

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

1st Business Session

April 3, 2025

President Eddie Campbell called the meeting of the 153rd Delegate Assembly of the Kentucky Education Association to order at 1:00 p.m.

Presentation of Colors by KEA delegates and officers as veteran and active-duty service members.

KEA Vision, Mission, and Values statement were read by **Matthew Wagner – Franklin Co. and Steven Johnson – JCTA.**

Chad Davidson – McCracken Co. led the assembly in singing the Star-Spangled Banner.

Tammy Green – KEA Membership led the delegation in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Campbell introduced a video from Governor Andy Beshear and Lieutenant Governor Jaqueline Coleman speaking words of encouragement to the delegates.

Jolena Sizemore, Chair of the Compliance Constitution Committee, gave the first report of registration. There are 441 possible delegates; as of this time, 299 are present.

The report on the delegate registration has been moved on behalf of the Compliance and Constitution Committee and requires no second. Without objection, the report will be accepted.

No objections.

President Campbell introduced the head table along with officers, committee members and 1st time delegates.

Kate Gross-JCTA– Motion to adopt of the agenda with flexibility. Kyri Denby – JCTA second.

Motion Passed.

Jonathan Corson – Madison KESPA– Motion to adopt Standing Rules. Danny Woosley- Hart Co. second.

Motion Passed.

Approval of the 2024 KEA Delegate Assembly Minutes. Seeing no additions or corrections to the minutes of the 2024 assembly minutes, they will be accepted as presented and filed as printed.

President Campbell gave a synopsis of all KEA standing committee reports, recognized all KEA committee chairpersons and notified delegates that the full reports are on the 2025 KEA Delegate Assembly EdCommunities page.

Hearing no objection, reports will be filed as reported.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

President Campbell welcomed Jolena Sizemore, chair of the CCC to the podium to give the 2nd report of delegate registration.

There are 441 possible delegates that were submitted to the committee; as of this time, 316 are present.

The report on delegate registration was moved on behalf of the committee and needs no second. With no objection being heard, the report of delegate registration was accepted.

Aspiring Educator Report was given by Matthew Callahan – KEA AE President where they were active in voter registration drives, helping to defeat Amendment 2, presenting at the national conference and more.

KEA-R report was given by Lisa Petrey-Kirk- KEA-R President -They had an active year helping to defeat Amendment 2, GPO-WEP, and adoption of their AE-s. Future plans include working with neighboring states and presenting at the national retired conference.

President Campbell gave his presidential remarks to the delegation about defeating Amendment 2, repealing GPO-WEP, how one of the first things after he was elected, was to have an education friendly governor elected and how he was successful in helping elect Governor Beshear.

President Campbell then gave instructions on how to speak in support or opposition of motions on floor.

President Campbell welcomed Jolena Sizemore, chair of the CCC to present the timely submitted Constitutional Amendments.

Proposed KEA Constitutional Amendment no. 1

Sponsored by: KEA District Presidents and the KEA Board of Directors

Motion by Regina Brown, UKREA President. Needs no second.

Rationale: Active members of the KEA Board of Directors are elected by the members of each Active KEA governance district on a ratio of 1 board member for every 1000 members or greater fraction thereof, which means that a governance district must have at least 501 Active members to qualify to elect a representative to the board. This amendment will maintain the boundaries and governing structure of the current KEA governance districts while also providing the means for Active members in districts who fall the minimum threshold to continue to have elected representation on the KEA Board of Directors.

Motion Passed.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

Proposed KEA Constitutional Amendment no. 2

**Subject: Amendment to Include the Junior Ethnic Minority Board Member
as a Member of the Executive Committee**

Sponsored by: Vickie Gregory, Jr. Ethnic Minority Director

Proposal:

I propose an amendment to the Kentucky Education Association's constitution to recognize the Junior Ethnic Minority Director Board Member as an official member of the Executive Committee, alongside the Senior Ethnic Minority Director Board Member.

Rationale for the Amendment:

This change aims to ensure complete equitable responsibilities, representation, and foster greater inclusivity within the Executive Committee.

Withdrawn.

Proposed KEA constitutional amendment no. 3

Sponsored by: Maddie Shepard, President, Jefferson County Teachers Association

Original Language

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

B-4.1. Terms of Office:

a. Beginning in 2004 and each third year thereafter, at the annual meeting, a President and a Vice President shall be elected for three-year terms, to begin on June 15.

b. In no case shall an executive officer serve for more than six consecutive years in any one position.

Proposed Amended Language

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

B-4.1. Terms of Office:

- a. Beginning in 2004 and each third year thereafter, at the annual meeting, a President and a Vice President shall be elected for three-year terms, to begin on June 15.
- b. In no case shall an executive officer serve for more than nine consecutive years in any one position.

Rationale

The Offices of KEA President and KEA Vice President are highly important, highly complicated, and highly difficult positions. Limiting a person to 2 terms limits the degree to which the KEA President and/or Vice President can learn the jobs and make improvements limits the effectiveness, power, and influence of our organization. Often times, legislators know that the KEA President is limited to two terms. This limits the relationships the KEA President is able to build, and as a result, limits the influence the KEA President can have with the legislature. Additionally, this is a state-wide office. While experienced KEA leaders often occupy these positions, there is still a learning curve involved in transitioning to a state-wide office. The overall effectiveness of the President will increase if the President and Vice President have a longer amount of time in which to build relationships and strengthen our union, which in turn, only makes KEA stronger. While there is no guarantee a candidate will be elected for all 3 terms, as the body democratically makes a choice as to who will be President every 3 years, this allows KEA Presidents to reach even more effectiveness and impact by being able to serve up to 3 terms.

Moved by Maddie Shepard – JCTA, Laura Schneider – Kenton Co second.

Debate ensued.

Matthew Powell – Graves Co KESPA - Motion to close debate. Helen Cottingim, Boone Co KESPA- second.

Motion Passed.

Jolena Sizemore, Chair of the CCC announced the names of the candidates that have submitted their names to run for the position of KEA Statewide Officer Elections.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

Candidates met with the Compliance and Constitution Committee earlier to draw for ballot order. Nominations and seconds of candidates for office will occur in reverse ballot order and candidates will speak in ballot order

KEA President and KEA Vice President.

President Campbell announced that there is only one eligible member running for each seat. The KEA Vice-President will be elected for a full 3-year term beginning June 15, 2025, and concluding June 14, 2028. Jessica Hiler was the only eligible KEA member to announce his intent by the constitutional deadline. President Campbell asked her nominators and seconders to come to the stage for the purpose of electing the KEA President.

Kim Coomer – Warren Co made the motion to elect Jessica Hiler to KEA Vice-President, **Doug Botkin – KEA-R** was her second.

Jolena Sizemore – Chair of the Compliance and Constitution Committee then announced **“Mr. President, in compliance with Standing Rule III(C), on behalf of the Compliance Constitution Committee, I move the election of Jessica Hiler to the position of KEA Vice-President by acclamation.”**

Motion Passed.

Maddie Shephard – JCTA, Zach Fisher, JCTA – second Motion to record vote as unanimous..

Motion Passed.

President Campbell announced that there is only one eligible member running for each seat. The KEA President will be elected for a full 3-year term beginning June 15, 2025, and concluding June 14, 2028. Joel Wolford was the only eligible KEA member to announce his intent by the constitutional deadline. President Campbell asked her nominators and seconders to come to the stage for the purpose of electing the KEA President.

Regina Brown – Letcher Co. EA made the motion to elect Joel Wolford for president of KEA, **Kelly Read – Boone Co. EA** was second.

Jolena Sizemore – Chair of the Compliance and Constitution Committee then announced **“Mr. President, in compliance with Standing Rule III(C), on behalf of the Compliance Constitution Committee, I move the election of Joel Wolford to the position of KEA President by acclamation.”**

President Campbell asked all in favor of electing Joel Wolford by acclamation to signify by saying “aye” with an overwhelming response. He asked for anyone not in favor to signify by saying “nay” to no responses.

Sarah Blades – Fayette Co EA, Matthew Callahan – KEA AE, second. Motion to record voice vote as unanimous.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

Motion passed.

Jolena Sizemore- Chair of the Constitution and Compliance Committee then gave instructions on voting for constitutional amendments during the voting time located in the Madison room from 8am until 9am.

NEA Directors Tyler Murphy, Noraa Ransey and Chiffon Winston spoke about the NEA Fund for Children and the importance of NEAPAC.

A live auction was held and was conducted by KEA UniServ Director Mike Ross.

The first item auctioned was a KY State Parks basket contributed by 4th District. Value - \$475. Won by – Shonda Justus.

2nd item was Bourbon Socks Basket contributed by JCTA. \$250 - Won by– Matthew Powell.

2nd Business Session

April 3, 2025

President Eddie Campbell called the second session of the 153rd KEA Delegate Assembly to order at 3:50pm.

President Campbell welcomed Jolena Sizemore, chair of the CCC to the podium to give the 3rd report of delegate registration.

There are 441 possible delegates that were submitted to the committee; as of this time, 319 are present.

The report on delegate registration was moved on behalf of the committee and needs no second. With no objection being heard, the report of delegate registration was accepted.

Joel Wolford – KEA Vice-President gave the report of KEA membership. Our certified membership has 17,736 members, our ESP membership has 1,764 members, our retired membership has 18,862 members, and our Aspiring Educators membership has 1,167 members.

Rich Mullins, KEA Assistant Executive Director awarded cash rewards to **Troy Stroud – Pike Co EA** and **Lee Virginia Greynolds – Fayette Co EA** for recruiting efforts during the 2025 Spring Membership Drive.

Michael Wilson – KEA Government Relations Director gave the run down of the 2025 legislative session and gave thanks to the KEA Lobby Team for their tireless work.

Greta Gilbert, Chair of the KEA Government Relation Committee, presented the 2025 Legislative Program as amended. Greta moved the adoption and amendment of the 2025 KEA Legislative Program. The motion moved on behalf of the GR Committee needs no second.

Mike Davis – Scott Co EA, motion to leave certified teacher language in B3. Eden Gabbard – Bullitt Co EA second.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

Motion Passed.

KEA Legislative Program adopted.

President Campbell took time to honor our long time NEA member Benefits Liaison Guy Kendall-Freas for his amazing work with KEA members over the years. Guy will be retiring in July 2025.

NEA Member Benefits specialist Guy Kendall-Freas thanked the delegation for their work and their caring actions throughout the state. He introduced KEA's new NEA Member Benefits specialist Kimberly Lindsey who is excited to get to know and work with KEA members.

Jolena Sizemore – Chair of the Constitution and Compliance Committee gave refresher on voting instructions for electronic voting.

Audrey Gilbert – point of personal privilege – Announced she is running for the Aspiring Educators position on the NEA Board of Directors and would like to ask for KEA's endorsement of her campaign.

Matthew Callahan – KEA AE, motion to endorse Audrey Gilbert for NEA Board of Directors. Laura Schneider- Kenton Co EA was second.

Motion passed.

Melanie House-JCTA – motion to record vote as unanimous. Kumar Rashad-JCTA was second.

Motion passed.

A live auction was held and was conducted by KEA UniServ Director Mike Ross.

5th District contributed 4 Roses Select Bourbon Basket –\$415 Won by Kelly Read – Boone Co EA.

3rd District contributed a Scottish Basket - \$425 Won by Brent McKim – KEA-R.

3rd Business Session

April 4, 2025

President Campbell called the 3rd session of the KEA Delegate Assembly to order at 9:02 am. After briefing the delegates, President Campbell talked about the theme to Promote, to Protect and to Strengthen our public schools and how it is more than just a theme. It is a call to action.

President Campbell asked the Chair of the CCC to give the last registration report.

Chair Jolena Sizemore stated there are 441 possible delegates that were submitted to the committee; as of this time, 323 are present.

The report on delegate registration was moved on behalf of the committee and needs no second. With no objection being heard, the final report of delegate registration was accepted.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

KEA's Diversity Committee led the morning with the KEA Diversity Celebration. The celebration ensued with open hearts and shared commitments to a better world for our students and educators for a more inclusive environment.

KEA ESP Diversity Project – Laneshia Brown, Christian Co KESPA – Freedom Elementary was awarded \$500.

Ashley Burnette – Warren Co EA and Dion Copeland – Fayette Co EA were awarded \$250 each for their Diversity Lesson Plan Contest entries.

The Smith Wilson Award was bestowed on **Chris Hartman** from the KY Fairness Campaign.

NEA Directors gave a NEA Fund update.

Jolena Sizemore – Chair Constitution and Compliance Committee presented the voting results of the proposed constitutional amendments.

Amendment #1 – Passed - 292 in favor - 94.8%, 16 against - 5.2%.

Amendment # 2 – Withdrawn

Amendment # 3 – Failed - 82 in favor - 26.6%, 226 against - 73.4%.

NEA President Becky Pringle gave the keynote address to the delegation. She gave a rousing rendition to KEA members praising them for their diligence in the defeat of Amendment 2 and challenging them to be more vocal and active.

KEA presidents Scholarships scrolled on the screen as they were numerous and over \$42,000 was given out to KEA members.

President Campbell talked about the Marvin Dodson Carl Perkins Scholarship as well as the Marnel Moorman Scholarship and impact the namesakes have had on our society.

The Dodson Perkins Scholarship was awarded to three individuals. Rebecca Bailey- Morehead State University, Kamryn Hoiska- Alice Lloyd College, and Katherine Oliver- University of KY.

The Marnel C. Moorman Memorial Scholarship was awarded to two Aspiring Educators. Ellie Copsis – Western KY University and Chloe Brandy – University of Louisville Each of these Aspiring Educators will receive \$1,000 to assist them with their education journey.

There were no applications submitted for the **KEA ESP of the Year** award. President Campbell issued a challenge to all delegates and find an amazing support professional to apply for this award. He then opened back up the KEA ESP of the Year award to accept applications for a short period of time so KEA will have a 2025 KEA ESP of the Year.

KEA Teacher of the Year award to **Dion Copeland – Fayette Co EA**. He will also be our nominee for the NEA Teacher of the Year.

President Campbell gave an overview of the KEA Fellows program and honored former KEA fellows in attendance.

KEA Fellows presented their 2025 program highlighting their leadership journey.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

A 15-minute break was then given to delegates.

New Business Items

Noraa Ransey – Calloway Co EA – Moved NBI #1. Matthew Powell- Graves Co KESPA second.

NBI #1-Withdrawn

Noraa Ransey – Calloway Co EA asked for a point of personal privilege. She asked all district presidents to go to a microphone and began an onslaught of praises from leaders across the state for outgoing KEA President Eddie Campbell.

Vice-President Wolford moved to motion to adoption the 2025 4 KEA Program and Budget areas.

Motion passed.

Vice-President Wolford moved to motion to accept the 2025-2026 KEA Program and Budget. As it is moved on behalf of the committee, it needs no second.

Noraa Ransey – KEA Executive Committee made a motion- According to the strategic plan on the AE line of the budget, amend the budget to the AE support line add \$5,000 to support AE advisors.

Motion was moved on behalf of the KEA executive committee and needs no second.

Motion passed.

The 2025-2026 program and budget was approved by the delegation.

President Campbell asked Jolena Sizemore, Chair of the CCC back to the podium for the announcement of statewide officer elections that will occur during the 2026 KEA Delegate Assembly.

Chair Sizemore notified delegates that according to KEA Bord Policy, delegates are hereby notified that at the 2026 KEA Delegate Assembly, KEA will hold elections for KEA Ethnic Minority Director at Large Seat 1 and the NEA State Director Seat 1. However, if statewide active membership does not meet the 20,000 minimum membership requirements on May 31, 2025, this election may not be held. We are currently a little over 500 members away from that threshold. The successful candidate will serve a 3-year term beginning June 15, 2026, and ending June 14, 2029. The earliest date candidates may announce their intent to run for either office is Tuesday, October 1, 2025, and the latest date and eligible members may declare their intent to run is Wednesday, January 15, 2026. No campaigning may occur until candidates have officially announced and have been recognized by the Compliance and Constitution Committee.

Jolena Sizemore asked for a point of personal privilege, she asked for recognition of the members of the CCC and thanked them for their work. She then went on to thank President Campbell on behalf of her UCEA district.

**Kentucky Education Association
153rd Delegate Assembly**

President Campbell gave his closing remarks thanking all officers, mentors, staff and family. He then told the story “The Courage of the Little Hummingbird” as a source of inspiration to the body.

Cassie Lyles – JCTA – point of personal privilege, urged delegation to run for public office and get involved.

A live auction was held and was conducted by KEA UniServ Director Mike Ross.

NKEA contributed Cincinnati Reds Excursion package - \$625 – won by Joel Wolford.

Clark Co EA contributed homemade peach spirits - \$200 – won by Francis Steenbergen.

Pike Co EA contributed a handmade quilt - \$500 – won by Jo McKim.

Clark Co EA contributed homemade strawberry spirits - \$200 – won by Mary Ruble

President Campbell then passed the gavel to the new KEA President Joel Wolford and Vice-President Jessica Hiler to adjourn the 153rd KEA Delegate Assembly.

Joel Wolford and Jessica Hiler called the past KEA presidents Francis Steenbergen and Sharron Oxendine along with Jim Sproul virtually to the stage to acknowledge Eddie Campbell's induction into their elite group.

The new Officers KEA President Joel Wolford and KEA Vice-President Jessica Hiler adjourned the 153rd KEA Delegate Assembly at 12:46 pm.