

# KEA President's Points

December 14, 2016



The Kentucky Education Association is the preeminent voice for quality public education.

We unite, organize and empower members to advocate for themselves and to ensure a quality public education for every Kentucky student.

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Dear Member,

As we wind down to the last days before the holiday break, please take note of some of the important activities coming up in the New Year. From all of us at KEA, we hope you have some much deserved down time to spend with family and friends. **THIS WILL BE THE LAST EDITION OF PRESIDENT'S POINTS OF 2016.**

When President's Points returns in January, I will be including a weekly update of legislative activity each week. Safe travels, make memories, and let's get ready to gear up what looks to be an eventful 2017!

## 2017 Legislative Session Set to begin January 3rd

With the new year brings a new legislative session. The difference this session is that the Republican party now has a "super majority" in both chambers of the legislature and controls the Governor's Office. This transition brings with it new leadership in the House and new House committee chairs/members. The new Speaker of the House is Jeff Hoover (R-83), and the new House Education Committee Chair is John "Bam" Carney (R-51). Rep. Carney is a teacher in Taylor County.

Speaker Hoover announced to the public some of his party's priorities including: "right to work," eliminating prevailing wage, tax reform, and charter schools.

KEA has long standing positions on all of these issues. We oppose "right to work," believe we should keep the prevailing wage, and we oppose charter schools. We have always been in favor of comprehensive tax reform that fully funds Kentucky public schools. The only pre-filed bills related to these topics to date are: a "right to work" bill sponsored by Representative-Elect Wells (BR 291) and a charter school bill sponsored by Senator Neal (BR 51). You can read these bills [here](#).

## Nominations for KEA State delegates for the NEA RA 2017 due Jan 17, 2017

Any active teacher or ESP member of KEA can nominate themselves or another member to be placed on the ballot for election as a state delegate to the NEA 2017 Representative Assembly in Boston, MA. Please click [here](#) to view and or print

a nomination form.

## 2017 Let's TALK Conference Call for Presenters



Do you have a great classroom strategy that would help others? Have your colleagues asked you to present your innovative teaching strategies with them at a faculty meeting or professional development day? If you answered YES to either of these questions then you need to answer our call! The 2017 "Let's TALK Conference is tentatively scheduled for June 12-13. The application for presenters will be coming soon. Please be on the lookout and apply when you see the link.

## Get your I Love My Public School shirt today!

Want to show your public school pride?

Visit the [KEA On-line store](#) today and get your long or short sleeve shirt delivered right to your door.



Let's spread our love for public schools far and wide.

## Dates to Remember:



**Dec 21-Jan 2** KEA Offices Closed  
**Jan 3-6 2017** Legislature in Session  
**Jan 15** KEA Deadline to submit Constitutional Amendments  
Deadline to file for KEA Elected Office  
Application deadline for KEA Teaching in Excellence Award and ESP of the Year  
**Jan 16** MLK Holiday  
**Jan 17** Nominations for NEA RA due to KEA HQ office by 5:00 pm EST

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Winkler**

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