



COMMUNIQUE

Publication of the East Cleveland Education Association

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

COMING EVENTS

August 12
Employees Report—Teacher Workday

August 17
First Day for Students

September 7
Labor Day No School



Important Information:

ECEA Website: <http://eastclevelandea.ohea.us/>

ECEA is on Facebook, please like us for updated information

NEOEA: Website: <https://neoea.org/>

OEA Website: <https://www.ohea.org/>

NEA Website: <http://www.nea.org/>

NEA Educating through crisis <https://educatingthroughcrisis.org/>

OEA Take Action: <https://www.ohea.org/action/>

OEA Outreach Circle app—political action—<https://outreachcircle.com/NAS319>

MEET YOUR NEW OFFICERS

On July 15, 2020 your new leaders took office. We are thank you for entrusting us with this important work. We wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about us.

Lillian Tolbert—President

I will be entering my 28th year of teaching in the fall. I am a 5th grade teacher at Mayfair Elementary. I became active in ECEA my first year of teaching during our strike and have been an active member since that day. I have served in many capacities over the years in ECEA, NEOEA, OEA and NEA. In ECEA, I have served as secretary for many years before becoming the Vice President of ECEA for the last two years. I have also served on the Negotiation Team and successfully bargained our last contract in our last round of negotiations. I also serve on Curriculum Council, the District Leadership Team, Executive Board of ECEA and the Chair of our ECEA Scholarship Committee. I currently hold the position of Recording Secretary at the NEOEA level and has served in that term for the last 6 years. My position at NEOEA affords me a position on the District Leader's Council at the state level in OEA. This helps keep me abreast of the current educational climate across the state. I have spent the past 15 years attending Representative Assemblies at the regional, state and national level as an elected delegate. The information and experiences I have gained at these assemblies helped prepare me to take on the position of President at our local level. I look forward to moving our Association forward as we continue to face the changing climate of education in the future.

Irene Spraggins—Vice President

I began my career in the East Cleveland City School District in 1993 as a 4th grade teacher at Rozelle Elementary. Through the last 28 years I have taught at both Rozelle and Mayfair Elementary Schools. My first school year of 1993-1994 ECEA went on a half-day strike in the spring. I have been an active and proud union member since that time. In ECEA I have been committed to being a building representative and member of the ECEA Executive Board yearly. I have also served on ECEA Curriculum Council, Legislative Committee, Grievance Committee, Constitution Committee, Negotiations Committee, and Negotiation/Crisis Chair during the two week strike of 2002 and as ECEA secretary for four years. I have also participated as an NEOEA, OEA, and NEA delegate to the Representative Assemblies. I was elected for six years as the NEOEA Board of Directors for NEOEA Unit 3. Currently, I chair the NEOEA Constitution and Bylaws Committee, am a member of the NEOEA Legislative Committee for ten years, and past member of the OEA Legislative Committee. I believe in grassroots political action and working hard to get pro-education candidates elected to all offices from city to state to country. There will be opportunities this school year for members to join me with opportunities to contact elected officials. I hope when you receive communication to do so, that we can count on your involvement. I am anticipating a great year working with my fellow ECEA officers to move forward in this new school year and to support all ECEA members.

Laura McLaughlin—Secretary

I am a proud ECEA member and have been for 18 years. For over a decade I have served as the election chair, served on the negation committee, and have sat on the executive board. By teaching in all the elementary buildings I have had the special opportunity to work and create relationships with members and administration throughout the district. Last year I was asked to head ECEA's membership action team where I worked with other building leaders to support members and plan social events. I have volunteered with NEOEA Social Human Concern committee at the Cleveland Food Bank. I have attended numerous NEOEA and OEA training and leadership academies. In November I was the proud recipient of the Unsung Hero award from NEOEA and United Labor Agency. I am eager to step into the role of secretary of ECEA.

Kecia Sanders-Stewart—Treasurer

I have taught 6th grade at Mayfair and before that Rozelle Elementary for 26 years. I have also held positions on the OEA Board of Directors and NEOEA Board of Directors. I am currently the chairperson of the Social Human Concern committee. As your treasurer, my most important duty is to be an excellent custodian of ECEA's money. I have been awarded the Ohio Education Association Outstanding Treasurer Award annually. I have received clean audits from a reputable CPA. I look forward to continuing my service to ECEA and I thank you for your continued support.

