

# KEA President's Points

October 18, 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

[Pension Information](#)

[KTIP Trainings](#)

## Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear Member,  
KEA is expecting the Governor to release some type of pension reform plan today. If there is a public release, we will issue a special edition of President's Points on Thursday outlining the details. For other updates on pensions please read below.

## PENSION NEWS

Last Thursday, KEA had a Teletown hall on pensions. Thousands of you joined in and asked questions and learned more about how KEA is advocating on your behalf. If you weren't able to join us on the call you can listen to a recording [here](#).

On Monday a press release from the Kentucky Public Pension Coalition was distributed to the public. You can read its contents [here](#). The report contains information regarding a review of PFM's August report on proposed changes to Kentucky's retirement conducted by the Pension Trustee Advisors (PTA). They found that the proposals will cost more to Kentucky's taxpayers and its employees while providing lower benefits. This is an important read that helps make our case to legislators to keep a defined benefit pension system for current, future and potential retirees.

Please continue to contact legislators 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**

Email your Representative and Senator and tell them **#APensionIsAPromise**

[Click here](#) to view this week's pension fact video. Make sure to share on your social media platforms

and use the #APensionIsAPromise.

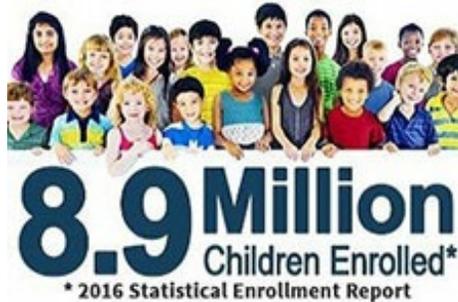
## KEA Celebrates Safe Schools Week!

This year's School Safety Week theme, "*Get Involved and Get it Solved, Stop the Bullying!*," encourages students, parents or community members, to come up with innovative answers to promote safe and secure learning climates. Everyone is encouraged to take the "[Get Involved](#)" [Pledge Against Bullying](#) in order to raise awareness about the need for safe schools.

[The Kentucky Center for School Safety](#) (KCSS) website includes a variety of teaching aids on bullying prevention and school safety including PowerPoint presentations, lessons, interactive websites and much more. Resources also are available for school administrators, parents and the community.

The NEA is also providing resources on their site for educators to support anti-bullying efforts in our schools. You can find a list of resources [here](#).

## NEA needs your help to advocate for kids!



It is estimated that 67,000 children in Kentucky are eligible but not enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (in KY it's called KCHIP).

The President intensified efforts to dismantle the

Affordable Care Act - despite the opposition of Congress and a majority of the American people - by taking two actions this week that threaten to make health care less accessible and affordable for millions of Americans, including kids in low- and mid-income families. The Executive Orders compound the looming damage from Congress' failure to renew the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which covers 8.9 million children. Combined with Medicaid, CHIP covers 40 percent of our nation's children. Since its creation in 1997, the program has enjoyed strong, bipartisan support - recognition of its vital role in helping to ensure that every child comes to school ready and able to learn. **Click on the take action button** to tell your members of Congress to act swiftly to renew CHIP.



## Dates to Remember:



Oct. 15-21

America's Safe Schools Week

Oct. 20

KEHP Enrollment Period Ends

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Winkler**

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