

# KEA President's Points

February 20, 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:

Please find a summary of the past week's legislative events [here](#).

Due to the President's Day holiday on Monday, the legislature started their week yesterday and there was no House Education Committee meeting. Chairwoman Huff has called a meeting of the House Education Committee to begin upon adjournment of session today. Anyone that can get to Frankfort after school **today** to attend this meeting is encouraged to do so.

Another important bill we are watching is [HB 58](#). This bill is co-sponsored by legislators on both sides of the aisle. It amends KRS 141.019 to increase the pension income exclusion from \$31,110 to \$41,110; apply retroactively for taxable years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2018; require the Department of Revenue to automatically issue refunds; **EMERGENCY. KEA SUPPORTS** this bill and asks that you contact your legislators to ensure its passage. Be sure to contact the chair of the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and [email Rep. Rudy](#) to hear this bill in committee.

We need all public-school employees to continue to call their Representative to **OPPOSE HB 205**, a bill that would give tax credits to those that choose to send students to private schools. Please find more information about this issue [here](#). You can call and leave a message for your legislator at 1-800-372-7181 and tell them to **OPPOSE HB 205** today!

## TELL Survey in limbo this year

Many members have asked me recently, "Are we doing the TELL survey this year?" The answer is: MAYBE. As of this writing the New Teacher Center, the company that has administered the survey in the past, has decided to no longer sponsor this survey. The KDE has put out a new RFP for others to serve in this capacity, but this process is still open. Communication from the Department of Education suggests that IF the survey is given, it will happen no earlier than the fall of this year. I will communicate more details about this process when made available to us. Please communicate in the meantime, that there is no survey to complete during March 2019, as previously scheduled.

## Read Across America Day -- Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Leaders

Many of our members will be celebrating a love of reading across the Commonwealth on Saturday, March 2. KEA received a large grant from NEA to support local efforts to increase accessibility to students with books with diverse

content and characters. The theme this year is "Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers". We will also welcome NEA Secretary Treasurer, Princess Moss to the Florence Mall event in northern Kentucky. If you would like to access resources for your classroom, please visit the [NEA Read Across America page](#). Be sure to visit the local mall in Paducah, Lexington, Florence, Bowling Green, and Elizabethtown for some great Read Across America Celebrations. Please call your local KEA office to find out more details about specific events. If you would like to purchase books that reflect many ethnicities and languages check out this [website](#).

### Save the Date



<b>Feb. 22</b>	Nominations for KEA Administrator delegate to the NEA RA due
<b>Mar. 2</b>	Read Across America Day. Celebrate a love of Reading in your local community!

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Winkler**

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