

KEA President's Points

November 15, 2017

WE ARE
THANKFUL
FOR
YOU!

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,

It was great to talk and hear from so many of you on the [Teletown Hall](#) last Thursday. I have received a lot of positive feedback from these events. We will continue to do these as needed to keep you informed of major developments on the pension front. On the call, I referenced a couple of resources which I inserted under Pension News in this edition.

There will be no edition of President's Points next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. I hope all of you have a nice break and some family time next week. I am so thankful for your dedication, advocacy, and resilience during these difficult times.

Don't forget to show some love to our ESP's today- after all it is their day!

PENSION NEWS

a) Late last week the Teacher's Retirement system of Kentucky released its Actuarial Analysis of the Governor's proposed pension reform bill.

The analysis revealed that the Governor's proposal would cost an additional \$4.4 billion over the next 20 years compared to the current defined benefit pension plan teachers have now. The existing plan with full funding from the state, is projected to reach an 80.6% funding ratio in 20 years. The Governor's proposal would only glean an approximate 71% funding ratio. You can read the full analysis [here](#).

b) The Kentucky Center for Economic Policy (KCEP) released its [report of revenue options](#) last week also. The report describes many ways that dedicated revenue streams can be found to help fund the many necessary public services Kentucky citizens demand.

Your contacts with legislators are having a HUGE impact on this issue. Please continue to contact them EVERY DAY to protect public school employees from unnecessary structural changes our pension

system. The system is not the problem- don't be misled. The problem lies in the lack of funding. Our legislature needs to **#FindFundingFirst!** Call the Legislative Message Line 1-800-372-7181- tell your legislators to **#FindFundingFirst**

American Education Week

Each Wednesday of every American Education Week, we celebrate **National Education Support Professionals Day**; this year, it's today November 15! NEA



created National ESP day 30 years ago to recognize the contributions to a positive, supportive learning environment made by school bus drivers, instructional assistants, paraeducators, office workers, health and student services employees, food service workers, custodians, maintenance workers, security guards, technology specialists, and skilled trades workers.

We work together as a team to ensure that schools are open and welcoming to all, a point worth emphasizing at a time of divisiveness in our nation. We believe public schools are the cornerstone of our communities, where we provide students and their families with a vital public service.

Take a picture that represents the pride you take in public schools and post it this week to your social media channels using **#PublicSchoolsForAll**. And remember that education support professionals' dedication to their jobs contributes to our pride. **Thank them on National Education Support Professionals Day-and every day!**

Have you held Local Delegate Elections for KEA DA?

If the answer to this questions is NO, then you need to contact your local President. Only delegate names turned in by Nov. 30th will receive KEA Candidate materials before the Delegate Assembly. Please be sure to [use this link](#) to find out more information and forms needed for submission by each local.

Dates to Remember:



- Nov. 13-17 American Education Week
- Nov 23-24 KEA Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 30 KEA Locals deadline to submit KEA DA

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

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