

# KEA President's Points

December 12, 2018



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 gear up for the 2019 Legislative session to begin, I wanted to pass along some important information for you to know.

The first day of the session begins on January 8. They convene until Jan. 11th and then they are in recess until February 5th. For a detailed look at the session calendar please click [here](#).

The Republican and Democratic caucuses have met and informally elected new standing committee chairs. This will be formalized during the first few days of the 2019 session. The chair of the Senate Education Committee will be Sen. Max Wise and the new chair for the House Education Committee will be Rep. Regina Huff. Details as to the scheduled days and times of the Education Committee meetings will also be solidified after the new year.

For more details on prefiled bills and updated information on newly elected representatives and senators please make sure to check the [LRC website](#) frequently. The KEA Lobby team has already been meeting and making plans for the upcoming session. We know that many issues have already surfaced around legislative priorities for the Department of Education and other stakeholder groups. KEA is ready to fight for our members rights and our students' public schools. We will not stop using our collective voice for those that have none. We will not be silenced.

If you haven't already made plans to attend your district's KEA Day of Learning during the 2019 Session, contact your KEA staff or district president to find out details for your district.

**Stay tuned for a special issue of President's Points to come out this Friday if the KY Supreme Court issues a ruling for our lawsuit on SB 151. We will broadcast the decision live on our KEA Facebook Page this Thursday Dec. 13th if a decision is rendered.**

## Rank Certification Information & Changes in EPSB

At its August 20, 2018 meeting, the Education Professional Standards Board waived the mandatory requirement for an educator to obtain a Rank II within the 5-year regulation timeline. KRS 161.1211 defines Rank II as "Those holding regular certificates and who have a master's degree in a subject field approved by the Education Professional Standards Board or equivalent continuing education." This definition has

not changed. Educators are still able to pursue and obtain Rank II to advance in the profession. However, there is no longer a timeline associated to require this Rank change for educators. It is important to note that the Board did not waive program admission requirements or program completion requirements. If a program for certification requires completion of a master's degree, the educator will still need to obtain the master's and complete the program for issuance of a certificate. If a master's or Rank II is required for admission to a preparation program, that requirement is also still in effect. Also note, the path to advancing on the salary schedule in school districts is based on your rank of certification. You may refer to the statute that outlines qualifications for Rank changes in Kentucky [here](#).

At their latest meeting on Monday, EPSB changed language in 16 KAR 5:010, Section 12 that identifies the program design components and program curriculum for any education master's program or planned fifth-year program that does not lead to an additional base or restricted base certificate. These programs are known as the Teacher Leader programs. The changes will allow more flexibility in the creation of programs leading to Rank II, a waiver of 16 KAR 5:010, Section 12, is necessary for Educator Preparation Programs. This waiver will allow EPPs in Kentucky to develop and earn EPSB approval for innovative programs to address teachers, schools, and district's professional development needs.

Another change is that the KDE Office of Education Licensure and Effectiveness (specifically the Division of Certification) will now be handling all license and rank changes for educators moving forward. The EPSB office will also be relocating this week to the Sower Building in Frankfort where KDE is located. The best way to contact EPSB is through the web portal at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/> .

### Want to attend the NEA Representative Assembly in Houston this summer?

Any member that would like to attend the NEA RA July 2-7, 2019 in Houston may do so in 2 ways:

1. Run for a position as a local delegate by nominating yourself or someone else to run on your local association ballot. In this instance your local association is responsible for paying your expenses to attend;
2. Run for one of the state delegate positions. KEA state delegates are elected by electronic ballot on the KEA website. Nominations are now being accepted. You can do that by filling out the form and submitting it [here](#), or by filling out the paper nomination form that was included in your last issue of KEA News and mailing it in. Nominations are accepted through Jan 15, 2019. All state delegate expenses are paid for by KEA and guidelines will be sent to all those who are elected.

### Do you know an outstanding teacher or ESP member that deserves recognition?

Nominate yourself or a colleague to apply for the KEA Teacher or ESP of the Year for award year 2020. Nominees for these two awards need to fill out an application and return to KEA by Jan 15, 2019. Both the Teacher and ESP of the year will be recognized at the 2019 KEA Delegate Assembly and will receive a \$1,000 cash prize. Finalists will then be nominated for the NEA award in the same category as KEA's official nominee. For more information on Teacher of the Year application information please click [here](#). For more information on ESP of the Year application information please click [here](#).

### Save the Date



DEC. 15	<a href="#">KEA Ethnic Minority Aspiring Educator Scholarship Application</a> Deadline
DEC. 20-JAN. 2	KEA Offices CLOSED for Holiday Break
JAN. 15	Deadline to file for open KEA leadership positions of President and Vice President
JAN. 15	Deadline to submit changes to the KEA Constitution

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Winkler**

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