

NEA Committees

NEA's committee structure provides for committees of the Representative Assembly, strategic priority committees, advisory committees, and special committees. These committees report to the president, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee between meetings of the Representative Assembly.

Committees of the Representative Assembly

Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules

The Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules is authorized in Article III, Section 6 of the Constitution. The composition and duties of the committee are set forth in Standing Rule 2.

The committee initiates proposed amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules as appropriate; receives and processes proposed amendments; supervises the submission and processing of new business and legislative amendments; supervises and counts roll call votes at the Representative Assembly; provides advisory opinions on parliamentary questions upon the request of the presiding officer; and performs other duties as specified in the Rules or requested by the president.

Committee on Program and Budget

The Committee on Program and Budget is authorized in Bylaw 11-7. Its composition is described in Bylaw 11-7 and its duties with respect to budget development are outlined in Bylaw 11-9.

The secretary-treasurer of the Association is chairperson of the committee, and the vice president is a member of the committee.

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is authorized in Standing Rule 1, which also describes the committee's composition and duties. The committee is responsible for the supervision of the accreditation of delegates and alternates to the Representative Assembly, the seating of delegates and members, and other appropriate duties as specified in the Standing Rules.

Elections Committee

The Elections Committee is authorized in Standing Rule 11. The committee's composition and duties are set forth in Standing Rule 11. The committee conducts the elections at the Representative Assembly, prepares and checks ballot(s) for accuracy, supervises the voting area, acts as judge and constable of the election(s), and performs other appropriate duties as specified in the Standing Rules.

Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee is authorized in Standing Rule 7. The committee consists of the five-member Internal Editing Committee appointed by the president, as many additional members and alternates from each state as there are directors for that state, and as many Retired and Student members as there are Retired and Student directors (i.e., six Retired members and alternates and three student members and alternates).

At-large representatives of ethnic minorities, administrators, classroom teachers in higher education, and Active members employed in education support professional positions are appointed by

the president as necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of Article V, Section 1(c), (d), (e), and (f) respectively. The state members and alternates are elected by the state's accredited delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly. The retired and student members and alternates are elected, respectively, by the accredited Retired and Student delegates. The five members of the Internal Editing Committee are members of the full Resolutions Committee.

The committee prepares and presents to the Representative Assembly proposed resolutions for adoption as specified in Standing Rule 7.

Strategic Priority Committees

Committee on Employee Advocacy

The Committee on Employee Advocacy is responsible for proposing policies and activities to achieve a pluralistic education workforce and advance the economic interests, protect job security, improve the terms and conditions of employment, and secure the right to collective bargaining for all education employees.

The committee advises the Association on ways to improve national, state, and local cooperation in coordinated advocacy efforts to achieve specific objectives in such areas as health care, employee compensation and benefits, and bargaining and organizing strategies.

Committee on Human and Civil Rights

The Committee on Human and Civil Rights is responsible for proposing policies and activities to attain equitable treatment for all and eliminate discrimination in all forms and at all levels, including the international level. The committee may also work with elements of policies and activities related to excellence and equity in public education and to preserving public education.

In advancing these policies, the committee will review the full range of human and civil rights, including the elimination of discrimination from the education

system and from the Association family; review the enforcement of constitutional, contractual, and statutory rights of members and citizens; and monitor the status of basic human rights within the international community.

Committee on Legislation

The Committee on Legislation is responsible for advancing policies to expand and protect the quality of public education and secure its adequate and equitable funding and to develop and recommend the NEA Legislative Program. The committee will regularly review and make recommendations to refine the Legislative Program.

Committee on Membership Services and Affiliate Relationships

The Committee on Membership Services and Affiliate Relationships is responsible for advancing policies and activities to attract, represent, and serve members. The committee advises the

Association on strategies to achieve cooperation in programs requiring coordinated local, state, and national efforts, such as the strategic planning process, and the formulation of new roles for the Association and its leaders in the restructuring of schools. Its general objective is to propose policies and activities to guide the efforts of NEA and its affiliates to achieve complete integration of Association services to affiliates and members.

Committee on Professional Standards and Practice

The Committee on Professional Standards and Practice is responsible for proposing policies and activities to achieve restructuring of public schools and enhance the preparation, practice, and professional standards of education employees. In addition, the committee reviews developments in educational technology, curriculum, accountability and assessment, and other current education issues.

Advisory Committees

Committee on Women's Issues

The Committee on Women's Issues is responsible for proposing policies and programs related to issues of particular concern to women. The committee's focus includes multicultural sex equity topics and federal and state initiatives designed to achieve equal rights under the law for women. The committee reviews Association programs affecting women

and advises the president and the governing bodies on their implementation as appropriate.

Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs

The Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs is responsible for proposing policies and programs related to issues of concern to ethnic minority groups. It

monitors Association implementation of its policies and governance provisions regarding ethnic minorities. The committee also reviews Association programs affecting ethnic minorities and makes recommendations regarding their implementation as appropriate.

Committee on Membership

The Committee on Membership is responsible for developing policies and programs to serve NEA's diverse membership. The committee considers strategies for enhancing the understanding of both the unique needs and common concerns of specific member constituencies and develops program recommendations to meet those needs and to integrate common concerns into coordinated programs. The committee's responsibilities include: (a) reviewing member recruitment strategies and campaigns, (b) tracking member involvement in governance and program activities, and (c) identifying evolving program needs for members.

Advisory Committee of Student Members

The Advisory Committee of Student Members makes recommendations regarding the direction of the NEA Student Program. The committee monitors how issues related to the preprofessional needs of students are addressed, including the coordination of Association efforts to recruit and serve student members and the development and implementation of strategies to retain student members as NEA Active members following their employment.

Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification

The Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification is responsible for proposing policies and programs related to issues of concern to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered individuals. It monitors NEA implementation of policies related to the full inclusion and safety of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered members and students. The committee reviews policies related to sexual orientation and gender identification and advises the president and governing bodies as appropriate.

NEA-Retired Executive Council

The NEA-Retired Executive Council makes recommendations regarding the direction of NEA-Retired in addressing issues of concern to NEA-Retired members and strategies to involve NEA-Retired members in Association activities. It develops recommendations to enhance the recruitment of NEA-Retired members and utilize NEA-Retired members as a resource in advancing NEA strategic priorities.

The NEA-Retired Executive Council is an elective, not an appointive, body.

Symbol of the United Education Profession

This symbol, adopted by the NEA Executive Committee in 1966, combines the legacy of the past (π for $\pi \alpha \iota \delta \epsilon \iota \alpha$, the ancient Greek word for education) with new direction for the future (\blacktriangleright). The spherical triangle serving as the background represents the mutually supportive programs of local, state, and national education associations to advance education. In one sentence, then, the design symbolizes the forward thrust of education through a united profession.

