



Contact: Irene Spraggin
Email: eceaspokesperson@gmail.com
Phone: 440-508-6644

December 11, 2020
From East Cleveland Education Association

For Immediate Release:

The CEO Who Stole Christmas

East Cleveland, OH: Longevity of teachers is something that should be celebrated! In East Cleveland, we have highly qualified and experienced teachers educating students in our schools. The Collective Bargaining Agreement between the East Cleveland Education Association and the School Board outlines salary for the district's teachers. A part of the salary is a longevity payment in December to teachers that qualify under the terms of the Agreement. The only way a teacher can qualify for such a payment is by working successfully within the East Cleveland City School District for many years.

Unfortunately, the CEO, Henry Pettigrew decided to withhold the payments in direct violation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Although the parties are currently negotiating a successor Agreement, per Ohio law the terms and conditions of the existing Agreement MUST remain in full force and effect until a new Agreement is ratified. The East Cleveland Education Association's only recourse for the CEO's unilateral decision to violate the contract and withhold money the teachers have earned, is to institute the dispute provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. This is a time-consuming procedure and a resolution will likely not be in place in time to help teachers, whose salaries have been withheld, pay their December bills. This is just one of many examples of Ohio's House Bill 70 law being ineffective and hurtful to our communities.

The ECEA is an affiliate of the Ohio Education Association and the National Education Association. The ECEA represents approximately 170 full time and part time educators in the East Cleveland City School District.

For more information, follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/eastclevelandea>

###