

**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

Ohio Teacher of the Year	1
Let's Move Campaign	2
Santa for Seniors	2
Call for Articles	2
FEA Ohio Conference News	3
FEA National Conference News	3
Being a State Officer	3
Each One Reach One	4
Spencer Williams	4
Contact Us	4

Ohio's 2012 Teacher of the Year:

Interview with Ms. Carol Morbitzer

By Nick Bengé

The Ohio Teacher of the Year program is to honor, promote, and celebrate excellence in teaching and the teaching profession. OTOYs serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in education.

On October 3, 2012, Ms. Carol Morbitzer was named the **2012 Ohio Teacher of the Year**. I was able to interview Ms. Morbitzer about her path to becoming a teacher, becoming Ohio's 2012 Teacher of the Year and advice to future educators.

Here are some highlights of the interview :

Nick: How does it feel being Teacher of the Year?

Ms. M: October 3, 2012 was a day that I will never forget. The surprise announcement at our Volley for the Cure event was perfect. Everything came together for the very special moment: my family, my school district and community, my students, my volleyball team, and my passion for the fight against breast cancer. The night was perfect.

Being honored as the **Ohio Teacher of the Year** is so humbling. I eagerly go to work every day, focused on giving my best to my students because they deserve nothing less. Each student learns differently and that challenges me to always make material relevant, interesting, and fun. I will share this honor with all of my students because this recognition is a result of our collective hard work.

Nick: What advice would you give to potential educators?

Ms. M: As a future educator, you will often hear much of the "teachable moment." That moment, however, is meaningless when learning is not sustained beyond the moment, beyond the lesson, and beyond the classroom. Alone, a teacher can impact a moment. Together, teachers sustain student learning through shared practices, common curriculum, and high expectations. I have been amazed at how students could take the same course, in the same school, but with different teachers and learn completely different material with different expectations. Every child deserves the best education from district to district, from classroom to classroom, regardless of ethnicity or wealth. Every child deserves to be held to high expectations, even those who have struggled in the past. We are embarking on an exciting time in education as the Common Core State Standards are implemented. Teachers must use the standards to ensure that we provide an equal high quality education with high standards for all stu-



U.S. Secretary of Education Arnie Duncan(L), Carol Morbitzer(R)

We are on

Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/FEA-Ohio/113841882026436>

Let's Move Campaign at Ohio Hi-Point

Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled, and today, nearly one in three children in America are overweight or obese, according to www.LetsMove.gov.

This website is filled with ideas to get students moving. The most current brain theories suggest that movement integrates the left and right brains, making learning easier.

Our nation is faced with an outbreak of childhood obesity and getting kids to move away from the television screen, eat right, and get active are important to teach. One FEA chapter in Ohio

took these ideas to heart. The Ohio Hi-Point FEA works with the Union County Health Department (UCHD) and the OHP Health Tech classes to promote healthy lifestyle changes to fourth graders. "5 4 3 2 1 . . . Go!" is a program designed by the UCHD that teaches a different concept each week. 5 fruits and vegetables, 4 glasses of water, 3 dairy, less than 2 hours of screen time, and 1 . . . GO!—be active at least one hour a day.

FEA members first get the students excited about

getting involved by performing the Beyonce flashmob "Move Your Body" (youtube). Then they help teach the lessons with engaging activities. Members also developed an activity booklet that emphasizes the key concepts. The group hopes to finish with a huge 4th grade flashmob for the entire elementary school. !
Contributed By Judy Fletcher, Advisor for Shelby Wilkerson, Recording Secretary.

Spotlight on the FEA Chapter at Trumbull Career & Technical Center

Santa For Seniors from Trumbull CTC



Imagine sitting alone at home, with no presents underneath the Christmas tree on Christmas morning; an unimaginable, thought? The Jamieson Chapter of the Future Educators Association will never let that happen! The Jamieson Chapter located out of Warren, Ohio at the Trumbull Career and Technical Center will spend between

Thanksgiving and Christmas participating in the "Be Santa To A Senior Project." This project is sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care and an annual community service project of the Jamieson Chapter. We help put up a tree with ornaments and create wish-lists for our local senior citizens. Most of the time these seniors are alone and have no one to depend on, through our participation in this project for a brief moment be-

come their family! Staff and students in our school chose an ornament, buy the items listed, wrap the gift and return it to us. Over the last four years we have provided gifts for over 400 elderly citizens. This project is rewarding gives us the chance to bring members of our school and community together and we are honored and happy to participate every year.

by Rae'shell Adamson, TCTC



Giving is better than receiving at the TCTC.

Spotlight on Your Chapter?

Would your chapter like to be featured in the Chalk Board? Doing anything interesting? Inspirational? Or just plain fun? If so, this is your opportunity to showcase your chapter's accomplishments. Send in pictures and articles of fun activities or community service projects to share ideas with other chapters. We know the power of collaboration, so let's collaborate to make a difference in our schools, communities, and chapters. Please send images in .jpeg format and articles in Word.

Please send them to the FEA Ohio Public Relations Secretary Nick Bengé by January 4, 2013. Contact information can be found on the back.



Look for this symbol!

FEA Ohio Conference

Visit us online at <http://education.ohio.gov>

Search FEA Ohio



University of Findlay

Are you getting excited for our state conference? If not, you should be. It is going to be one of the best!!

Here are some things to Look forward to:

- The FEA National President's Speech
- Lunch in Findlay's newest dining center.

NO MORE BOXED LUNCHES!

- The ever-popular "What Not to Wear" breakout session
- The Mazza Museum of Children's Literature
- Discover Your True Colors
- Learn from Findlay University stu-

dents and professors

- Meet other future educators from all over the state of Ohio
- Experience hands-on learning sessions
- Compete in a wide variety of competitions

If you haven't registered, there is still time! Go to the FEA Ohio website on the next page and register today!

FEA National Conference News

Orlando, here we come!!

Deadlines are as follows:

January 7, 2013: Competition entries due

March 25, 2013: Registration deadline for conference

March 29, 2013: Deadline to book rooms at Hilton Orlando

April 1, 2013: Scholarship applications due

April 26-28, 2013:
FEA National Conference in Orlando

Keep an eye on the registration deadlines. A late fee will be assessed during registration if you are late.

Check out the schedule@

<http://futureeducators.org/conference/attend/schedule.htm>

On Sunday, there is a special offer to go to Universal's Islands of Adventure in Orlando. You will be able to visit The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, dine at Three Broomsticks, and ride the Flight of the Hippogriff." The regular price of \$98 has been reduced to \$58 for students and \$68 for adults.

This includes tax and transportation for those staying in the Hilton Orlando.

Don't miss out on the fun!!



Each One, Reach One

We need your help!

The challenge is underway!
Recruit as many new chapters as you can!

FEA Ohio membership has been dropping over the past few years.

The chapter with the most recruited chapters will receive

a grand prize at the FEA Ohio Conference! You have until December 10th to get new chapters to sign up.

Here is some things you can do:

- If you are a career center, talk to your feeder schools.
- If you are a high school, talk to another school in the area.
- Appoint a recruitment chairman
- Have committees plan a presentation on what FEA does.
- Have FEA Days in your school to show the work of your chapter.



Reach Out !

Spencer Williams on Leadership

A leader is more than just standing in front of a teleprompter and promising to those listening to say and do what they want to hear. Being a leader, is about doing what is right and not what is easy.

To me, being a leader isn't something you're born into, inherited or genetic, nor is it something anyone ever truly masters but it's something everyone has the ability to work become. Passion, heart, and desire are the key ingredients necessary for anyone to leave an impact; choosing a career in education will empower each of us to be leaders in touching the lives of students of all walks of life. A major question at the heart of this discussion of leadership is how do we know when we should lead and when we should follow?

As teachers, we will be leaders in our classrooms, but must know

that there are superiors to us, who are in positions to lead us. I found this great tool and reminder for being an effective leader and placed it into a checklist form.

Top 10 Leadership Checks:

1. *As a leader, I seek first to understand, and I listen to people until they feel heard (empathic listening.)*
2. *As a leader, I set the example others wish to emulate.*
3. *As a leader, I vary my leadership style to motivate when needed or direct based on the needs and abilities of the team.*
4. *As a leader, I vary my leadership style between people-focused and task-focused based on the situation I'm in.*
5. *As a leader, I continuously find ways to simplify.*
6. *As a leader, I focus on service*

to others.

7. *As a leader, I allocate time for what's important.*
8. *As a leader, I do what I say I will do.*
9. *As a leader, I create a compelling vision that inspires people to rally around.*
10. *As a leader, I take feedback and adapt in response.*



We are not all destined to become president of the United States, but are ordained to become great people who hold heart and passion for what they do. John Quincy Adams said it best, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you



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Future Educators Association (FEA) Ohio is a non-profit, dynamic statewide organization for middle and high school students interested in education-related careers. FEA Ohio was established in 1991 at the Department of Education with Phi Delta Kappa International, which sponsors the national Future Educators Association ® FEA program. FEA is a federally recognized Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO). Also, as the co-curricular component of state-recognized Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs of study, FEA enhances the classroom experience for students.