

KEA President's Points

March 21, 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 Members,

Yesterday the Senate unveiled its version of the executive branch budget. It was significantly different than the House version. It did not include additional revenue and contained significant cuts to programs vital to students' success. Please see below an important call to action.



KEA TALKING POINTS ON ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

KEA represents 45,000 active, retired and pre-service teachers and education support professionals in every county in the Commonwealth. Now that the House and Senate have each passed their own versions of the budget, the final version will be hammered out in conference committee behind closed doors.

Because there will be very limited opportunity over the next few days to discuss these important issues with legislators, please call 1-800-372-7181 and let them know what's important to our students and the future of Kentucky public schools.

KEA's state budget priorities are:

- Find revenue to restore education funding
- Restore House level of SEEK funding
- Restore House level funding for FRYSCs
- Maintain additional funds for Eastern KY districts that lost coal severance money
- Restore House level of preschool funding
- Restore House ARC funding to TRS, CERS and all other public pension systems
- Keep the promise to under-65 retirees and pay the employer portion of their health insurance
- Restore funding for KTIP (Kentucky Teacher Internship Program), professional development, reading intervention and other programs cut in the governor's proposal
- Keep TRS personnel out of the merit system

Sincerely,
Stephanie Winkler
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