

KEA President's Points

March 16, 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:

As we begin this week, students and educators across the Commonwealth are dealing with major upheavals and uncertainties in their daily routines. The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting all aspects of our lives. Ensuring the health and safety of our students, educators, and their families is of utmost importance during these times. KEA is actively working with legislators, the Kentucky Department of Education, and other education groups to provide flexibility and relief for schools and educators as we move on with the remainder of this academic year.

We understand that the NTI and other out-of-school plans vary greatly from district to district. We are asking educators to remain calm, identify concerns, proactively look for solutions, and be flexible as we all find equitable solutions that ensure students receive the services and instruction they need. This must be done, however, while also providing all school employees a safe and flexible work environment. We applaud the governor's proactive stance during this pandemic and ask that every school district superintendent, administrator, and board of education follow Governor Beshear's and the Kentucky Department of Education's recommendations related to schools and employee safety.

2020 KEA Delegate Assembly and KEA Scheduled Events

The KEA Board of Directors met virtually on Sunday, March 15th for the purpose of discussing the 2020 KEA Delegate Assembly and other KEA scheduled events. The KEA Board of Directors unanimously voted to cancel the 2020 Delegate Assembly which was scheduled for April 1-3 at the Louisville Downtown Marriott.

KEA Delegate Assembly delegates will receive an email today with details and instructions on cancelling of room reservations and other activities. As an organization that supports education professionals, the KEA Board believes we should lead by example to ensure the safety and health of members, delegates and staff.

The KEA Board has **not set a future date** for the 2020 KEA Delegate Assembly, but we will work to schedule a convening of the delegates prior to August 31st if at all possible. Depending on how the current COVID-19 events unfold, we

may have to consider holding the Delegate Assembly through some virtual or semi-virtual platform in lieu of an in-person meeting. The KEA Board will convene in the near future to determine a possible time, date, and type of meeting. In addition to cancelling the DA, the board voted to cancel all KEA-sponsored, in-person events through the end of April and recommends that KEA governance district leadership and local leadership follow suit. #TeamKentucky #TogetherKY

Covid-19 Resources

Below are resources that may be helpful to you and your family. The list below includes only reputable, reliable resources:

- The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's webpage](#), which includes guidance on the virus and resources for K-12 schools.
- The [Cabinet for Health and Family Services' COVID-19 webpage](#), which includes information from the CDC and will be updated as information becomes available.
- A [KDE webpage on COVID-19](#) that includes information on the virus and links to the sample flu plan and talking points for school nurses from the National Association of School Nurses.
- The COVID-19 state hotline: **(800) 722-5725**

Educator Resources

Do you have a great lesson or activity that you would like to share with other educators? KEA would like to provide a space for educators to share resources and lessons. If you have lesson plans, free web-base resources, or other information you would like to share, please email them to DistanceLearning@kea.org. KEA will post the materials for educators and parents to view and use. In the subject line, please include the Grade Level and Subject/Area for the lesson or website.

Last Week on the Hill

House Education Committee- The House Education Committee met on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 upon adjournment of the House Chambers and passed the following bills:

<u>Bill #</u>	<u>Bill Sponsor</u>	<u>Bill Issue(s)</u>	<u>KEA Position</u>
HB103	Rep. Riley	AN ACT relating to the Asset Resolution Corporation.	No Position
HB301	Rep. DuPlessis	AN ACT relating to financial literacy.	KEA Oppose
HB393	Rep. Tipton	AN ACT relating to dual credit scholarships.	KEA Track

[HB461](#)

Rep.
Hart/Pratt

AN ACT relating to
directors of
corporations.*

KEA LT
Support

(Title Amendment -
Education)

*Delete original
provisions; amend
KRS 158.070 to allow
school districts to
request an additional
10 nontraditional
instructional days
due to a public
health emergency;
allow a school
district that does not
have a nontraditional
instructional plan to
request one for the
2019-2020 school
year; waive student
attendance day
requirements and
provide options for
schools to complete
1,062 instructional
hours for the 2019-
2020 school year;
EMERGENCY.

Floor Amendment

Retain original
provisions except
increase the
emergency
nontraditional
instruction days to
30; provide
exemption from
adding time to the
instructional day due
to logistical
hardships; provide 30
emergency leave
days for staff due to
the COVID-19 public
health emergency;
direct the Kentucky
Department of
Education to seek
federal waivers
regarding school
meal service rules in

relation to the COVID-19 public health emergency; provide that the Kentucky Department of Education may waive statewide assessment and accountability system requirements in accordance with federal waivers received; allow a local board of education to adjust its certified evaluation plan due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; allow a principal to award additional educational enhancement opportunity days to students to meet obligations that occur prior to the last day of school due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

HCR61	Rep. Hart	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress to adopt the Higher Education Loan Payment and Enhanced Retirement Act.	No Position
HCR117	Rep. Tipton	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Teacher Preparation in Literacy and Numeracy for Primary Grades Task Force.	KEA LT Track
HR106	Rep. Prunty	A RESOLUTION encouraging local boards of education to solicit private support to provide a bleeding control kits and training.	KEA LT Track

SB101	Sen. Wilson	AN ACT relating to awarding of credit under articulation agreements.	No Position
SB134	Sen. Givens	AN ACT relating to the Optometry Scholarship Program.	No Position

Senate Education Committee-The Senate Education Committee met on Thursday, March 12, 2020, and passed the following bills:

<u>Bill #</u>	<u>Bill Sponsor</u>	<u>Bill Issue(s)</u>	<u>KEA Position</u>
SB214	Rep. West	AN ACT relating to early literacy education. - Discussion Only	KEA Track
HB312	Rep. Meade	AN ACT relating to children.	KEA Track
HB331	Rep. Heavrin	AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Educational Savings Plan Trust	No Position
HB366	Rep. Frazier	AN ACT relating to Eastern Kentucky University's model and practice School	KEA Track
SR206	Sen. West	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Ashley Hughes Vice to the Education Professional Standards Board	KEA LT Track
SR227	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Adam Dewayne Smith to the Education Professional Standard Board	KEA LT Track
SR228	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Melanie Shay Callahan to the Education Professional Standards Board	KEA LT Track
SR229	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Elizabeth J. Smith to the Education Professional Standards Board.	KEA LT Track

SR259	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Adam Lambert Hinton to the Morehead State University Board of Regents.	No Position
SR260	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Andra R. Ward to the Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents.	No Position
SR261	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Cathy A. Black to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees.	No Position
SR262	Sen. Adams	A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Joe Rollin Bowen to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees.	No Position

The legislature has cancelled the legislative session for Monday, March 16th. No committee meetings or chamber convening will occur. The House and Senate will reconvene at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) on Tuesday.

- **KEA Days of Learning will be CANCELLED this week.**
- **Tuesday, March 17th:** House Education Committee. **Cancelled**
- **Wednesday, March 18th -** House Education Committee 8:30 a.m. (EDT), Room 149
- **Thursday, March 19th -** Senate Education Committee 11:30 a.m. (EDT), Annex Room 149

To see information on newly filed legislation, please click [here](#).

For more information and one pagers on KEA 2020 Legislative Issues, please click [here](#).

**NEA Representative
Assembly Delegate
Election March 1-31**

KEEP YOUR KEA NEWS! The election for KEA's statewide delegates to the 2020 NEA Representative Assembly is now open. This is a statewide, online election and open to

all Active members. KEA Retired and Aspiring Educators will elect their delegates to the NEA RA in separate elections. An individualized voter code was included above your member name and address on the latest edition of the KEA News. If you did not receive a copy of the KEA News, lost your copy of your KEA News, or did not have a voter code and you are an Active member, call 1-866-384-9978 to obtain a code. **Active members can cast a ballot by visiting www.KEAVotes.com through March 31st.** Again, ALL Active KEA members are eligible to vote. **To request a paper ballot or support in voting, call 1-866-384-9978 or email help+KEA@yeselections.com.**

2020 Census - We Count

The 2020 Census officially begins this week. The U.S. Census is vitally important to the well-being of children and the strength of their public schools. Using census data, each year the federal government allocates tens of billions of dollars in education funds to states and localities using formulas that factor in population and poverty levels. An accurate census count is the critical first step to helping educators address the needs of every child who walks through their doors. The census count happens only once every 10 years; when we under count young children, the consequences can last most of their childhood.

[Click here for more information on the census and free resources for your school.](#)

[Click here for more information from Kentucky Youth Advocates and enter to win a chance to win \\$500.00 for your school.](#)

KESPA FRYSC Grant

Each year, the Kentucky Education Support Professionals Association honors a school Family Resource and Youth Service Center with a \$500.00 grant to support a student focused activity. This is a one-time grant and 100% of the funds must be used directly for the benefit of students. Grant applications must describe the number of students served by the school FRYSC, detail the use of the proposed grant and outcomes hope to be accomplished.

The application deadline is March 31st, 2020. All applications will be reviewed and considered by a committee. The recipient of the grant will be notified no later than April 30th, 2020. The winning FRYSC will be honored and presented the grant during the annual RESPECT Conference at John Hardin High School in Elizabethtown, KY on June 13th, 2020.

[Click here to apply for the KESPA FRYSC Grant.](#)

Upcoming Events



March 1-31

[Statewide Delegate Election to NEA Representative Assembly](#) (Active

	Members Only)
March 20-21	NEA Education Support Professional Conference - Cancelled
March 31	KESPA FRYSC Grand Application Due
April 1-3	KEA Delegate Assembly - Cancelled

Sincerely,

Eddie Campbell

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