

# KEA President's Points

September 18, 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.

## Quick Links

[KEA Scholarships/Awards](#)

[KEA Issues and Actions](#)

## Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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.

This is the third installment of our #EmpoweredEducator series. The Kentucky Constitution requires the General Assembly to "provide for an efficient system of common schools" and further establishes that "no portion of any fund or tax may be appropriated or used by any church, sectarian or denominational school."

Despite these constitutional guarantees there have been many attempts over the past several years to direct precious public school funds away from our classrooms through schemes like "tuition tax credits" and "scholarship organizations." No matter what you call them, any effort to redirect public school funds to a private school is a "voucher" and undermines the constitutionally mandated system of a free and appropriate public school education.

[To learn more about "voucher" funding schemes click here.](#)

## National Voter Registration Day

**National voter registration day is September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

This is a great opportunity to engage fellow educators, friends, neighbors and community. You can check and update your voter registration or register to vote by following this link: [www.govoteky.com/empowered](http://www.govoteky.com/empowered).

This is also an opportunity to talk with students about the importance of being involved in the election process.

Remember, any student who will turn 18 by November 5<sup>th</sup> (Election Day) is eligible to register and vote. The deadline to register to vote in the November election is **October 7<sup>th</sup>**.

Are you planning a voter registration event in your local? If so, please send photos and a short description of your event to [keapresident@kea.org](mailto:keapresident@kea.org).

## On The Hill

The Interim Joint Committee for Education met on Wednesday, September 11. Two presentations were presented to the committee: Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness and Prevention was presented by Senator Rick Girdler; Amanda Underwood, teacher at Boyle County Middle School; a group of Boyle County Middle School Students; and special guest Jenna Quinn, Author, Advocate for Children, Survivor of Sexual Abuse and TED Speaker.

The second presentation, Improving Teacher Recruitment,

Retention, and Quality was presented by Dr. Jim Flynn, Executive Director Kentucky Association of School Superintendents and a group of public school superintendents from around Kentucky. In this presentation the Superintendents discussed the unprecedented statewide educator shortage.

[You can watch the recording of this meeting by clicking here.](#)

### Call for Presenters for the 2020 National ESP Conference

The National Education Association is seeking dynamic workshop proposals for its annual Education Support Professional (ESP) Conference, March 20-22, 2020. The theme of this year's conference is **Education Support Professionals: Our Democracy, Our Responsibility, Our Time.**

If you would like to submit a proposal to be considered by the ESP Conference Committee. [Click here to submit your proposal.](#) **All proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST on October 4, 2019.**

### Ethnic Minority Scholarship Opportunity

KEA's Ethnic Minority Scholarship is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 cycle. This is a progressive scholarship program that is awarded each fall to 2 (two) freshman college students who are seeking a degree in Education and are enrolled in an accredited teacher prep program in a Kentucky college or university. The total award is \$5,000 dispersed over 4 years. [Click here to apply.](#) **Application deadline is October 18, 2019.**

### Empowering Kentucky Educators

The Upper Cumberland Education Association is hosting a day of professional learning for teachers, instructional assistants and aspiring educators.

This event will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Sharp Academic Center on the Campus of Union College in Barbourville, KY. The event will include a variety of professional learning topics for all educators. For more information, contact the KEA Barbourville office at 606-546-9211. [Click here to register.](#)

### Member Benefits: Complimentary Life Insurance Coverage

As a KEA member, you receive complimentary life insurance coverage. No one likes to think of the need for life insurance, but it's important to provide for your loved ones in case the unthinkable happens. Please take time to update your information and beneficiary today. [For more information or to update your information click here.](#)

### Save the Date



September 23	Public Pension Oversight Board Meeting - Capitol Annex
September 24	National Voter Registration Day
September 28	<a href="#">Empowering Kentucky Educators PD - Union College</a>
October 4	<a href="#">Proposals for 2020 National ESP Conference Due</a>
October 7	Last Day to Register to Vote for November Election!
October 15	<a href="#">Ethnic Minority Scholarship Applications Due</a>
October 25	<a href="#">Perkins V Performance Goals Feedback/Comments Due</a> - email comments or feedback to <a href="mailto:octestinfo@education.ky.gov">octestinfo@education.ky.gov</a>

Sincerely,

**Eddie Campbell**

KEA President  
401 Capital Ave  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
1-800-231-4532  
[www.kea.org](http://www.kea.org)