



COMMUNIQUE

Publication of the East Cleveland Education Association

ISSUE #1

AUGUST 2016

*Affiliate of the National Education Association, Ohio Education Association
and the North Eastern Ohio Education Association*

COMING EVENTS

August 15
Employees
Report—
Teacher
Workday

August 18
First Day for
Students

August 19
Social Hour at
Brennan's
Colony in
Cleveland
Heights

Stay tuned for
dates for the
East Cleveland
City School
District's
Benefits Fair

September 2
Eats-n-Beats
for ECEA
Members at
Pizzazz
in
University
Heights

October 14
NEOEA Day

Notifications for ALL East Cleveland Employees

ECEA is a Fair Share Agency Fee Local

The labor agreement between the employer and the Association requires all members of the bargaining unit to become and remain members of the Association or pay a fair share fee to the Association. If you do not voluntarily join the Association, you must pay the fair share fee. The fee will be deducted in January through one lump sum deduction. Fee payers must submit an enrollment form to the ECEA Treasurer, Kecia Sanders-Stewart, no later than September 2, 2016. See the Fair Share Fee Notice that will be posted in all buildings or see an ECEA Officer. Continuing members who wish to end their year-to-year coverage status, must notify the ECEA Treasurer and the Dis-

trict's Treasurer in writing on or before August 26th. Feel free to contact an officer, if you have any questions or concerns. Also, Kecia Sanders-Stewart can be reached at Mayfair Elementary or by cell.



ECEA Dues Information

- ◆ Total dues for the school year will be \$836, which includes ECEA local dues of \$125.
- ◆ Deductions occur in eighteen pay checks and will begin October 7th and continue through the June 2nd pay date.
- ◆ Amounts vary for members who may join various affiliates — to stop affiliate dues, you must notify Kecia Sanders-Stewart at Mayfair Elementary

- in writing by September 4th.
- ◆ Refer to Article V, Section L of the negotiated ECEA Master Agreement for details concerning dues deductions in East Cleveland School District.
- ◆ See your **August Ohio Schools** for information on how your dues dollars are used at the district, state and national levels. SAVE this resource guide for the school year. Lots of helpful names, phone numbers and information are in the guide for you, the member.
- ◆ The **Ohio Schools** (August edition mailed to your home) also contains information about the OEA Attorney Referral program and important dates for all OEA members.
- ◆ OEA membership cards will ONLY be issued to NEWLY enrolled members. Retain your card received in the past.

It is always Election Season—Get involved, our time is NOW!

There are various opportunities for you to take an active role in the upcoming election season—donate to the FCPE (Fund for Children and Public Education), sign up to become an OEA-ACE (Advocates for Children and Education) and educate yourself prior to the November election. FCPE is designed to protect children by advancing the cause

of public education. We ALL need to solicit funds and participate in this area of union work. Please become an OEA-ACE in order to participate in cyber-lobbying ... so easy to do and our legislature wants to hear from YOU. Fabulous resources detailing where our endorsed candidates stand on our issues are located on the OEA and NEA

websites. It is up to each of us to protect our current rights and our future as educators. The OEA website details info on all these actions. Politics is a part of our profession and the time is now for you to be involved in the decisions!



CHEERS to the following members who attended NEOEA Summer Leadership at the Holiday Inn in Independence—Lawrence Perry, Irene Spraggins, Karen Winston, Michelle Reese, Dawn Magnasco, Steven Mitchell, Darlene Mallett, Kecia Sanders-Stewart, Lillian Tolbert, and Mary Alice Conkey.

CHEERS to the members who also attended OEA’s Summer Leadership in Columbus—your ECEA officers — Mary Alice, Steven, Kecia, and Lillian – along with Lawrence Peery, Darlene Mallett, Catherine Brown, Laura McLaughlin, Marchell Josie, Michelle Reese, Karen Winston, and Dawn Magnasco. We appreciate their time and effort!

CHEERS to your officers—Mary Alice, Steven, Kecia and Lillian—who represented your interests at NEA’s Annual Meeting in Washington DC. A lot of work was accomplished because we had a full slate!

**2016—2018
ECEA OFFICERS**

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**ECEA Annual
Budget Meeting
September 15th ~ 3:30 pm
Mayfair Elementary**



ECEA is looking for volunteers!!!
Not all union work deals with contract enforcement, controversy and bargaining. We need members to participate in school board screenings, serve on the Sick Leave Bank, the Annual Reverse Raffle Committee, our Calendar Committee and Scholarship Committee. If you are interested in sharing your time and talents in any of these areas, contact an ECEA officer today.

NEOEA’s Summer Leadership! by Marchell Josie

I would like to thank ECEA leaders for allowing me an opportunity as a new teacher to East Cleveland to experience the gratification of attending such an informational conference. I tried to choose sessions that would help me to gain information for my association members that I come in contact with daily and or at meetings. I attended a session on legal updates. In this session, I learned how easy it is for accusations to be made against you whether they are true or not. The legal team at OEA is here for union members and will help with these issues. I also learned about the new ODE 2015 Educator Conduct Report. This report was very extensive and gave pertinent information regarding teacher licenses involving referrals, investigations, case disposition, social media, and resident educators. The legal facilitator gave an extensive report on how to protect yourself as an educator. The information also helped me to understand that with this conduct report they can use the smallest life events to affect your educator license. I was also informed that even events that may have happened that have nothing to do with education or professional conduct in the classroom may surface. My advice to my fellow members-please be mindful at all times what you are doing on and off the job because it may affect you in the

future. I attended a session on Political Action School-Campaign 2016 Update and It’s a Big World Out There: Leadership Beyond the Local. From these sessions I learned that it is very important for members to be knowledgeable about everyday issues, especially the ones that will affect us as educators. I gained valuable information on how to get the word out to members and get them involved. OEA has a strategy that members should know about when it comes to elections. These strategies are working in the best interest of its members to ensure that the right candidates get elected. As members, we should be asking questions about leadership in our organization and how it works. Sitting back is not going to get the job done. We must unite as one to reach that targeted goal. I became energized just listening to people in this session and how excited they were and willing to do whatever it took to help with the election goals. Everyone has a role to play, you can be dealing directly with the campaign structure, working behind the scenes or coordinating efforts to help bring about change. Our goal as members is to become involved to ensure that our members’ voices are heard. I am one of those members who is willing to be the voice for our leadership.

LPDC NEWS

Please read your LPDC Policy and Procedures manual for directives, dates, and copies of forms for preview. You may secure original forms from the Human Resource Department at the Board Offices or on the district’s website. Forms are due two weeks before the meeting. You must adhere to all guidelines and due dates. Please note—certificated members need to have a current IPDP on file. *The LPDC meets the second Thursday of each month, except July.* Dates for meetings are posted in each building. The LPDC newsletter also addresses questions and concerns. If interested in serving on the LPDC in the future, send a letter of interest to the Director of Human Resources.



Contributions and news for the newsletter should be sent to:
macecea@sbcglobal.net.
The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the East Cleveland Education Association, its members, or its affiliates.

