

December 13, 2017



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,

PENSION NEWS

1) On Monday Dec. 11th I taped an episode of *Issues & Answers* on WYMT that aired on Monday night at 7pm ET. You can watch a recording of that episode [here](#).

2) The Public Pension Oversight Board is expected to meet on Monday, December 18th at 1:00 pm ET in Rm.154 of the Annex. If you are up for a quick trip to Frankfort and are out of school- please try to attend. The agenda only indicates they will be hearing "recommendations". It will be interesting to hear what those recommendations might be.

3) December the 18th is the last possible day the Governor can call a Special Session. If he doesn't call one by next Monday, then we will begin preparing for the next steps in the fight for funding for pensions and P-12 public education.

We must continue to share the need for funding for our students, our pensions, and how any decreases in those sets of funds will impact our local communities and Commonwealth as a whole.

Last night wrapped up the last of the many pension forums held across the state over the last several months. I can't tell you how impactful your participation, attention, and individual advocacy has been in our fight for common sense pension reform. During this season of giving I want to say my most heartfelt "Thank you" to each and every one of you for all that you give each and every day of the school year to your students and colleagues. We must remain united and prepare for the many long months of work still ahead of us in the upcoming legislative session and beyond. I hope that you all take time to rest during the short break and prepare for what's ahead of us. Together anything is possible!

KDE Seeking Feedback on ELA and Mathematics Standards

KDE is seeking feedback on the current English Language Arts (ELA) standards progressions and current mathematics standards organized by domains. Previous feedback collected through October 2017 focused on individual standards. KDE is seeking further public input regarding the cumulative K-12 ELA progressions and cumulative math standards organized by domains to ensure transition-readiness for all students. Through Thursday, **January 11, 2018** anyone interested is invited to review the ELA standards progressions and mathematics standards domains, and share feedback and suggestions to be used during the development and revision of new standards. Feedback and comments will be thoughtfully considered, and any needed revisions made before bringing forward a final set of proposed standards to the Kentucky Board of Education for action during the 2017-18 school year.

- To provide feedback on the Kentucky Academic Standards for *English Language Arts*, please use the following link: <https://www.research.net/r/KDEELA>.
- To provide feedback on the Kentucky Academic Standards for *Mathematics*, please use the following link: <https://www.research.net/r/KDEMath>.

Due to the amount of text within the survey, it is recommended that surveys be completed on a full size computer or laptop screen. Questions on this process can be directed to standards@education.ky.gov.

KEA #DifferenceMakers Student Art Contest

The KEA Membership, Organizing, Visibility, and Engagement (MOVE) Committee is sponsoring a student art contest called #DifferenceMakers. Students P-12 are encouraged to submit original portraits of a public school employee that has made a difference in their lives. Photos and other media in 8 ½" X 11" size submission are permitted. Cash prizes will be awarded to one student and their teacher in each of the 4 grade spans. For details and rules please find more information [here](#).

Do you know a colleague that goes above and beyond their regular job duties?

Consider nominating that person for either the KEA Teacher or ESP of the Year. Any KEA member who works in the Kentucky public schools is eligible for this \$1,000 cash award and will become the state nominee for the national competitions in each of these two categories. Deadline for nominations and application information can be found to [nominate an ESP member here](#), or to [nominate a teacher member here](#).

Dates to Remember:



Dec. 18 Public Pension Oversight Board Mtg
in Capitol Annex 1:00 pm ET Rm 154

Dec. 20-Jan.2 KEA offices closed for holiday break

Jan. 2 2018 Legislative Session begins

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

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