



NEWSLINER

July 12, 2016

Angel Green, Editor

Visit our website at www.cft-aft.org

A Message from the President

I hope you are having a great summer vacation! Time is going by fast, so savor every moment of it.

I want to share with you some professional learning options for the summer. Share My Lesson is offering a collection of activities, materials, and free webinars. To read more about it, Please click on the link <https://sharemylesson.com/>.

While I am on the topic of sharing, are you ready to share information with your family and friends about the upcoming levy on

November 8? For the first time, a 48-million annual levy will expand access to preschool while supporting community priorities for K-12 education.

Just to let you know, we have members visiting members to have face-to-face conversations about the levy. This has been extremely helpful and will help us as we approach election day.

I hope that everyone understands the importance of this year's levy. Lastly, we have new openings for Mem-

ber Organizers! The position is 10 hours per week, with compensation. For more information, contact cft@cft-aft.org.

Please call the CFT Office to get involved. Your union needs your help!

Putting students first,

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Professional Development 2016-17

CFT members are taking advantage of the opportunity to participate in professional development of their choice AND get their expenses reimbursed. Please read application timelines below.

In their continued effort to make the Professional Development Fund accessible to as many certified staff as possible, the committee is currently working on developing an online application system!

To access the most up-to-date application guidelines and application information, go to <http://staffnet.cps-k12.org/Staffnet/ProfDevFund/>.



1st Quarter (September 6 - October 14, 2016)

•Applications are accepted from Friday, April 1, 2016 to Friday, April 29, 2016. PDF committee will meet on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 to review applications.

2nd Quarter (October 17 - December 16, 2016)

•Applications are accepted on Wednesday, August 31 at 7 pm to Wednesday, September 7, 2016. PDF committee will meet on Thursday, September 8, 2016 from 11-2:30 pm to review applications.

3rd Quarter (January 3 - March 10, 2017)

•Applications are accepted on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 7 pm to Wednesday, October 26, 2016. PDF committee will meet on Thursday, October 27, 2016 from 11-2:30 pm to review applications.

Summer (March 13-May 19, 2017)

•Applications are accepted on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 7 pm to Wednesday, January 11, 2017. PDF committee will meet on Thursday, January 12, 2017 from 11-2:30 pm to review applications.

UNION MEETING

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★ The next regular ★
★ CFT/CFOP member- ★
★ ship meeting will be ★
★ held on **Sept 14, 2016** ★
★ @ **5:30 p.m.** at the ★
★ Thom Moore Building ★
★ (Laborer's Hall) lo- ★
★ cated at: ★
★ 3457 Montgomery ★
★ Rd. ★
★ BR briefing is held at ★
★ 5:00 p.m. before the ★
★ membership meeting. ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CFT Evaluation Help Sessions, by Kendra Phelps

Do you feel like your evaluation rating did not accurately reflect your performance level in the classroom? Are you unclear about the components of the evaluation system, and do you know how to provide the evidence that your rating is based on? Do you want to know what to expect on your evaluation instead of waiting on the results from your evaluator?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, attend one of the CFT Evaluation Help Sessions to get important information!

In this session, you will learn about the importance of the pre-conference, what to expect from observations, ways to provide additional evaluation evidence, how to write a rebuttal, and more!

If possible, bring a laptop, so that you can access your personal eTPES account. Otherwise, examples will be provided.

Participants must RSVP to Kendra Phelps at kphelps@cft-aft.org or 513-475-6042. Please denote which date and time you are planning to attend and your cell phone number.

Session Dates

Attendance at only one session is needed.

Monday, August 8

Session One: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session Two: 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Friday, August 12

Session One:

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session Two:

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

**Cincinnati Federation of Teachers
2055 Reading Road, Suite 120
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202**

Exercising Your Right to Vote

Voting matters to the American political system and to the people who participate in it. If your community is not voting, elected officials will pay less attention and make fewer appearances. Approximately 150 million citizens are qualified to vote. When you don't vote, you give up the opportunity to choose leaders and representatives who will do things that are important to you.

Leaders in the U.S. are chosen by the people in a majority vote. This democracy is a privilege that should not be taken lightly. Elections take place at a national, state, and local level. We must take the time to understand the issues and evaluate what each candidate has to offer. No one likes taxation without representation. As a citizen of this country, you want a say in where your taxes go and how this country is run. Voting for a person who represents your visions and goals is an opportunity to become part of the process.

One voice, one vote really does count! Remember: there is power in numbers, and when we vote and get our family members to vote, we can truly make a difference. If you don't vote for what you believe in, others will – and you may not like the outcome.

Our children are depending on us to represent their voices, too! Because our children can't vote, we have to do it for them. That is how we make our concerns about schools, safety, housing, and other issues.

When we vote, we are looking out for our kids and their futures.

It's our government and our politics and we're responsible. Fed up with insider control? The influence of big money? If you give up, if you don't vote, you're just ceding even more power to those forces.

The representatives we elect via elections are the ones who make laws for us. Not just laws, our legislators formulate policies and schemes for the welfare of the masses. The future of our kids are in the hands of your leaders. They determine the quality and cost of their education, decide the minimum wages, insurance policies, workplace safety laws, and even if Collective Bargaining remains legal. Therefore, it becomes imperative on our part to choose the right leaders!

At the end of the day, politicians only understand one language, and that is the dry, numeric language of votes. So, are you ready to exercise your civic duty?

**ONE PERSON
CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE,
AND EVERYONE
SHOULD TRY**
-JOHN F. KENNEDY-

Ball of Confusion, Editorial by Jared Ceaser



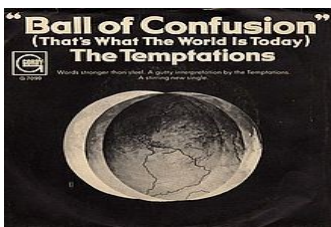
As we approach the final months of 2016, there are many questions that have to be answered. At the national level, who will be the next President of the United States? At the local level, will Cincinnati Public

Schools be able to pass the levy? Who will be our state leaders? Often when we see political candidates on television or on social media, they try to wine and dine us with promises that may or may not be kept. We see many people supporting Donald Trump, Republican Candidate for President.

While some of us may question their sanity or beliefs, others find nothing wrong with supporting him for the highest office in the land. This man has no political experience. However, his opponent presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton could possibly lose to Trump in November if people do not come out to vote and show support. In a world full of uncertainty and chaos, we have to wonder if we are living in a Ball of Confusion.

The title of this article is from the 1970 Number One Hit "Ball of Confusion" by the famous singing group "The Temptations."

Even 46 years later, this song is still relevant to our living conditions. We



do not know what lies ahead. We do not know the direction of our world. Teachers in CPS are very concerned with having enough materials to properly educate their students and support their own families. It is unbelievable to believe that there are people who will not support a school levy, so that educators can continue to teach their students at a high productive level. But, this is the reality. The funny thing is that it doesn't make much sense. How is it that people can turn down passing a school levy, but yet 20 years ago, they supported building a stadium for a struggling football team? Don't get me wrong I am a Bengals' fan. I have been since the days they were a laughing stock, and I used to watch them on Sunday afternoons

wearing a brown paper bag.

It's also amazing to me that people would support a streetcar that barely covers over three miles of downtown Cincinnati, but not a levy that would help us support the development and nurturing of 34,000 students. In my personal opinion, it is ridiculous that some people would rather support things and issues that are way less important than our students. There is no reason why people should not support this levy. I am trying to understand why people support Donald Trump. A man who publicly endorses fighting at his rallies. Not to mention, he belittles women or anyone who speaks out against him.

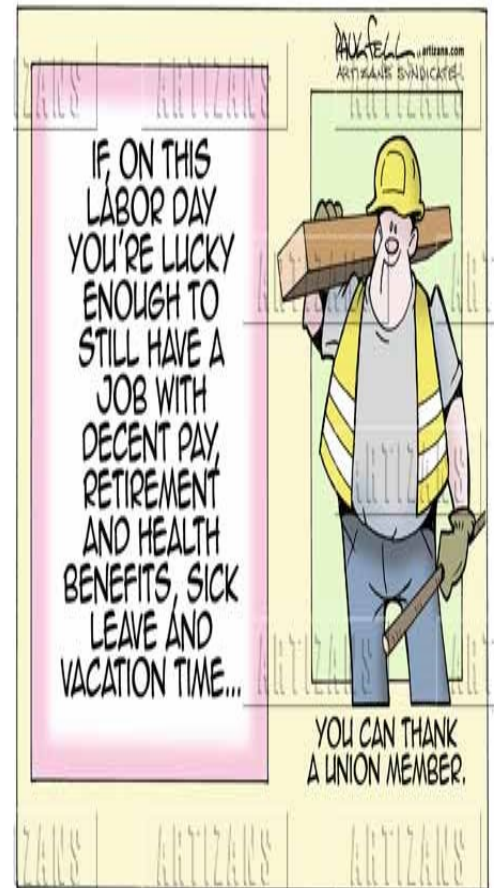
Also, according to research, this same billionaire and his father were accused of violating the Fair Housing Act by the Justice Department. He and his father would turn away African American residents when they tried to move into apartment buildings in Staten Island, Queens, and Brooklyn New York in 1973, by telling eager African American tenants vacancies were filled or giving them different prices for rent.

Some of my favorite lines from Ball of Confusion goes like this: "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, vote for me and I'll set you free, rap on brother rap on. Well, the only person talking about love thy brother is the preacher, and it seems nobody's interested in learning but the teacher, segregation, determination, demonstration, integration, aggravation, humiliation, obligation to our nation." These lyrics are saying that people have lost sight of the important things: Education, Unity, and Peace. It seems that we are sliding backwards. With police brutality and racial turmoil at an all-time high these days, it is important that the next president supports unity, peace, endorsing education, building social and racial equality.

There are people watching the confusion that is going on today, and they are not saying anything. This has to stop. The famous bass singer from the Temptations, Melvin Franklin, sings a line in the song "Ball of Confusion." The words are simple, "And the band played on." What does this mean? Well, I think a lot of people know that not supporting the levy but upholding the tyranny of Donald Trump is wrong, yet they allow it to continue. Right now, we need leaders at the local, state, and

national levels that will represent the best interests of working class people, and people who may be in poverty. I truly believe that if every teacher who is in Local 1520 come together (2,700 and counting), we can encourage people to support the levy and vote presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton into office. She supports teachers and labor unions.

It is my hope that on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, we can stop "The Ball of Confusion" once and for all. Believe it or not, I do agree with Donald Trump on one thing. We do need to make America great again. However, let's make America great by supporting our local schools, our labor unions, having racial equality, and less gun violence. Let's make America great by promoting unity and peace and making sure people understand that our students and children are extremely important. Materialistic things like streetcars, football teams, and malls are all nice. But, it comes and goes. Whoever we elect to political office and whatever decisions voters make on this school levy, as well as others across the country, it will impact our students and teachers for a very long time or possibly forever.



Are You Ready to Vote?

Please click on the link <http://boe.hamilton-co.org/> to get answers about voting. If you need to vote by mail—absentee, check to see if you are registered, change of name or address, or find your polling place.

CFT's Mission, Vision, and Purpose

CFT Mission

The Cincinnati Federation of Teachers is a union of professionals who champions the social and economic well-being of our members, Cincinnati's children, families, working people, and communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through our members' work.

CFT Vision

All citizens have access to high-quality public education, and public services they need to develop their full potential

A strong public education system with effective schools, quality teaching and learning conditions, and equal education opportunity for all students

A genuine profession for all teachers and public employees expanding professional skills for our members and cultivating emerging leaders

Public services are provided by our members and the foundation of a strong democratic society

CFT Purpose

We will deliver solution-driven unionism and provide training resources, technical assistance, and support for:

- Promoting the welfare of Cincinnati's students and fostering effective education opportunities
- Advocating and promoting our Mission and Vision with collective bargaining, political activism, member engagement and mobilization, community engagement and organizing
- We will support our members, so they can have the highest level of professionalism

Classifieds

Greater Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Day 2016 Picnic
Monday, September 5, 2016 at Coney Island

Gates open at 9 a.m.

Sunlight Pool-\$7.00

There will be
Bingo
Annual Softball Tournament
Volleyball
Music
Prizes

CFT/CFOP will provide food and drinks from 11:30
a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the CFT/CFOP Office on
August 5, 2016

Save the Date: October 6

Join the walk-ins Across the Country
200+ Cities and Towns

Public Schools ALL our students deserve!

Help build the movement for educational justice!

The Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools

Stay informed by reading CFT ([Cincinnati Federation of Teachers-Official](#)) and CEJC ([Cincinnati Educational Justice Coalition- CEJC](#)) Facebook page.

The next CEJC meeting is Thursday, July 14 at 6 p.m.
at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church. The address is
103 William Howard Taft Road.