

KEA President's Points

February 9, 2018



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,

The KEA Officers and NEA Directors have been in Washington D.C. this week. We have lobbied our federal Congressmen on various issues including the repeal of the GPO/WEP Social Security offsets, the Federal Education Budget and the DREAM Act. We also attended meetings with our colleagues from around the country about common education issues such as school vouchers/tax credits, charter schools, student poverty, and the looming Supreme Court Case- Janus vs. AFCSME Council 31.

PENSION NEWS

A pension bill related to CERS and TRS has yet to be introduced by the House or Senate as of today. Legislators are focused on the state budget, other singular issues and exploring possible revenue streams. As soon as any pension bill is released KEA will make sure to send out an alert to that affect.

BUDGET NEWS:

The Budget Review Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education Committee met this week to continue discussions on the Governor's Budget Proposal. The Committee heard testimony from the students and Principal of the Georgia Chafee Teenage Parent Program as well as a presentation from the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

Bill Watch

The House Education Committee met on Tuesday. A review of action taken at that meeting is below.

[HB 128](#) AN ACT relating to instruction on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide. Amends KRS 156.160 to require every public school to provide instruction on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide.

This legislation was amended in committee by HSC 1 which clarified that the instruction take place in Kentucky Middle and High Schools rather than all public schools. The committee approved the bill and placed it on the Consent Calendar for consideration by the full House. **(KEA supports this Bill as amended)**

HB 290 AN ACT relating to interscholastic athletics. Amend KRS 156.070 to require the state board or the agency designated by the state board to manage interscholastic athletics to allow a member school's team to play against students or a team from non-member, at-home private schools and establish the conditions under which this may occur.

This legislation was amended in committee by HCS 1 to require a non-member, at-home private school coach to comply with the requirements of KHSAA coaches; allow non-member, at-home private school teams or students to participate in any sports permitted, offered, or sponsored by KHSAA. The committee approved the bill and placed on the Consent Calendar for consideration by the full House. **(KEA Opposes this Bill)**

HB 3 AN ACT relating to school curriculum. Creates a new section of KRS Chapter 158 to require, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, each school to provide an essential skills curriculum to students; amend KRS 158.645 to conform; create a new section of KRS Chapter 158 to create the Council on Essential Skills; amend KRS 158.6453 to require the Council on Essential Skills to serve as a review committee for career studies; require the department to include the essential skills program on the school profile report; amend KRS 158.6457 to include work ethics certification in the definition of nonacademic factors; create a new section of KRS Chapter 158 requiring the Kentucky Department of Education to develop an age-appropriate drug awareness and prevention program; require local school boards to ensure that students receive annual instruction in drug awareness and prevention.

This legislation was approved by committee and referred to the full House for consideration. **(KEA is Tracking this Bill)**

HB 281 AN ACT relating to proprietary education. Repeals and reenacts KRS 165A.310, relating to proprietary education, to delete outdated definitions

and add definition of "license"; amend KRS 165A.330 to require renewal applications to be filed annually 45 days prior to the expiration date; amend KRS 165A.340 to require a biennial audit of the commission; expand the advertising requirements to be administered by the commission; delete the requirement for the commission to monitor programs and courses offered by licensed institutions; amend KRS 165A.370 to revise the minimum standards for licensure of proprietary schools; amend various sections of KRS Chapter 165A to conform.

This legislation was approved by committee and referred to the full House for consideration. **(KEA has no position on this Bill)**

The Senate Education Committee met on Thursday. A review of action taken at that meeting is below.

[SB 102](#) AN ACT relating to the evaluation of children for special for special education services. Amends KRS 157.196 to require the initial evaluation and determination of a four-year-old child's eligibility for special education services to occur within 60 calendar days of parental consent.

This bill was amended in committee with Senate Committee Substitute 1 which made technical changes.

This legislation was approved by committee and referred to the full Senate for consideration. **(KEA is Tracking this Bill)**

[SJR 52](#) A JOINT RESOLUTION authorizing and directing the Kentucky Department of Education to facilitate collaboration between the University of Kentucky's Human Development Institute and local school districts to implement the "Kentucky Peer Support Network Project" in public schools across the Commonwealth.

This resolution was amended in committee with Senate Committee Substitute 2 which made technical changes.

This Resolution was approved by committee and referred to the full Senate for consideration. **(KEA Supports this Resolution)**

Looking for an easy way to keep track of the status of

bills filed? Want to know the daily schedule of what's happening at the Capitol? Do you want to be able to watch the House and Senate proceeding live? Then these websites should be bookmarked as favorites, or made as apps on your phone:

<http://www.kea.org/issues-action> , www.lrc.ky.gov and <https://www.ket.org/legislature/> . These three sites are very helpful in keeping track of what's going on in Frankfort and is updated every 24 hours.

Please consider taking time during the 2018 Legislative Session to visit your legislators and talk to them personally about how you feel about pensions, public education and public service. If you want to know more about how you can arrange to visit legislators please contact your local president or local KEA Staff.

We must continue to let legislators know that we are paying attention. Please call your legislator at **1-800-372-7181!** Remember that snow days are the perfect opportunity to join us at the Capitol! KEA's team of lobbyists will be there every day and we love having company. Please make plans to attend your Day of Learning and join us on days when school is canceled due to weather if at all possible to do so safely.

Nominate your ESP Colleague for the KEA ESP of the Year Award

The KEA Education Support Professional of the Year Award recognizes the contributions of Education Support Professionals to their schools, communities, and their profession. The award is presented to a member of the KEA who demonstrates outstanding accomplishments and reflects the contributions of ESP to public education. The Award includes \$1,000 cash. For application information and guidelines [click here](#).

Dates to Remember:



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| Feb. 10 | NEW DEADLINE- for submission of #DIFFERENCEMAKERS Student Art Contest entries |
| Feb. 16 | Deadline for KEA Teacher and ESP of the Year Nominations |
| March 2 | Read Across America Day |

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

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