

KEA President's Points

October 23, 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:


#EmpoweredEducators care about their students, their profession, and their public schools.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th, just 13 days from today. As the election quickly approaches, [please read this piece that sums up what is at stake for our students, professions and public schools here in the Commonwealth.](#) I

hope each member will take the time to read this and share it with your friends, neighbors, and colleagues over the next 13 days. Please feel free to copy and share at church, the gym, community bulletin boards, etc., so your community knows what is at stake for our public schools.

Your vote matters! Please make sure you have a plan to vote on or before Election Day.

Anyone that will be away from their polling place on Tuesday, November 5th, can vote via absentee ballot at their local County Clerk's office. Contact your local County Clerk or [click here](#) for more information about absentee voting.

I AM AN
EMPOWERED
EDUCATOR


School Safety Week October 20-27

Happy School Safety Week! The Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS) has a variety of resources for educators to use during School Safety Week. This year KCSS is focusing on the themes of Kindness, Unity and Empathy.

Educators, students, parents and community members are encouraged to be involved during this week (and all year round) to ensure that Kentucky public schools are safe learning environments for all students. KCSS encourages all Kentucky schools to take the opportunity during this week to promote positive behaviors and encourage social, emotional wellness by taking the Kentucky Safe Schools Week Pledge.

[For more information and resources for School Safety week click here](#)

Smith-Wilson Nominations

Each year KEA recognizes an outstanding individual or group for their work in the field of Human and Civil Rights. The award is given in honor of Lucy Harth Smith and Atwood S. Wilson, two pioneering KEA members who lead the way in breaking down the barriers of segregation in Kentucky's public

schools. [For more information on the history of the Smith-Wilson Human Civil Rights Award click here.](#)

The award is presented to an individual or group for work in the following areas:

- Multicultural education
- Contributions to the advancement of educational opportunities for minorities
- Contributions to the availability of multicultural education materials
- Contributions in the areas of innovative and creative strategies to advance and develop leadership opportunities for gender equitable and culturally diverse populations and leadership in the field of human relations

If you would like to nominate an individual or group for the 2020 Smith-Wilson Human Rights Award, you can do so by [completing this nomination form](#). Nominations are due by 5:00 pm eastern on November 22, 2019.

[Halloween Resources](#)

Did you know that the tradition of carving pumpkins began in Scotland and Ireland with the carving of turnip lanterns? Halloween can be a fun and exciting time for students. Educators can help kids celebrate safely and understand the hazards of the holiday through a variety of diverse lessons. [Click here to see lessons, activities, and resources for students of all ages.](#)

[#DifferenceMakers](#)

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 [entry form](#). All entries must arrive at KEA, 401 Capital Ave. Frankfort, KY 40601 by 5:00 p.m. eastern 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.

[Member Benefits](#)

Do you have student loan debt? Many educators may have needed a loan (or two) to pay for your higher education. As a member of KEA, you have access to options to find relief for some of this debt. This relief can come from income-based repayment options and forgiveness programs, but you have to know and follow the federal rules to the letter to qualify. The Student Loan Forgiveness Navigator can help you quickly and easily assess whether you qualify for free federal loan forgiveness programs. On average, members are seeing more than \$1,500 a year in new savings through this tool. For more information on [Student Loan Forgiveness click this link](#) or contact your [UniServ Office](#).



October 20-25	School Safety Week
October 25	Perkins V Performance Goals Feedback/Comments Due - email comments or feedback to octestinfo@education.ky.gov
November 5	ELECTION DAY!
November 9	KEA-Aspiring Educator Annual Minority Leadership Conference - Bryan Station High School, Lexington, KY
November 15	Last day for Nominations for KEA Ethnic Minority Director Vacancy
November 16	KEA District Presidents Meeting
November 28	Thanksgiving Day

Sincerely,

Eddie Campbell

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