

KEA President's Points

June 21, 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.

Quick Links

[KEA Store](#)
[NEA Member Benefits](#)
[Local Presidents + Next Generation Leaders Training](#)
[Respect Conference](#)
[TALK Conference](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear Member,

This edition of President's Points offers some valuable resources from our national organization and partners. I hope you will find these helpful to you and your members.

Important Reminder! *President's Points will be sent only twice a month over the summer. Please take note that it will resume as a weekly publication the first week of August.*

NEA has some great options to help with personal finances

If you are looking for ways to pay off debt, save money on high interest costs, or put some extra money in your savings account then NEA has some options to consider. Please visit <https://www.neamb.com/finance.htm> to explore the ways you can save your hard earned money on personal or professional loans, consolidation of debt, or articles to help give you financial advice. NEA Member Benefits can put you in touch with someone to give you free financial advice as a part of your KEA membership. Contact [NEA MB](#) for more information.

NEPC offers advice on student discipline policies and school improvement

We would like to bring to your attention two new policy briefs recently released by the National Education Policy Center and funded in part by the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice, both of which are NEA partner organizations.

The first brief, [Community Schools: An Evidence-Based Strategy for Equitable School Improvement](#), establishes that community schools are successful in improving student outcomes and can be used as a strategy for improving schools and communities. Community schools represent a partnership and school improvement strategy to integrate resources provided by community agencies and local government for improved student learning, stronger families, and healthier communities. According to the authors, community schools are strongly supported by research, and can be a particularly important strategy for transforming high-poverty schools. [Read the brief here.](#)

The second brief, [Law and Order in School and Society: How Discipline and Policing Policies Harm Students of Color, and What We Can Do about It](#), examines the unintended consequences of school discipline policies on students of color, communities, and schools. The authors find that systematic violence and disparate school discipline policies hinder equitable, just, and safe schooling. The brief also provides recommendations for educational and policing policies at the state and local level that create more equitable and safe school environments for all students. [Read the brief here.](#)

NEA President offers message and new resource for schools

Dear friend,

As I was returning home from a trip to the Christina School District in Delaware recently, I thought, "Wow! These students have access to so many amazing resources. If only every single student was so fortunate."

This thought often occurs to me as I tour many of our fabulous public schools. Unfortunately, it's not true in every single school. And that's not acceptable.

So what can we do? I truly believe the answer is listening to educators to make the choices we know work for our students.

[That's why I'm thrilled to invite you to help us take an inventory of what your school needs by filling out NEA's Opportunity Checklist.](#)

NEA's new resource gives you a way to figure out what your students need to learn and excel, whether it's a school nurse, playground, theater class, girls' volleyball, or a chemistry lab. We'll follow up with customized resources to help get those items based on what you tell us.

Our voices matter! And this new education law, the Every Student Succeeds Act, requires the educators and parents to help make the choices we know work for our students. This new tool was inspired by my belief that every student in your state should have what students have in the best school. It isn't rocket science. [Fill in your checklist here.](#)

Here are just a few of the things you'll see in the "best" schools. Does your school have all of these?

- Healthy meals
- A school nurse and counselor
- A roof that is free of leaks
- Full-day kindergarten
- Librarians and paraeducators
- Classes in spanish, latin and Italian
- And more. [Get started with your checklist.](#)

It's those things -- the things that make schools great, the things that build curiosity and instill a love of learning -- that should be your state standard.

We know what's available at school shouldn't be based on family income, what languages families speak at home, and certainly not neighborhood where the school is.

You are already advocating tirelessly for your students every single day. I hope this checklist helps you make your voice heard even more.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Lily Eskelsen Garcia
NEA President

Dates to Remember:



July 3-7 KEA Offices Closed for NEA Rep Assembly

July 16/17/18 Local President's + Next Generation Leader Conference, Lexington [Register Here](#)

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

KEA President
401 Capital Ave
Frankfort, KY 40601
1-800-231-4532
www.kea.org