



# KESPA INFORMER

**KENTUCKY EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION**

**401 Capital Avenue ♦ Frankfort, KY 40601**

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**VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1**

**September 2018**

## **Notes from the President- Doug Botkin**



### **Welcome Back!!**

Hope everyone who got a break, had a restful summer break. School has started again and we in the ESP community have a big job to do and we do it well.

Thank you for all you do for the public-school children of Kentucky.

Remember October 9<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register to vote in the General elections in November. The Blue wave has started and it's up to us to keep up the momentum started during the last legislative session.

Your vote is your voice!!!

Have a great Labor Day weekend. While it is usually recognized as the end of summer it was created in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and became a federal holiday in 1894.

Labor Day is an annual celebration of workers and their achievements. It's the working force's holiday, so pat yourself on the back, enjoy and be safe.

As always, I'm so thankful that you have the confidence in me to lead this organization. I couldn't do it without our outstanding officers and Board of Directors.

I don't know about you, but I like what I see from our CATS!!

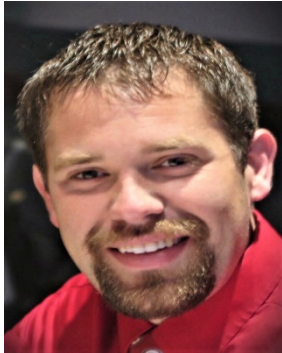
It's going to be a fun season.

One Association One Voice!

You Guys ROCK!!!

## *A note from the NEA ESP At Large Director*

Welcome back to the 2018-2019 school year! In every school district across the Commonwealth, you will find dedicated employees who lay the foundation for teaching and learning while nurturing a philosophy of kindness. These are the professionals who keep our campuses safe and clean, who maintain our technologies, who answer phone calls and are usually the first to greet students and their parents. I am talking about those who feed our students, drive our school buses, operate school and district offices, and provide critical instructional support. These individuals are our classified school employees or Educational Support Professionals. The work of our Educational Support Professionals continues persistently all year long, repeatedly beginning before sunrise and extending into the evening hours. It is impossible to imagine our schools without the contributions of these professionals, which typically exceed their job descriptions.



Every day, Education Support Professionals make a difference in the lives of students, oftentimes not in the way many would think. Their contributions to public education go much deeper than the services they provide. Education Support Professionals add value to students' lives and their work is more than completing daily tasks.

Our bus drivers can be the first to greet students each morning, setting a tone for learning by modeling warmth and kindness. The same can be said of school custodians and maintenance professionals, who are responsible for the safety and appearance of our campuses — both of which have a direct impact on learning. Our food service workers serve up care and compassion along with nutritious meals, which research proves to increased brain function and performance. School secretaries and nurses are on the frontlines of behavioral trends and personal health concerns. They are also often the first school employee that students and their parents meet. They influence first impressions and help define each school's culture. In the classroom, para-educators provide one-on-one support and interventions to ensure each student's needs are met.

To all the Heroes across the state, always be proud of your work and remember every day is the opportunity to make an impact and take care of a child's life. Thank you for all you do!

Serving you,

Matthew Powell

**Custodial Supervisor - Graves County Central Elementary**

**KEA/KESPA Board of Directors**

**NEA Director ESP at Large**

**Phone: 270-674-4900 Ext 2736**

**Cell: 270-804-6488**

**"Whether we're teachers, school bus drivers, counselors, faculty members, financial aid administrators, or lunch ladies, we have a gift: the chance to start over every single year, to "do it all again but even better." - Lily Eskelsen Garcia**

## Meet Your KESPA Executive Board

President- Doug Botkin – [d.botkin@twc.com](mailto:d.botkin@twc.com) Vice President- Matthew Powell- [mpowell42066@gmail.com](mailto:mpowell42066@gmail.com)

- Secretary- Heather Schultz- [rummy6sch@fuse.net](mailto:rummy6sch@fuse.net) Past President- Nancy Toombs- [nancytoombs2014@twc.com](mailto:nancytoombs2014@twc.com)

## Meet Your KESPA Regional Board Member

- **Western Region –**
  - Chiffon Winston- [cwinston2508@gmail.com](mailto:cwinston2508@gmail.com)
  - Kaci Payne- [k.j.payne08@gmail.com](mailto:k.j.payne08@gmail.com)
  - Shaquita Garrett- [que3899@yahoo.com](mailto:que3899@yahoo.com)
- **Eastern Region-**
  - Phyllis Willis- [Phyllis.Willis@greenupkyschools.us](mailto:Phyllis.Willis@greenupkyschools.us);
  - Sarah Johnson - [sarah.johnson@floyd.kyschools.us](mailto:sarah.johnson@floyd.kyschools.us)
- **Northern Region-**
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- **Central Region- Janet Allen-** [janet.allen@spencer.kyschools.us](mailto:janet.allen@spencer.kyschools.us)
- **Ethnic Minority Director-Vickie Gregory-** [vtg05@yahoo.com](mailto:vtg05@yahoo.com)
- **Retired- Kathy Hobbs-** [sixtytwofairlane@aol.com](mailto:sixtytwofairlane@aol.com)
- **NEA Director- Matthew Powell-** [mpowell42066@gmail.com](mailto:mpowell42066@gmail.com)
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**NEA's Click & Save** is an exclusive online shopping service for KEA/NEA members. It offers savings on brand name merchandise from hundreds of top retailers and local merchants. Save on clothing, electronics, restaurants, jewelry, movie tickets and more!

Receive WOW points to redeem as cash credit toward purchases. New offers are added every day. Set email reminders for favorite merchants, so you'll be notified in advance of upcoming sales and discounts. Visit [www.neamb.com](http://www.neamb.com) to sign up and start saving \$\$\$\$.

## KESPA History Lesson- Blast from the Past

Can you name people in the picture? Year?



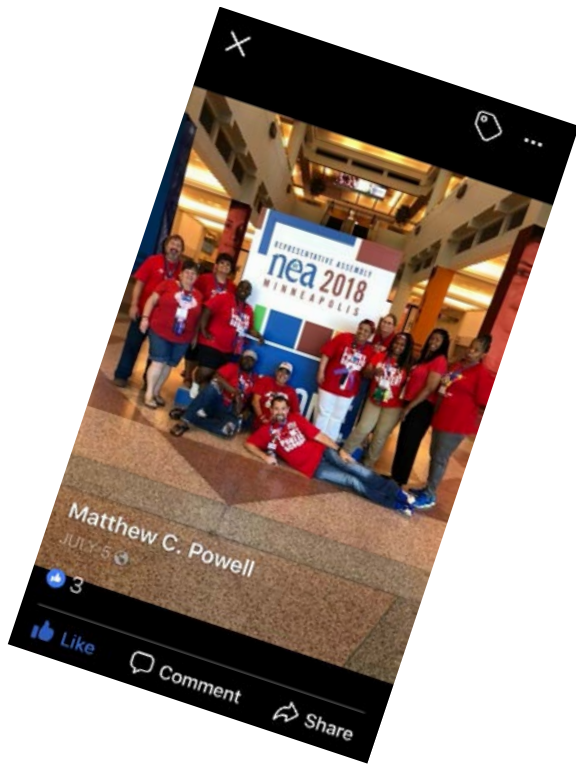
### Save the Dates

- ✓ RESPECT Conference- June 2019 – TBD
- ✓ KESPA Board of Director Meeting Dates- at KEA HQ- Frankfort
  - October 26, 2018 @ 7:30pm
  - February 20, 2019 @ 7:30pm
  - March 1, 2019 @ 7:30pm
  - March 2, 2019 -KEA DA Pre-Delegate Caucus

**I  MY  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOL** We Will Remember in November 2018!



**KEA Next Gen and Leadership Conference**



**KEA/ KESPA Delegates to the NEA RA 2018**



**Fayette County Back to School Event**

**Fleur Hosseini, Debbie Bryan, Felice Farris**



**Discover all the ways  
NEA Member Benefits  
can help you**

The image shows five wooden blocks with icons and labels: a piggy bank for 'FINANCE', a family for 'INSURANCE', a price tag for 'DISCOUNTS', an airplane for 'TRAVEL', and an apple for 'PROFESSIONAL'. A hand is holding a magnifying glass over the 'TRAVEL' block.

### **Mobile Safety Tips**

If you've ever had a virus infect your computer, you know that the result equals anything from hours of lost productivity to potential identity theft. Now these same threats have spread to mobile phones and tablet computers, along with their own unique twists.

We asked several experts for their advice on how to keep your mobile devices secure and your privacy intact.

### **Communicate carefully**

When you place or receive a call on a mobile phone, the information is largely secure. However, a record of that call is stored on your provider's servers, according to Tom Widman, President and CEO of Identity Fraud, Inc. He says this record is stored in case a court orders a subpoena—and the same goes for SMS texts. Even if texting with a friend or significant other, it's always wise to consider how what you tap into your phone could be misconstrued by a stranger.

Also, never click on a link in a text or e-mail when you aren't 100% certain about the sender. In fact, Widman suggest not clicking through on links at all, via e-mail (to your phone) or via text. "The text or e-mail may say it's from a source you trust," Widman says, "However there is no way to prove that fact and it's very easy to alter the sender info."

### **Be strong with passwords**

Simple advice: never store passwords on your mobile device, whether that's for your Facebook login, your Twitter account or certainly not your bank account (more on mobile banking below). But DO password-protect your phone, and Widman says to make sure it's a strong password nobody could guess. You need to avoid obvious personal information, such as people's names, addresses, date of birth, etc. Widman advises using a phrase that is significant to you and then using the first letter of each

word in that phrase. To make that even more unique, use a variation of upper and lower-case letters, as well as at least one number and one symbol. For instance: "I love my two dogs, Rex and Spot": lIm2dR+S.

### **Choose apps from trusted sources**

Yes, apps are fun and addictive, but they can be susceptible to viruses that can take over the apps themselves, if not the entire phone. So, vet your apps—download them from a trusted source and read customer ratings and reviews. Apple claims its apps are all vetted internally, and that the application code is secure. Google's Android app software has fallen prey to so-called "malware" in China, according to security software maker McAfee. While Google makes sure the entire phone is secure (the worst that has happened is the apps themselves have been taken over, not the entire phone), the danger here is that you might store a password within an app and be at risk. Again, the prevention here is to not store passwords within apps that require them. And here's one more reason to not click email or text links on your phone: Links often bring malware through to the vulnerable apps, opening a sort of "gateway" in the armor of your phone's security software.

### **Use only trusted wireless networks**

An open wireless network in a public place—the kind that does not require a password— is a very vulnerable place to use the Internet. This the LAST place on earth you want to log on to a social network, tweet from or use ANY personal information or passwords. Widman even advises not logging onto e-mail via a non-vetted WIFI network. And chances are that if your phone gets e-mail anyway, you don't actually need WIFI to access it. Best practice is to make sure you are accessing a trusted password protected network (and even then, be careful) and to turn off wireless features when you're not using them.

At home, set up a WPA2, password-protected network. You also want to make sure your IP address isn't broadcast (translation: nobody without the network name can even "see" that it exists on their computer or mobile device).

### **Use Bluetooth with care**

Bluetooth generally has a very short signal (it literally cannot travel very far between devices), so it's useful for transmitting music to a car's audio system or using apps that share contact information between phones, but it, too, makes devices vulnerable. If your phone has Bluetooth and you want to use it to connect to a car or a laptop, be sure both ends of the Bluetooth transmission are password protected. An extra step on some devices, such as Blackberry phones, is to make sure the transmission is encrypted (scrambled). Always take that extra measure when possible. Further, TURN BLUETOOTH OFF when the phone isn't near the device you want to connect it to, otherwise you are again leaving the phone more open to hacking.

### **Bank safely**

Mobile banking has become extremely popular. We consulted with mobile banking experts from Bank of America and they assure users that their system is secure with a type of no-fault system in place in case a device is hacked. However, you still don't want to endure that headache. To avoid it, follow all the advice listed above.

Widman lists a few cautions, as well. First, he says, "Your creditors and banks will NEVER ask for account information or passwords by an email or text message. If you are in doubt, call your creditor or bank." He also says to never store account information on your phone, and that if your phone is lost or stolen to call your bank branch or customer service number immediately to have a "block" put on any activity until you reset the account in person. Bank of America and most other mobile services offer to send alerts to your phone so you can see what's happening with your account, so if an unauthorized transfer or payment occurs you can notify the bank immediately.

### **Enable remote wipe**

If your phone is lost or stolen, the first call you should make is to your provider. Depending on the phone, the device could potentially be remotely wiped (all the data cleared from it). Most smartphones have this capability and there are apps available as well.

Password-protect your phone for another layer of security, but hackers can crack this code. Once it's out of your hands it's always better to call and have the phone wiped or at least have the services disabled. Then make sure to change passwords for your social networks, any e-mail login information and contact your bank if you use mobile banking from that phone.

### **Lastly, run software updates!**

Update your devices and antivirus programs regularly. This will ensure that you have any available security patches.

