Happy Leap Year!

Peggy Kaiser, CEA Executive Director

Yes, it has come around again. The one extra day we get every four years. People that have February 29th for a birthday only get one every four years. I have a contemporary born on the 29th and will be celebrating his 16th birthday this year!

This is a busy time of year for CEA. Our national and regional elections are under way. Please make sure you review all candidates' biographies listed in this newsletter and cast your ballot. If you have difficulty accessing the ballot, please contact the national office.

The CEA Forum is also just around the corner. The committee recently reviewed conference workshop proposals, which was a difficult process considering the quality of presentations submitted. Workshops will be available in the following areas: Adult Education, Technology, Post Secondary, Pell, Career and Technical, Reentry, and Special Populations. While at the Forum, the solar eclipse will pass through Dallas on Monday, April 8th. The CEA Texas State Chapter will provide eclipse viewing lenses for all attendees to go outside and see this unusual phenomenon. Don’t be surprised if you find some related astronomical oddities in the conference bag as well.

CEA continues to offer the monthly Lunch and Learn sponsored by one region each month. Please watch your email or go onto the CEA website to see upcoming topics.

CEA is in the process of updating the Long Range Strategic Plan under the direction of our President-elect, Andrea Buttress. The plan will include short and long range goals, objectives and tasks that will be shared with the membership once approved by the national board. Input is always welcomed from our members. This is your organization. Make it work for you!

Have a great spring!
Lunch & LEARN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

WORDS HAVE POWER: PERCEPTION, MEANING, AND IMPACT

FREE ENTRY FOR CEA MEMBERS!

PRESENTED BY REGION 5 DIRECTOR CHARLES BELL

12PM CST (1PM EST, 11AM MST, 10AM PST)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!
2024 CEA National and Regional Board Nominees

Secretary - Jody Burtt

Jody Burtt is the current International CEA Secretary, CEA-MI President, and Michigan Department of Corrections Regional Principal. Jody is young in her CEA membership but big in commitment. She is involved at both the state and national level, gaining both knowledge and opportunities to improve education in corrections. Jody served two years as the secretary of the Council of Director’s under Heather Gay’s leadership, prior to being elected to the national board. Jody’s goal is to continue to break down barriers that prevent returning citizens from being successful. This starts prior to release with education, vocation, and post-secondary training.

Standards Commissioner - Kim Barnette

With more than 40 years of correctional education experience, Kim has served Louisiana as a State Education Director and as an Auditor for state correctional education programs. Kim has been successful in obtaining more than $40M in competitive funds to promote programs for the incarcerated. Kim received a B.S. in Math/Science, M.A. in Counseling, Specialist in Education Administration with cognates in Psychology/Research/Statistics, and AbD Doctorate in Education Administration. She has served on numerous state and national boards including President of both CEA and LAPCAE and has served two terms as Education Representative on the Board of Governors for the American Correctional Association.

Standards Commissioner - Belle Bodell

Belle Bodell is currently a member of the CEA Standards Commission and a school principal for the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC). She has been with MDOC for 14 years. Prior to becoming a principal, she was an academic teacher for the MDOC. Belle serves on the Michigan Department of Education Special Education advisory committee and serves as a cochair for the MDOC Special Education Committee.
Standards Commissioner - Danielle Cox

Danielle Cox holds a bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education, a Master’s in Education Administration, and is working towards her PhD in Education Policy. Her expansive 25-year background in the education system includes roles such as an English and History Teacher, Reading Specialist, Principal, Curriculum Developer, Academic Coordinator, Presenter, Advocate, and is currently the Director of Education for the State of Maryland prison system. Danielle recently served on the Board of Directors for Maryland’s adult education organization (MAACCE), serves on the CEA Council of Directors, and on the COABE Board of Directors as Chair of the Education in Corrections Committee. In Danielle’s many roles, she hopes to combine her experience with her compassion and enthusiasm.

Standards Commissioner - Shelly Gutensohn

Shelly Gutensohn is an experienced professional in mental health and special education services, working with correctional facilities, treatment centers, and community-based sites dedicated to education and re-entry. As a special education teacher and therapist in county facilities, she supported her students in the classroom, served on a statewide committee focusing on best practices for academic and vocational continuity post-release, provided new teacher mentorship, and created a Transition Coordinator role to aid students with special needs preparing to graduate and/or transfer back to their community. Shelly is currently a CEA auditor.

Standards Commissioner - Diane Howard

Diane Howard underscores her admiration for the remarkable achievements of CEA in providing exemplary leadership and services to educators and the justice-involved population. Her own journey in corrections education is described as both challenging and fulfilling, with CEA’s guidance serving as a source of motivation. She emphasizes the significant impact of CEA’s support on individuals in the field.

Diane expresses a desire to contribute to setting standards for delivering high-quality education to this demographic. She acknowledges the evolving nature of educational needs in corrections and pledges to stay abreast of the latest trends as a commissioner. Her commitment extends to providing current education and reentry resources to corrections educators nationwide.
Standards Commissioner - Dr. Fran Warsing

Dr. Fran Warsing is the former Chair of the CEA Standards Commission and currently serving as a commissioner. She currently works with CEA auditors in conducting audits of facilities for accreditation. Dr. Warsing has been a CEA member for over 30 years and has served as the Region 2 Director.

Region 2 Director-elect - Tina Cameron

Tina Cameron has taught ESL/Literacy incarcerated individuals at the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. During her teaching career, she witnessed many innovations and improvements. Tina has been an active member of CEA since 1984, serving as secretary, regional director, Maryland representative, election chair, conference chair, and conference treasurer. Her goals for 2024 are to increase membership, select a Teacher of the Year, and hold a regional conference. Tina is currently the Region 2 Director.

Region 4 Director - Katrina Everhart

Katrina Everhart completed her AmeriCorps/VISTA Service as the Grant and Development Coordinator for the Prison Education Program at the Jefferson City Correctional Center (JCCC) for Lincoln University. She is a Qualitative/Quantitative researcher with Health, Global Health, Epidemiology, and Immunology. Projects include Sprint's DSL including telemedicine, Talking Call Waiting, P&G Floor Care, Swiffer, and American Express's Leadership Development Program. Katrina is an associate member of the Association of American Indian Physicians, and a teaching faculty member in Research Methods, Psychology, Behavioral Health, Anatomy & Physiology, & Statistics.
Region 4 Director - Michelle Pfaff

Michelle Pfaff is the Director of Education for the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She started her correctional education journey as a GED teacher at the North Dakota (ND) State Penitentiary and was the principal of the ND Youth Correctional Center prior to her current position. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in History Education from North Dakota State University and a Master of Education from University of North Dakota. She is the Region IV Director.

Region 6 Director - Tracie Hightower

Tracie Hightower has been the Region 6 Director for the last 2 years. She was the chair for the 77th CEA International Conference and Training Event held in Portland, Oregon in August 2023. Under her tenure, Tracie has increased the regional membership from 12 members to 85. She would like the opportunity to continue what she started and serve the Region with the training and conferences members are seeking.

Region 6 Director - Jonathan Powers

Dr. Jonathan Powers is an Education Services Advisor to the United States Air Force and Adjunct Communications Faculty at Waldorf University. He has been a CEA member since 2018 and has a variety of correctional education experiences in the following states: Alabama, Colorado, and Alaska. Powers earned his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Liberty University in 2023 and is a veteran of the U.S. Armed forces; Powers served in the U.S. Navy and later retired from the U.S. Army in 2023. Dr. Powers is a candidate for CEA Region VI Director.
Region 8 Director-elect - LaKeisha Adams

Dr. LaKeshia Adams, an education professional with over a decade of experience, brings expertise in instructional leadership, support, and advocacy across local, regional, and state levels. As a certified Global Career Development Facilitator and adult learner advocate, Dr. Adams is dedicated to elevating the quality of correctional education and broadening opportunities for incarcerated learners. With a background in teaching mathematics, providing adult education, and addressing college and career readiness, her results-driven approach emphasizes leveraging technology for empowering learners. Dr. Adams excels in fostering collaborations with key stakeholders, making her an asset at the intersection of education, technology, and workforce development.

Region 8 Assistant Director - David Kuehl

Dr. Kuehl currently serves as a Program Administrator for one of the World’s largest female institutions, bringing greater CTE/Vocational opportunities in non-traditional training for incarcerated female. He established a Close Management educational program with proven results and advocated for incarcerated teaching assistants throughout the department.

Dr. Kuehl oversees the educational, substance abuse, chaplaincy, and volunteer programs at Lowell CI. He develops programs to reduce incarcerated individuals' idleness and increase academic success and vocational opportunities for students as they return to society as productive citizens. Dr. Kuehl completed the CEA accreditation for Lowell Correctional, the first in Florida to accomplish this honor.

Council of Directors President - Danielle Cox

Danielle has been an educator since 2001, holding a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, a master's in education administration, and is currently working on her PhD in Education Policy and Law. She has a broad background as a Teacher, Reading Specialist, Principal, Curriculum Developer, Academic Coordinator, Director of Correctional Education, and now Director of Education for the State of Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). Her career has been one of helping those most in need in public school, Juvenile Justice schools, and currently the adult prison system. Danielle has advanced through multiple positions, supporting her colleagues and students at each level. Danielle previously served on the Maryland Association for Adult, Community and Continuing Education (MAACCE) Board of Directors and is currently on the Correctional Education Association (CEA) Council of Directors, and the Board of Directors of the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) as Chair of the Prison Literacy Taskforce.
Council of Directors President - Kristen Morgan

Kristen Morgan, MPA, is the Education Services Administrator with the Washington State Department of Corrections. She is dedicated to collaborating with colleges and community partners to provide high-quality adult basic education, vocational training, and postsecondary education programs designed to meet the individual’s needs and enhance pathways for post-release employment and/or education. For the past decade, Kristen has served in corrections and higher education sectors, most recently as the Associate Dean of Corrections Education at Monroe Correctional Complex. She believes by creating access to educational and career pathways, a transformative experience is fostered for individuals to learn, grow, and be empowered for their future beyond incarceration.

Council of Directors Secretary - Danielle Nicholes

Danielle Nicholes is the Communications Administrator at Windham School District in Texas where she works to strengthen communication efforts, increasing awareness of the district mission to stakeholders. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Human Sciences and graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Texas A&M with her Master of Education in School Counseling.

Danielle was elected as the CEA Council of Directors of Correctional Education Secretary in 2022. In this role, she provides support to the Council president, has contributed to increased membership, takes minutes for all meetings, and distributes information to the Council including meeting agendas, minutes and resources.

Council of Directors Juvenile Justice Representative - Shelley McKinley

Danielle Nicholes is the Communications Administrator at Windham School District in Texas where she works to strengthen communication efforts, increasing awareness of the district mission to stakeholders. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Human Sciences and graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Texas A&M with her Master of Education in School Counseling.

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Council of Directors Juvenile Justice Representative - Julie Orange

Julie Orange is the Director of Educational Services for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Florida State University. She began her career teaching special education and 25 years of educational experience teaching in Title I schools at all grade levels and in program accountability. Julie’s program accountability focus areas include Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) schools and teacher and principal preparation programs. In her current role, Julie is responsible for the development and implementation of education policy related to students served in day treatment, detention, prevention, and residential DJJ schools in Florida.

Council of Directors Standards Commission Liaison - Terri Fazio

Terri Fazio has 33 years of experience working for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. She served as an Adult Basic Education teacher, Corrections School Principal, Central Office Staff Assistant, Western Region Division Chief for the Bureau of Correction Education, and Chief, Division of Correction Education.

Terri has been part of the CEA audit process spanning 30 years. She has prepared institutions for audits by assisting with document preparation and conducting pre-audit visits. Terri has worked to make PA DOC audits electronic and is currently working to complete auditor training to become a full-fledged CEA auditor.

Terri has served in various roles for the CEA. She has held roles as CEA PA Chapter Representative, CEA PA President, and CEA PA President-elect. She is currently the Deputy Director for CEA Region 1 and an elected member of the CEA Standards Commission.

Council of Directors Standards Commission Liaison - Jennifer Sanders

Jennifer Sanders currently serves as the School Superintendent for the Ohio Central School System and Offender Workforce Development, a proud part of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Jennifer has the honor to lead a school system designed and determined to serve the educational needs of those incarcerated in the adult state correctional institutions.

Jennifer’s previous roles include leading youth corrections education, serving as a Deputy Warden at two correctional institutions and other education roles including teaching and administration. She has served as a correctional professional for 30 years.
Welcome to Our Newest Members!

December - January

Arizona
Katie Penkoff
Florida
Kaylie Sims
Katrina Cooke
Michael-Brianne Pressley
Mitch McDowell
Roberto Hernandez
Tim Ferguson
Jody Coscia
Khristin Finley
Bill Futch
Cedric Joseph
Karthur Nitsch
Derrick Levelston
Rick Oswalt
Ray Pingalore
Foster Thorpe
Justin Wilson
Kyle Ginley
Thomas Gaige
John Kennedy

Idaho
Dovie Willey

Indiana
David Battle

Louisiana
Candace McGree
Alison Salinas
Faith Rousell
Shirley Mamou
Tunisia Hampton
Maci Moss
Delta Groh
Michael Cavalier

Candace Derbes
Ronald "Wayne" Pendley
Patricia Cochran
Debra Allen-Thomas
Edward Boyd
Jean Paul Pierre
Cal Pierce
Jennifer Beaucoudray
Clayton Chenevert
Angela Pearce
Jermiser Kelly
Edna Mendel
Deborah Guidry
Davis Crystal
Chatelain Dwayne
Dorothy Wheeler
Klea Hebert
Lasonda Luper
Dewanna Thomas
Pepper VanNorman
Richie Kallie
Vernon Lacey
Cunningham Yvette
Nathaniel Veal
Stephanie Sylvester
Linda Harwell
Kyra Hebert
Tammy White

Massachusetts
Rossanna Contreras
Maureen Donelan

Maine
Laura Rodas

Minnesota
Glenn Bongard

Missouri
Katrina Everhart

Mississippi
Lorie Lundy

Nebraska
Malisa Kringle

New York
Rene Marion

Ohio
Anders Ganten

Oregon
Deanne Unruh

Pennsylvania
Kelly Moore
Jane Kabuiko
Thomas Hess
Shawn Husick
Sara George
Marsha Waldman
David Bartolomcci
Steve Richards
Debra Green
William Martin
Jeff Mayers
Katelyn Saylor
David Susko
Travis Woodward
Zachary Seybert
Luke Wilson
Joshua Brycki
Candice Gilliland
Karen Beck

Texas
Marybeth Burgess

Wisconsin
Mandy Wagner
Registration Information

(Includes President’s Reception Sunday, Breakfast and Lunch Monday, and Brunch Tuesday)

By March 13, 2024:

☐ $375 for CEA Member (#_________________)  
☐ $440 for Non-Member  
☐ $360 for CEA Retiree or CEA Student (insert space)

After March 13, 2024:

☐ $425 for CEA Member (#_________________)  
☐ $490 for Non-Member  
☐ $410 for CEA Retiree or CEA Student

**Are you interested in being a facilitator?**
☐ Yes  
☐ No

**Do you want a printed program?**
☐ Yes  
☐ No

☐ ***Not included in Registration Fee****Council of Directors’ Meeting-Sunday, April 7, 2024 - $120

Events I Plan To Attend:

☐ President’s Reception  
☐ Monday Breakfast  
☐ Monday Luncheon  
☐ Tuesday Brunch

Meal Preference:

☐ Regular  
☐ Vegetarian  
☐ Other

Additional Ticket Options for Non-Registered Guests

Events

☐ President’s Reception $60  ☐ Monday Breakfast $50  ☐ Monday Lunch $70  
☐ Tuesday Breakfast $50

Total Payment: $___________ (Total from Registration/Add On Events)

Registration Link:

https://www.cognitoforms.com/CorrectionalEducationAssociation1/_2024CEAForum

Renaissance Dallas – Addison Hotel
15201 Dallas Pkwy, Addison, Texas 75001
Phone: 972-386-6000

Hotel Reservation: To make a reservation use the link below or call the hotel directly. (These rates are valid until March 14, 2024)

https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1699985717413&key=GRP&app=resvlink

~ $164/Night ~
78TH CEA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND TRAINING EVENT

Correctional Education: The Heart of Rehabilitation

CONNECT IN COLUMBUS
JULY 28 – 31, 2024
SAVE THE DATE

Region 1 CEA Conference
September 25, 26 & 27, 2024
Hotel 1620 | Plymouth, MA

If you are interested in being a vendor or presenter, please reach out to:

Meghan Crowley, Conference Chairperson
Meghan.Crowley@doc.state.ma.us

Kevin Kavanaugh, CEA Region 1 Director
region1@ceanational.org
INMATES WHO PARTICIPATE IN CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS HAD 43% LOWER ODDS OF RECIDIVATING THAN THOSE WHO DID NOT.

“Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education” by RAND Corporation

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30s
That's wild

40s+

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2023-2024 Standards Commission

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CEA News and Notes is published quarterly with issues being distributed to all members in February, May, September, and December. All issues are posted on the CEA website, www.ceanational.org.

Articles are always encouraged and should generally be 500 words or less. All contributions are subject to editing for space and clarity. Contributions should be sent to Peggy Kaiser, pkaiser@ceanational.org.

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CEA News and Notes accepts full and half-page advertisements. For deadlines and advertising rates, please contact CEA.
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