XEA President's Points

January 13, 2020



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:

#EmpoweredEducators across the Commonwealth welcomed students back to the new semester last week as the #KYGA2020 session began in Frankfort. Last week on the hill was filled with routine procedures, caucus elections, appointment of committee members, receiving of bills, assignment of bills to committees, and ethics training for legislators.

Your KEA lobby team was active on the hill visiting and building relationships with legislators, advocating for students, educators and public education, and observing House and Senate chamber convenings. Several bills were introduced to the House and Senate during the week and assigned to committees. KEA is tracking all bills that could possibly impact students, educators or public education in Kentucky. For a complete list of education related bills being followed by KEA click here.

Filing bills is just the beginning of the legislative process; not all bills filed will be heard in committee or on the floor of the House or the Senate. As bills begin to progress, we will update members through special editions of Presidents' Points and by posting on the KEA Facebook page and Twitter account.

On the Hill

This week marks the beginning of our legislative Days of Learning. KEA welcomes #EmpoweredEducator members from the Second District Education Association, Kentucky Education Support Professional Association, and the Upper Kentucky River Education Association to Frankfort to advocate for our students, our professions, and our public schools. To learn more about KEA Days of Learning contact your local/district president or call your local KEA Field Office.

The #KYGA2020 will resume today with the House and Senate reconvening at 4 p.m. (EST). The legislators will also begin the regular standing committee meeting schedule. <u>Click here for a complete schedule of legislative standing committee meetings, times, and locations.</u> The House Education Committee will **not** be meeting Tuesday. This meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, January 16th upon adjournment of the House. The Senate Education Committee will begin the regular meeting schedule this week, with the first meeting on Thursday, January 16th at 11:30 a.m. (EST) in Annex room 149.

On Tuesday evening, January 14th, Governor Beshear will present the annual State of the Commonwealth address. The address is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. (EST). You can watch the address on most local media outlets. Please check local listings or stream the address live at www.ket.org. All standing committee meetings, House and Senate convenings, and special called committee meetings can be streamed live or watched from archives by <u>clicking here</u>. To keep up-to-date on standing committee meetings, House and Senate convenings, pending bills, and agendas, <u>click here</u> to visit the LRC website.

#DifferenceMakers Student Art Contest

Any public school student in grades P-12 is invited to submit one entry to our annual student art contest. The theme for the contest is *#DifferenceMakers*.

Students are asked to create a PORTRAIT of a public school employee that has made a difference in their life. All entries must be accompanied by an <u>entry form</u>. All entries must arrive at KEA, 401 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601 by 5 p.m. (EST) on Friday, January 17, 2020. Please write "#DifferenceMakers Entry" on the outside of the envelope. One student in each grade span will win \$50 and their teacher will also win a \$50 prize. The #DifferenceMaker will receive the students' original framed artwork.

2020 NEA Representative Assembly Delegate Nominations

The 2020 NEA Representative Assembly will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, July 2 to 6. Any active member of KEA (teacher or ESP) is eligible to run as a state delegate and may self-nominate by completing and submitting the <u>NEA RA</u> nomination form.

Forms must be submitted to KEA by 5 p.m. (EST) on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Forms may be emailed to <u>CCC@kea.org</u>, faxed to 502-227-9002, or mailed to KEA, 401 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601. No other means of submission will be allowed. All forms, even those submitted by regular mail, must be <u>received</u> by the deadline. Late nomination forms will not be accepted.

<u>Statewide delegates are elected regionally</u>; the region in which you are elected and in which you can vote is based on the county in which you work. The election for statewide delegates to the NEA RA will be held during the month of March. For more information about being an NEA Representative Assembly delegate <u>click here</u>.

KEA Statewide Officer Elections

Delegates at the 2020 KEA Delegate Assembly will be electing three statewide officers. Any eligible KEA member may be nominated for the open seats. The officers to be elected this year are:

- KEA Ethnic Minority Director at Large (Seat 1) Term begins July 1, 2020 and ends June 30, 2023
- KEA Ethnic Minority Director at Large (Seat 2) -Unexpired term begins on date of election and ends June 30, 2021
- **KEA State Director to the NEA Board (Seat 1)*** Term begins September 1, 2020 and ends August 31, 2023. *Note that all candidates must have been a member of

KEA/NEA for two years immediately preceding the election

KEA members who are interested in running should complete the <u>candidate filing form at this link</u> and email the form to <u>CCC@kea.org</u>. Deadline to declare for these offices is 5 p.m. (EST), January 15, 2020.

Save the Date

| January 14 | Second District Day of Learning; House Education Commitee WILL NOT meet this day. |
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| January 14 | State of the Commonwealth Address - 8 p.m. (EST). Viewing available on most local television affiliates or streaming on <u>KET.org</u> |
| January 15 | Nominations for statewide KEA offices and proposed constitutional amendments for the 2020 Delegate Assembly due by 5 p.m. (EST) |
| January 15 | NEA RA nominations due by 5 p.m. (EST) |
| January 16 | KESPA and UKREA Day of Learning; Senate Education Committee meets at 11:30 a.m. (EST); House Education Committee will convene upon adjournment of House. |
| January 18 | KEA District Presidents Meeting |
| January 20 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; all KEA offices closed. |
| January 25 | KEA Fellows Meeting |
| February 14 | KEA President Scholarships applications are due. <u>Click here</u> for more information on KEA scholarships. |
| February 15 | Nomination deadline for the Valvoline 2021 Kentucky Teacher of the Year; <u>Click here</u> for more information on how to nominate a teacher. |

Sincerely, Eddie Campbell KEA President

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