VOL. 1



President's Message

Quality Public Education is essential for the economic and social growth of our community and our democracy. Our work as education professionals is the backbone of this great country. We have the opportunity to help develop young minds and significantly impact each young person's life. My journey in educating our youth began at Newark HS in 1992 and I have worn many hats throughout my twenty-five year career: from job specialist, to business teacher, assistant football coach, club advisor, and dean of students. Four year ago, a co-worker and active teacher unionist noticed my leadership abilities and talked to me about being a building representative. She encouraged me to attend a CEA Rep meeting and the journey began. I took advantage of numerous trainings that CEA and DSEA offered. These were important in my development within the Association. In 2015, after serving as a delegate to the NEA-RA, I became the Liaison Chair for CEA and my eyes were opened to the political nature of education.

When we unionize we can conquer all obstacles and set our beliefs in motion. Please take the opportunity to become a full member of the Christina Education Association and if you are presently a member, get involved and make a difference in your building and throughout the district. All voices are necessary in our work and all voices will be heard. Recognize who your building representatives are and, if your building is lacking sufficient representation, take the opportunity to attend a CEA Rep meeting and begin the journey of learning and then using your voice to better our profession. One of my goals this year is to visit every school in the Christina School District and talk to members about their concerns and issues. Have a wonderful school year and open the line of communication with your building reps. Any concerns that need to be addressed immediately, please reach out to anyone of us on the Executive Board.

Darren Tyson

Christina EA President

CEA Times

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August 2017

Up Coming Events

CEA Rep. Assembly Meetings

Members are welcome to attend these monthly meetings. All meetings are held at the DSEA building in Newark at 4:30.

4135 Olgetown Stanton Rd., Newark, DE 19713

September 20, 2017

October 18, 2017

Board of Education Meetings

Stay informed as to what is happening in our district. Meetings are open to the community. Please be an active voice in the progress our district makes.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

September 12, 2017 at Gauger-Cobb Middle School

October 10, 2017 at Sarah Pyle Academy

Important Events

September 4th – Labor Day Parade (see pg. 4)

September 17th – Newark Community Day

September 28th – CEA Back to School Event

SUMMER HAPPENINGS

CEA Goes to Boston



by: Jackie Kook

One of the things I find the most fascinating about attending the National Education Association's Representative Assembly is how much knowledge the delegates gain while there that the average member "back home" doesn't have, or even realize they are missing. From the stories – good and bad – from other states to the vast array of caucuses to the awards, political action, and parliamentary procedure, there is a lot about the inner workings of our parent organization about which we have virtually no awareness at the ground level. One of those procedures which gained national attention in 2015, and again in 2016, was the endorsement process for the office of President of the United States, in the primary and general election, respectively. This was a contentious topic at the representative assembly this year, sparking much debate and multiple attempts to move the NEA to action on a different, more transparent process for future elections.

Here is where the heart of the contention lies: Nationwide, many members, as evidenced by the national outcry and subsequent RA actions in 2016 and 2017, felt disenfranchised, left out of the process, and unheard by their parent organization(s). In listening to debate at the 2017 RA around this topic, roughly half the delegates in attendance in 2017 felt that a lot of the 2015 (primary) and 2016 (general) endorsement process was straddling the gray area between unbiased and heavily managed. **Regardless of the facts, delegates felt disenfranchised, ignored, left in the dark, and deliberately sidetracked from participating in the process.**

If I were on the NEA leadership team, I would be taking a long, hard look at the communication methods and the process of getting information from top to bottom of the organization. Seeing the contention on the floor and reading about it virtually daily over the past two years, I would be assuring my members that yes, their concerns are being attended to with utmost concern. It is time to stop being afraid of the light and start showing the nation that we are not afraid to let them see how we UNION.





We Must All Stand Together

"All across the country, you are demonstrating that we have the resolve to fight for what's right for our students and educators, the resilience to take a hit and bounce back, the audacity to demand respect, and the relentless will to win." NEA Executive Director John Stocks

We must all stand strong together, and let our elected leaders know what we need as educators to nurture successful students" – 2017 Education Support Professional of the Year Saul Ramos

Let's envision education as a time machine that helps our students travel to worlds we have only imagined ones that are built on ideals of justice and equity and collaboration" – 2017 National Teacher of the Year Sydney Chaffee

BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

Welcome Back!





Get to know your CEA Representative!

Each building has at least one dedicated building representative. They are your go to person for questions, comments, and concerns. Please try to get to know them and build a relationship. Each rep. attends monthly meetings and will bring important information back to share with your building. Stay in the know! Read their emails and attend meetings they hold to keep you up-to-date on district, state, and national happenings.

Dress Code

The Negotiated Agreement with the Christina Education Association was approved by the Board of Education on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. The contract dates are July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019. The following dress code began February 1, 2017.

4:10 DRESS CODE

The parties recognize the positive effect a teacher can have on his/her students and on ensuring an environment conducive to learning and maintaining decorum in the classroom. All District employees are expected to adhere to a code of professional dress appropriate to a professional office or educational workplace setting. For men: trousers/khakis and a business casual shirt.

For women: trousers//knee-length skirt and a business casual blouse or shirt.

No jeans, athletic wear (unless assigned as a Physical Education teacher), leggings, T-shirts, or flip flops. An exception may be agreed to at individual buildings for specific spirit days and professional development days which will be communicated by the building administrator via district email. We are in agreement to the following guidelines regarding to the manner of dress and grooming for all staff members whenever performing a professional role.

Social Media

"Teachers have First Amendment rights to do anything lawful on non-working time. But the DSEA urges teachers to exercise discretion and common sense when using modern media technology."

For additional information regarding this topic please visit: <u>http://www.dsea.org/content/saving-face-social-media-guidelines</u>

Labor Day Parade Monday, September 4th

Come walk with your fellow members from DSEA and other unions from around Delaware!



People are encouraged to meet at the corner parking lot on 2nd and King Streets (across from the Wilmington Train Station parking garage) between 9:00-9:30am. The parade will begin at 10:00am at 4th Street and continue down King Street to Rodney Square.

T-shirts will be provided to wear for the parade. There will be vendors and food trucks at the end. You can bring your family members too! Come rain or shine!

We want to hear from you!

Visit our website at: christinaea.dsea.org

Join us on Facebook: Christina Education Association (closed group; contact to be added)

Email us at: christinaeducationassociation@gmail.com

YouTube: Christina Education Association

Christina Education Association Contact Information

President - Darren Tyson, Newark High School

Vice President - Jackie Kook, Kirk Middle School

Secretary - Mary Pieri, Gallaher Elementary School

Treasurer - Najma Landis, Sarah Pyle Academy

Membership Chair - Vacant

Liaison Chair – Vacant

Communications Chair – Jennifer Dalgarn, Gallaher Elementary School

Political Action Chair - Woody Woodruff, Newark High School

Area A Director (High Schools) - Dave Kohan, Glasgow High School (Christiana, Glasgow, Newark)

Area B Director (Middle Schools) - <u>Donya Crichlow</u>, Gauger-Cobb Middle School (Gauger-Cobb, Kirk, Shue-Medill)

Area C Director (Special Schools) – Vacant (Adult Ed, Brennan/DAP, DSD, Eden, Networks)

Area D Director (City-Secondary) – <u>Michael Herring</u>, Sarah Pyle Academy (Bayard, Douglass, Sarah Pyle)

Area E Director (City-Elementary) - <u>Leslie Footman</u>, Elbert-Palmer Elementary School (Bancroft, Palmer, Pulaski, Stubbs)

Area F Director (Elem-Outskirts) - <u>Jessi Smeigh</u>, Gallaher Elementary School (CEEC, Gallaher, Jones, Smith, Wilson)

Area G Director (Elem-Newark) - <u>Ariel Hardy</u>, Downes Elementary School (Brookside, Downes, Maclary, McVey, West Park)

Area H Director (Elem-Rt. 40) - <u>Belinda Young-Payne</u>, Marshall Elementary School (Brader, Keene, Leasure, Marshall, Oberle)

DSEA UniServ - Julie Harrington