



# KEA President's Points

May 29, 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:

This is the last issue of President's Points I will write in my term as the KEA President. I officially end this term on June 14. Eddie Campbell, your President-Elect, and Joel Wolford, your Vice President-Elect, will take over from here.

It has been my pleasure to serve you these past six years. When I started this journey in 2013, I could have never predicted the highs and lows that come with this position. I may have just ended the fastest and craziest roller coaster ride ever (metaphorically speaking)!

Reflecting back to the highs: the 3% pay increase gained by all employees in 2013-2014, the 6 classes of KEA Fellows who all now hold leadership positions within the association that they might not have tried before, the significant numbers of participants in the KEA Days of Learning, the largest state KEPAC committee ever, the increase in political activity by members, the numerous conferences hosted by, for and about members, the #RedForEd movement activity, keeping a defined-benefit pension system for teachers, and on and on. We won so many battles together. I can't take credit for any single event, but I will never forget experiencing all of it.

I could list the lows, but that isn't productive. I could badmouth our enemies, but that isn't productive either. It might make us feel better in the moment, but all that does is help us get through one moment in time.

What we need to do to sustain our energy and enthusiasm for our professions and our students, is to ban together -- in good times and the bad. We need to ask others to join us. The time to stand together is NOW! The action we must take to bring change is through our VOTES! We must protect our professions and the public schools that our communities so desperately depend on. My only wish is for this to become our truth and not just a wish. I believe we can achieve anything together.

As for me, I will be returning to Madison County. I'm 6 years away from retirement. I will be in the trenches with you always.

May you be blessed in all you do now and in the future!

[Save the Date](#)



<b>June 8</b>	RESPECT Conference, Lexington, KY (PD for classified employees)
<b>June 14</b>	Deadline to apply for the 2019-2020 Class of KEA Fellows
<b>June 15</b>	KEA Newly-elected officers begin their terms
<b>June 18-19</b>	Let's TALK Conference, Elizabethtown, KY
<b>June 24</b>	Next PPOB regular meeting, Rm 171 Capitol Annex

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Winkler**

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