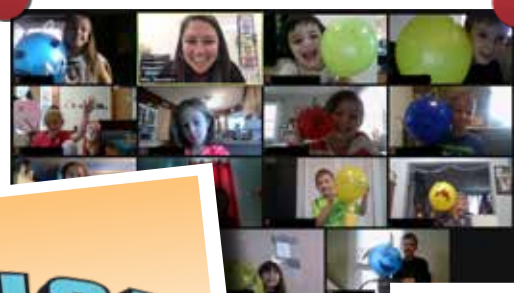


COMMUNIQUE

Publication for Members of Central OEA/NEA • Adrienne M. Bowden, President



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Central OEA/NEA Local Leadership Training

Mary Kennedy (Hilliard EA President), Membership Development chair

We are excited to bring leadership training to our local leaders this summer. Are you a local president, vice president, local treasurer, a local association rep, or an emerging leader? Join us for our annual Leadership Training to be held virtually on **June 14 and 15, 2021.**

Members attending the training will be able to join any or all of the sessions. The President Training will cover pertinent information from OEA and Central. The Association Rep Training will cover the many facets of being a representative. The Treasurers Workshop will be divided into two sessions; one for new-ish treasurers and one for experienced treasurers. Emerging Leaders are the future of the association and we wish to encourage and support them.

June 14, 2021

Presidents Training 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Treasurer's Workshop for New Treasurers 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Workshop for Experienced Treasurers
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

You are welcome to attend any or all of these sessions.

June 15, 2021

Building Rep Training 9 - 11 a.m.

Emerging Leader Training 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Registration is required for all these sessions at www.centraloearnea.org.

To register:

1. Login (or create an account first if you do not already have one) to Central's website.
2. Scroll down the list of events and select the session(s) you are interested in registering for, from the list of events.
3. Select "Going" from the drop-down menu, and wait a moment for it to register. That's it.

We will send out the Zoom information to all registered attendees a few days before the sessions begin. We look forward to working with you this summer!

The New State Board of Education

Brittany Alexander (Hilliard EA)

The Ohio State Board of Education has 19 members, 8 of whom are appointed by the Governor, and 11 elected members. Each elected member's district consists of three State Senate districts. The November 2020 election decided six elected seats.

Two lifelong educators won reelection to their second term. Dr. Antoinette Miranda represents District 6 in Central Ohio and Meryl Johnson represents District 11 in Northeast Ohio. They will continue their advocacy for equity and justice in Ohio's schools. Four new members were elected as well.

Diana Fessler represents District 1 in Northwest Ohio. She is a former State Board of Education Member and former Ohio House Representative. Her stated goals for this term include "championing academic excellence and being a strong voice for parents."

Dr. Christina Collins represents District 5 in the North-Central region. She is an educator and administrator with 12 years of experience. Her stated goals for this term include "developing a new vision for education as a result of the pandemic; advocating for adequate funding for traditional public schools; and ensuring antiracist and unbiased instruction."

Michelle Newman represents District 9 in the East-Central region. She is an entrepreneur of her own small business marketing company and serves as the executive director of the Canal Market District in Newark. Her stated goals for this term include "being an accessible servant leader, advocating for public schools, and supporting educators, administrators, and families."

Brendan Shea represents District 10 in the South-Central region. He is a financial advisor. His stated goals for this term include "improving career readiness and academic rigor; eliminating Common Core and restoring local control; protecting parental rights, religious liberty, and school choice; combating revisionist history, such as the 1619 Project; and removing harmful influences, like Planned Parenthood, from our schools."



Volume 48, Number 3 • Spring 2021

Published four times a year as a service of

CENTRAL OEA/NEA, INC.

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Columbus, OH 43212

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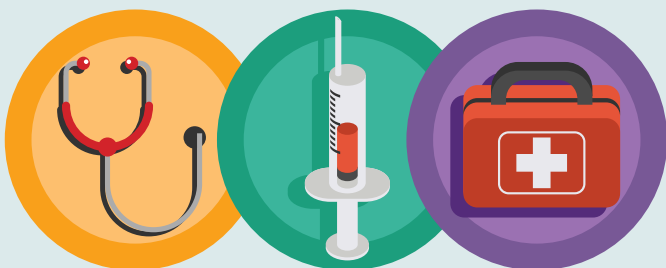
A School Nurse's Perspective of the Pandemic

Colleen O'Connell (Reynoldsburg EA)

Sandra Kageorge, RN, BSN, LSN has been a school nurse since 2004 and with Reynoldsburg City Schools since 2005. Kageorge felt the call to school nursing as a stay-at-home mom. The district she lived in kept advertising for substitute school nurses. She decided to put her previous home care nursing experience to work and try out subbing. She was hooked!

Kageorge loves working with children, parents, and school staff. She also enjoys the autonomous practice, requiring nursing judgment and health promotion with screenings, immunizations, and teaching. However, as it has for everyone, COVID has changed what she does. Personal contact with students has decreased exponentially, and Sandra primarily spends her work hours staying current with all the continually changing guidance from Franklin County, ODH & CDC to keep students and staff safe at school. A major focus has also become helping administration, staff and families understand and follow COVID protocols, as well as adjusting to the changes. Despite the challenges and changes, Kageorge reports that communicating with families regarding COVID symptoms, testing, quarantines, and isolations has surprisingly been well received and that Franklin County Public Health provides school nurses with updates and answers to questions promptly, allowing school nurses to confidently and competently communicate in their work.

However, school nurses still have the impossible task of juggling COVID while all the other functions of school nursing—communicating with staff regarding student health concerns, screenings, immunization compliance, medication administration, health care plans and procedures, review of new student health records, teaching CPR, puberty education, staff training, etc.—must be continued. Sandra reports that she is surprised by how busy she's been when there are no students at school! More than anything, she looks forward to the day that we can see our students regularly in schools again!



Miguel Cardona, Ed. D. is Set to Be the Next Secretary of Education

Ty Tatman (Zane Trace EA President, OEA Director)

In November 1979 President Jimmy Carter appointed Shirley Hufstедler as the first Secretary of Education in the United States. The secretary serves as the principal advisor to the president of the United States, and the federal government, on policies, programs, and activities related to all education in the United States.

As a member of the Cabinet of the United States, the secretary is fifteenth in the line of succession to the presidency. Our nation's last Secretary of Education was a rather controversial and polarizing figure, and many have been looking forward to our next Education Secretary.

That individual is Miguel Cardona, Ed. D. Miguel is set to be our first ESL Secretary of Education. The son of parents who moved to Meridian, CN., from Puerto Rico as children, he lived in public housing and didn't speak English as a young child. In selecting Cardona – a former teacher, principal, and district administrator and husband of a middle school liaison –

President Joe Biden has fulfilled his campaign pledge to appoint a public school educator to the role. The 45-year old's meteoric rise in the world of public education has been mostly met with high praise from the American Federation of Teachers.

As Connecticut's Commissioner of Education, he was adamant in an approach to using a system of scaling down the role of student test scores in teacher evaluation to foster professional growth. Cardona's entire body of academic and professional work has largely focused on closing achievement gaps between students of color and their white classmates and improving the quality of education for English Language Learners.

Cardona's role as Secretary of Education will now include guiding the nation's schools through the Covid-19 pandemic and reversing many of the catastrophic policies of Betsy DeVos. "Miguel Cardona is a visionary,



humble, and experienced educator who will lead the Department of Education out of the DeVosian wilderness and toward excellence," is what the Congressional Hispanic Caucus has to say about him and we at Central OEA-NEA eagerly look forward to working with him!

We're Here to Help – Central Grant Offerings for Local Associations

Central OEA/NEA has grants available for our 110 Associations. There is no deadline for any of our grants, and most of the applications only take a few minutes to complete. You found out how easy Central's COVID Grant application was. Now is the time to apply for one of our other grants!

A newer grant we offer is Central's \$500 Public Relations Grant. It can be written for things like Association t-shirts, sponsorship of youth teams, banner for your sports field, yard signs to congratulate graduating seniors, books for incoming kindergarteners, etc.

Central's Local Emergency Grant is primarily for your local to assist in promoting a school levy. It can be written for things like: printing of flyers and postcards, postage, donuts and coffee for members and citizens before going door to door, etc.

Central's Growth & Development Grant can be used to increase member involvement, communication, etc. within your Association. It can be written for things like: newsletter editor stipend, supplies for Association meetings (general or committee) and business, stipends for committee member participation, snacks/treats with a "return your bargaining issues survey", postage for the mailing of Association election notice or other Association business, etc.

You don't know where to start? Let's talk! I am happy to work with you, your Association grant writer, or executive committee. There is no fee for my services. I want to help your Association with Central's grants. What do you have to lose? pm@centraloeanea.org.

Go to Central's website, www.centraloeanea.org to find out more information.

The NEA Website Gets a New Look

This year, the National Education Association has new incoming leadership and a redesigned website. The new site offers lots of information about NEA, upcoming events, professional development, networking and beyond! Visit nea.org to see more.

Looking for good PD?

On the website, you can find professional learning resources from our state and NEA. The PD includes workshops, webinars, and blended learning opportunities to support all members throughout their careers. Topics include just & equitable schools, professional growth for teachers, ESPs and higher Ed, and Micro-credentials.

Micro-credentials

A micro-credential is a short, competency-based recognition grounded in research. NEA offers over 175 micro-credentials that have been created by educators for educators. Since not all educators have access to the quality professional development support, they need, NEA created this program to make it easy for all educators to access professional learning opportunities throughout their careers.



NEA micro-credentials are designed to be:

- **Personalized:** You can create your learning journey, based on your interests and career goals; gaps in your skills; and the specific needs of your students, school, and district.
- **Flexible:** You can study when it's convenient for you, alone or with your peers.
- **Performance-based:** Unlike "sit-and-get" certifications, NEA micro-credentials are awarded based on demonstrated mastery of the subject matter, not just for showing up.

Micro-credentials are flexible. You can choose to learn on your own or join a learning community and support each other through the process. The process is rigorous, so working with a group can help you earn your micro-credential sooner. Contact your leader local to see if your district accepts Micro-credentials for your license renewal.

Ready to get started? Here's how it works:

- Go to nea.certificationbank.com to get started.
- Select a skill you have developed or would like to develop.
- Collect the required evidence demonstrating your competence in the selected area.
- Submit by uploading your evidence.
- Share your achievement with others!

Seeking RESAlution...

Colleen O'Connell (Reynoldsburg EA)

For 3rd year teachers in Ohio, with spring comes the anxiety of waiting to hear whether a 20 minutes video and a few 250-word snippets will make or break their career through the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA), yet another flaming hoop new educators are required to jump through to remain the profession despite rigorous pre-service preparation, typically including the very similar edTPA.

RESA is just one piece of the Ohio Teacher Residency (OTR), which new educators must complete while they have their Resident Educator (RE) license for their first four years in the profession before applying for their professional. The Ohio Teacher Residency (OTR) program currently comprises three components: educator mentoring for the first two years, counseling to ensure Resident Educators receive needed professional development, and “measures of appropriate progression through the program,” which includes passing RESA video and written reflection task in the third year of the program. New educators have three chances to take and pass this assessment and are allowed to apply to extend their RE license while doing so if necessary.

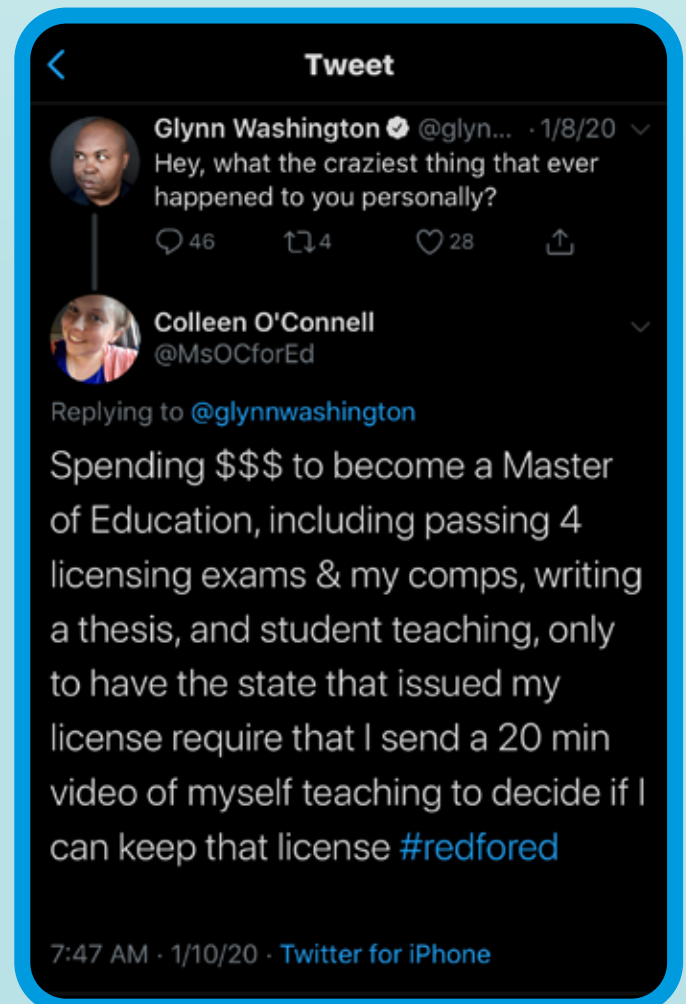
Resistance to the OTR program by new educators has been targeted on that last point—passing the RESA. In fact, over the past few years, due to the advocacy and organizing of educators in our union and Ohio's New Educators, change has happened within the program to make it less onerous by reducing the year 3 task and advocating for more feedback from the assessment (though “feedback” may be generous, as the pass/fail comments on score report are all from a comment bank). Despite these changes, the high-stakes video assessment on which new educators must stake their career to 20 minutes of teaching remains and continues to be an unnecessary and frequently detrimental hurdle for new educators. However, there is hope.

The first is that new educators have made several allies in our legislature that recognize our plight and want to help improve the OTR to make it beneficial to promote retention and authentic growth for new teachers. The most recent efforts to improve the OTR include the recently passed HB 442 and HB 322, a bill from the previous legislative session.

The recently passed HB 442 made modifications to several professional licenses in Ohio, including teacher licenses and licenses of school support professionals. For several support professionals such as SLPs, Counselors, nurses, etc., this means no longer needing a separate pupil service license in addition to the Ohio professional they already have for their profession. For Resident Educators, HB 442 primarily means a reduction of the RE program from 4 to 2 years, though the State Board must determine how to condense the program

for future and current Resident Educators, which still needs to occur. Still, the changes to the RE license would not be effective until April 2023, mainly affecting current preservice teachers, year 1 and year 2 REs. What is retained in the OTR are two things: 1. The mentoring and counseling, and 2. the RESA.

Hope for eliminating the RESA remains, as there is a possibility of reintroducing the bill formerly known as HB 322. HB 322 would have strengthened the mentoring component of the OTR and eliminated the measures of progression (meaning: no video task). Many new educators, several in ONE and Central OEA/NEA submitted compelling testimony for this bill and eagerly await the opportunity to resume advocating for what we know is best: engaging in authentic mentoring rather than focusing on preparing for a video task so that we can focus our professional growth on personal, actionable feedback with our work in the classroom.



Introducing our New Vice President, Jim Templeton

Jim has been in public education for 24 years. He earned a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from The University of Akron and a Master of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University. Currently, Jim is employed with the Northeastern Local School District in Springfield, Ohio where he holds the title of Head Instrumental Music Director at Kenton Ridge High School.

Jim began his involvement with Central OEA/NEA soon after starting at Kenton Ridge when he became active in Central Area 3. In 2006 Jim was elected as the Central Area 3 Representative and has held that position through the fall of this school year. Some of you may remember Jim from an OEA Lobby Day or a Central Legislative event as he was also a Political Action Coordinator for Central from 2006 through 2018.

Jim is originally from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio where most of his family still resides. Currently, he lives in the “Short North” area of downtown Columbus where he has lived for the past 10 years. Living in Columbus and working in Springfield has provided him with a good balance of urban and rural experiences which he hopes to use to his advantage as Vice-President of Central OEA/NEA.



Jim is looking forward to getting to know all of the locals within Central and would be willing and excited to come to an Executive Board Meeting or Building Representative meeting for your local. You can reach Jim at VP@centraloearnea.org

Jim’s Kenton Ridge Band recently performed during the Inauguration of President Biden.



You've Watched the TV Series...

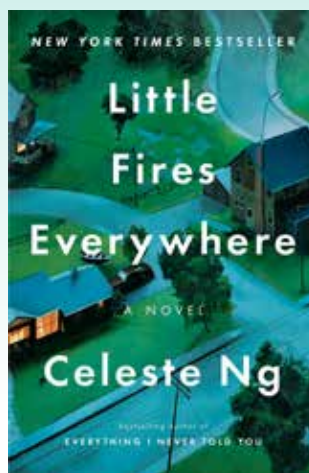
Now Read the Book

Ashley Lambacher (Hilliard EA)



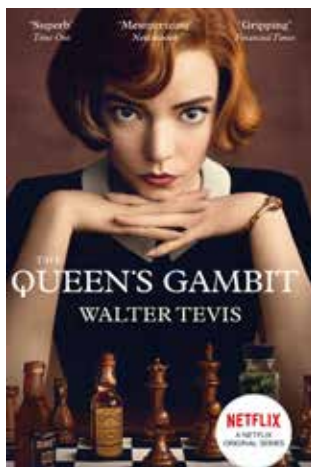
The Flight Attendant

by Chris Bohjalian
(show on HBO Max)
When flight attendant party girl Cassie wakes up to find her most recent one night stand dead next to her, clearly murdered, Cassie begins to tell a string of lies all while she tries to remember what happened that night. As she spirals more and more out of control, you'll find yourself on the edge of your seat to find out the truth.



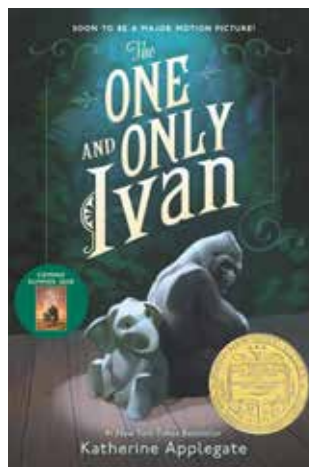
Little Fires Everywhere

by Celeste Ng
(show on Hulu)
A great read into character dynamics in a small town outside of Cleveland, where the arrival of a mother-daughter pair shakes up the status quo, and the attempted adoption of a Chinese-American baby divides the town. The author is skillful in creating rich lives for each character, and it makes for an engrossing and emotional read.



The Queen's Gambit

by Walter Tevis
(show on Netflix)
Beth is an 8-year-old orphan who, upon learning how to play chess, steadily becomes a prodigy, eventually competing in pro games in her teens. Her addiction to chess is further fueled by her addiction to drugs and alcohol, ultimately ending in what price Beth is willing to pay for success and survival in a male-dominated arena. A thrilling ride (even if you know nothing about chess, like me) that shows the tragedy of success and deep personal struggles.



The One and Only Ivan

by Katherine Applegate
(movie on Disney+)
I know this is a movie and not a show, but I can't pass up the opportunity to highlight this book! This Newbery award-winning book, about a gorilla named Ivan who is trapped in a mall as an "attraction" and takes it upon himself to try to free a newly arrived baby elephant, is what many call a new classic. To give some context, I have yet to have a student tell me they didn't like the book. Ever. Check out the true story of Ivan in the nonfiction picture book as well!

COMMUNIQUÉ

Spring 2021



THANK YOU

FOR BEING A MEMBER OF
Central OEA/NEA

You are the true expert in education!

You deserve a voice
in how best to educate our students.

We are here to support you.

Adrienne & Jim,
Central Leadership



Association Benefits

NEA Micro-Credentials

College Student Grants

Summertime Discounts

Upcoming Events

April 23 Central RA

May 8 OEA RA