Thursday, February 18th and Wednesday, April 20th. No additional hours need to be scheduled to make up for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

On Friday, August 14th, each school is to plan a Meet the Staff/Back to School Celebration with families. This is 2 additional hours outside of the regular school day. February 18th and April 20th are to be used to distribute interim progress reports. This is in the calendar that the Board of Education approved in May.

# **ROOM READINESS DAY**

Per the CBA – In K-8 schools, the day immediately preceding the first day of school shall be a room readiness day for all teachers. For most schools, this makes Friday, August 14 a room readiness day in K-8 schools.

# PARAPROFESSIONAL & INTERPRETERS VPD

Paraprofessionals and sign language/educational interpreters still have the opportunity to earn 3 Voluntary Professional Days. The first day is contiguous with the start of the school year, and (for most schools) will need to be planned for August 12. Principals and Chairs need to work with the school Para Rep. to have VPD available on August 12 for any paraprofessionals that would like to participate. Language is on pg. 116 of the CBA.

## **SALARY & BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

Cindy Antonio and the Salary and Benefits Committee are planning the events for next school year. The dates are September 15, November 17, February 16, and April 19. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

#### STUFF THE BUS

The Civil, Democratic, & Human Rights Committee & the Paraprofessional Chapter led by Stephanie Henderson and Cherylane Jones-Williams will Stuff-the-Bus on July 30, 2015 at Fox 8 News. If anyone wants to donate school items or make a monetary donation, you can bring it to the CTU Offices (Halle Building 1228 Euclid Avenue) by Tuesday, July 28. All items from Stuff the Bus are donated to Kids in Need (former Shoppa) where all teachers have an opportunity to get free supplies for their classroom over the course of the school year.

## RESIGNATION

Under state of Ohio law, teachers that are resigning from a district can do it up to July 10 without a penalty. If a person resigns after July 10, the district does have the ability to ask the state to revoke the Ohio teaching license for 2 years.

#### SPL TO SICK DAYS

Any Special Privilege Days that were not used in the 2014-2015 school year were converted to sick days and this is reflected in the July 3 pay stub. These days were counted as SPL on the last pay in June and then are converted to sick days on the first pay in July.

#### <u>IPDP</u>

Jim Wagner and Bonnie Hedges want to make sure that everyone has an approved IPDP on file. If you just renewed your license and have it in hand – it is time for you to write a new IPDP. Everyone needs to have an approved IPDP before taking coursework. Write the IPDP now and then you will be covered for any classes, PD, miscellaneous opportunities that come along. An IPDP Help Guide is available on both the CMSD and CTU websites. You can also contact Jim Wagner (jwagner@ctu279.org), Tracy Radich (tradich@ctu279.org), or Bonnie Hedges (bhedges@ctu279.org) with questions about IPDP or if you need your IPDP username and pin number.