



## My Case by Christie Bryant, CFT Field Representative

CFT is very excited to introduce new case management software that will allow us to more effectively organize and communicate information regarding minor issues, grievances and arbitrations.

When you call Don Luckie or Christie Bryant regarding an issue at your school beyond a simple question, your matter will be entered into the system. At that time you will receive a welcome message from the software with a link to create a username and password.



Once you create your account we will send notes, upload documents, emails and calendar events regarding your pending issue. You will also receive an email when updated information has been submitted to your matter, so you will know when to log in. The goal is to ensure that any member that has a matter pending will always know where they are in the process.

MyCase is web-based which allows access from any computer connected to the internet. If you have an I-phone there is an app you can download, called myCase. They are currently working on an android app as well. Whenever you submit an issue to Don or Christie, be sure to give them your personal email, so we can set you up in the system.

## OFT Mooney Scholarship is awarded to Cincinnati Student

John McCann, a graduate of Walnut Hills High School and son of a member of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers, Local 1520, is the 2013 Mooney Scholar. He plans to pursue a degree in either history or political science at one of the many colleges where he has been accepted to attend - Ohio University, Indiana University, Miami University, University of Cincinnati or University of Dayton.

In his application, McCann shared that he wants to teach or enter politics. "What happens in public education is dictated by the politicians, which can be a bad thing if those making decisions are not familiar with today's classroom," he wrote in his essay. "It will be crucial in the next decade that we have well-educated, well-informed and highly motivated people playing a role in changing

the outlook of public education. I hope one day that I can be part of that group and make our educational system, and in turn our society, a better place."



Ohio Federation  
of Teachers

## Out with the Old, In with the New by Sandra Faulkner, CFOP President

The Association of Cincinnati Public Schools Office Personnel has a new name. The State Employment Relations Board approved our name change petition at their June 27, 2013 Board Meeting. We are now known as the Cincinnati Federation of Office Professionals. The final chapter in this endeavor will take place at the next CFT Membership meeting, on September 11, 2013, when members take the final vote to amend the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers' Constitution to reflect our new name.

## Overload Pay

This past June, when CFT met with the district to calculate the overload stipends, we calculated that 220+ regular ed teachers were in overload status; more than we have ever had previously. Contractually, the amount of money that the district is obligated for annually is \$115,000. The overloads equated to \$330,000, so teachers' stipends were pro-



rated to only thirty-four cents on the dollar. CFT said that this was unacceptable since the district did not properly staff the schools. President Sellers was able to suggest areas of the budget where there were carryover funds. The district agreed to transfer \$200,000 to the over-

load budget this one time and teachers received nearly 100% due to them last year, however this cannot become common practice.

Please let your Building Rep know as soon as possible if your classes are overloaded because it is not fair for any child to be in an overloaded classroom. **Teachers must file grievances to stop this practice.**

# Building Representative Workshop 2013–2014

This year's BR Workshop was held on August 15 at the Cincinnati Museum Center. During our awards ceremony, members of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers (CFT) and Cincinnati Federation of Office Professionals (CFOP) were honored.

CFOP Honorees are:

- ★ **Future Leader Award:** Deborah Flynn, Testing Department and Coronda Wilson, Help Desk, ITM Department



- ★ **Member of the Year Award:** Cheryl Whittaker, Office of the Treasurer



CFT Honorees are:

- ★ **Building Representative of the Year:** Audrey J. Gover, Silverton Paideia Academy



- ★ **CFT member of the Year:** Brad Smith, Walnut Hills High School.



- ★ **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Ed Jaspers - Ed has served as BR at Western Hills, Collective Bargaining Committee Chairperson, and served as a CFT Field Rep from 2004 – until he retired May 30,

2013. Ed will be missed by all of his colleagues.



The workshop was very well attended and most schools were represented. Please make it a practice to attend monthly CFT membership meetings. They are generally held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Thom Moore, Laborer's Hall located at 3457 Montgomery Rd. The meetings begin at 5:30. Our meetings are listed on the CPS Calendar. However; if you cannot attend the membership meeting, the BR for your building is attending and receiving special briefings to report back to their staff at a chapter meeting. Please make a concerted effort to attend the chapter meetings your BR hosts.

Get to know your Building Representative. They are there to assist you and keep you informed.

## ATTENTION ALL SUBSTITUTES & LONG TERM SUBSTITUTES!

Every school year both our system and CPS' payroll system automatically reverts ALL substitutes and long-term substitutes who signed membership cards in the previous school year back to Fair Share status. Therefore, all substitutes and long term substitutes must sign a new green membership card every school year. To request a membership card to be sent to you, please call Ralph Jackson at 513-475-6047, the CFT/CFOP office at 513-961-2272 or email us at [cft@cft-aft.org](mailto:cft@cft-aft.org).

Cincinnati Federation of Teachers  
Association of CPS Office Personnel

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Local 1520, AFT-OFT / AFL-CIO

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## Classifieds & More!

### Dates, Deadlines & Reminders

- ◆ **CFT/CFOP Membership Meeting**— Wednesday, September 11, 2013. Thom Moore Building, Laborer's Hall, 3457 Montgomery Rd. 45207. 5:00 BR Briefing, 5:30 Membership meeting begins.
- ◆ **CFOP Membership Meeting**— Thursday, September 19, 2013 at the CFT Office, located at 2055 Reading Rd., Ste 120, 45202. 5:00 pm.
- ◆ **WELLNESS REMINDER:** Before you send you Scorecard Paperwork in, please log it into your scorecard online. Here is a checklist to Wellness Success:
  1. Review scorecard and choose incentive;
  2. Complete the incentive;
  3. Gather documentation to show proof of completing incentive;
  4. Log on to scorecard and submit the completed incentive;
  5. Send documentation to your Wellness Coordinator **ONLY** after the incentive has been entered on scorecard;
  6. Check your scorecard after 4 weeks to ensure credit has been received.
- ◆ **Return your CFT/CFOP Member Update 2013-2014** to your building representative.
- ◆ **Stay Informed**—join the CFT/CFOP email list. Send an email to [cft@cft-aft.org](mailto:cft@cft-aft.org) subject line: Keep me Informed, from YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS. Please **DO NOT** use your CPS email for union business.

### Sign up for Share My Lesson and First Book!

A CFT Building Representative or another staff member will be asking you to complete a registration card to sign up for Share My Lesson and First Book. Share My Lesson is an online platform where educators can share and access high quality lessons and resources for FREE! First Book allows individuals who volunteer or work in programs where at least 70 percent of the children come from low income families to obtain quality literature and resources from FREE to 50% off retail prices! If CFT signs up 2,000 educators (teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, parents, community volunteers) who work with children in need (not just in CPS) for both Share My Lesson and First Book, we can **win one of three truckloads of books**. Each truckload from First Book contains about 40,000 books with a retail value of \$450,000! These FREE books would be available for teachers to use in their classrooms or to give to their students! Sign up today! For more information about getting a sign up card, contact Kendra Phelps at [kphelps@cft-aft.org](mailto:kphelps@cft-aft.org) or 513-475-6042.