

KEA President's Points

September 4, 2019



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:
Be an Empowered Educator.

If you care about Kentucky's children, public schools and public school educators, you should care deeply about who is elected in November. As mentioned in the last edition of Presidents' Points, the governor plays a vital role in the success of Kentucky's public school students.

Over the past 10 years, public education funding in Kentucky has steadily declined. In fact, adjusting for inflation, Kentucky's public school funding from the state is 13% less per student in 2019 than in 2008. That puts Kentucky at the fourth worst in the nation for state-level spending cuts over the last decade.

Using the budget process, the governor can choose to call attention to the needs of public schools, insure equity in state funding, and promote policies that support high quality educators and learning environments in every school. [For more information on education funding click here.](#)

Education Support Professional Leadership Institute

NEA Education Support Professional Leadership Institute (ESPLI) is a powerful leadership development program. Grounded in diversity, equity and cultural competence, the Institute focuses on the NEA Leadership Competencies to train ESP members to be effective leaders in their associations.

ESPLI is designed and collaboratively delivered by ESP leaders/members. This 11-month program requires participants to commit to three in-person trainings, along with scheduled webinars, outside reading and completion of a capstone project designed to elevate the goals of their association. All KEA ESP members who meet the application criteria may apply. Application and information for the ESPLI can be found [here](#). **Deadline to apply is September 13, 2019.**

Read Across America Grant Opportunity

Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program. Although March 2 is officially designated as "Read Across America Day," Read Across America events

can occur on any date because motivating children to read throughout the year is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers.

Each year, KEA budgets funds to support Read Across America events sponsored by KEA districts or KEA locals. In addition to the primary purpose of promoting child literacy, KEA will judge grant requests based on the following criteria: the degree to which the activity includes participation by multiple categories of KEA membership and encourages cooperation among Active, Retired and Aspiring Educator members; developing strong KEA locals; the number of children expected to participate; the level of publicity and community outreach expected; and other criteria that may be established by KEA's Read Across America committee.

[Click here for more information and the link to the RAA Grant Application.](#) **Grant applications are due by September 16th.**

Empowered Educator: Check Voter Registration Today

National voter registration day is September 24th. Many KEA Locals are planning and sponsoring events to engage members and their communities around voter registration. If your local is having a voter registration event, please send photos and a short description to keapresident@kea.org.

The deadline to register to vote in the November election is **October 7th**. You can check and update your voter registration or register to vote by following this link: www.govoteky.com/empowered.

Make sure your voice is heard; check your registration today. **Don't forget to pass this link on to colleagues, friends, and family members, and ask them to register to vote!**

Educator Voice - Feedback needed on CTE Performance Goals

Kentucky Department of Education is seeking feedback on draft state performance goals for Perkins V. This is an opportunity for CTE Educators to provide feedback and comments on the drafting of Career and Technical Education performance goals. Individuals or organizations may review the revised goals on the [Perkins webpage](#). Comments and feedback can be submitted via email to octestinfo@education.ky.gov. **Deadline for submission of comments is October 25th.**

[California Casualty](#) [Academic Award Contest](#)

Realizing that every dollar counts when it comes to educating children, California Casualty created the \$2,500 Academic

Award to offset the amount educators use from their own funds to provide essentials for their students. [Click here to enter and let California Casualty help you pay for out-of-pocket school supplies and instructional materials.](#)

Empowered Educator T-Shirt

Empowered Educators across the Commonwealth are standing strong every day for students, educators and public education!

Show your pride as an "Empowered Educator" with our new t-shirt. T-shirts can be purchased for \$15.00 (including tax and shipping) on the [KEA Store](#). Your "Empowered Educator" t-shirt will be delivered directly to you. [Order yours today!](#)

Save the Date



September 4-5	Standard Setting Committee Meeting - Hudson Hollow - Part 2
September 6-7	All-Committee Weekend
September 13	ESPLI Applications Due
September 16	Read Across America Grant Applications Due
September 24	National Voter Registration Day
October 7	Last Day to Register to Vote for November Election!
October 25	Perkins V Performance Goals Feedback/Comments Due

Sincerely,

Eddie Campbell

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