NEA Committees

NEA’s committee structure provides for committees of the Representative Assembly, strategic committees of the NEA Board that are aligned with the Association’s Strategic Plan and Budget and advance at least one of NEA’s strategic goals; social justice, and constituency committees that make recommendations to NEA’s governing bodies on matters of concern to the constituencies they represent; and other special and ad hoc 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.

**Board Strategic Committees**

**Board Leadership Development**

The Board Leadership Development Committee reviews, assesses, and updates the Board curriculum, training model, and schedule to ensure all Board members receive appropriate training throughout their NEA Board service. The committee also reviews and updates, as needed, the onboarding materials and process for first-year directors who enter the cohort at different times of the year.

**Educator Voice, Professional Rights, and Authority**

The Educator Voice Committee examines and identifies specific mechanisms, policies, and collective bargaining agreement provisions that can be shared as best practices to increase educator voice around student-centered education and educator professional rights/authority.

The Committee also identifies affiliate structures and programs that can be shared as best practices to:

- support and promote educator voice;
- identify educators who want to or have become active on student-centered and professional rights/authority issues;
- collect and share success stories in elevating educator voice for student success and professional rights/authority; and
- build and support a public narrative around educator voice.
ESP Careers

The ESP Careers Committee identifies implementation strategies, resources, and meaningful professional learning opportunities aligned to the ESP Professional Growth Continuum. The committee also reviews the nomination submissions and recommends to the Executive Committee a recipient for the ESP of the Year.

Human and Civil Rights Awards

The Human and Civil Rights Awards Committee reviews the nomination submissions and recommends to the Executive Committee recipients for the Human and Civil Rights Awards. The committee also reviews the criteria, process, and forms for nomination of candidates for all Human and Civil Rights awards, and makes changes as needed, assists in the planning and execution of the awards ceremony, and makes recommendations for collaboration with HCR award winners to advance outreach to communities and partners in support of NEA’s strategic goals within that year.

Legislation

The Legislative Committee reviews the NEA Legislative Program and gathers feedback from NEA members and leaders. The committee provides recommended modifications to the NEA Legislative Program to the Board of Directors and presents it for approval to the annual Representative Assembly. The committee conducts an open hearing during the Annual Meeting to review the proposed NEA Legislative Program and discuss relevant legislative issues with delegates. In addition, the committee works with staff to review legislative amendment submissions and determine the Committee’s recommendation for each submitted amendment. The committee also reviews, assesses, and executes a plan to increase participation in Capitol Hill lobbying and back-home lobbying visits by NEA Board Directors.

Local President Release Time Grants

The Local President Release Time Grants Committee selects recipients of Local President Release Time Program (LPRTP) grants, monitors progress of projects, and reviews evaluations of selected locals. The committee also reviews and makes recommendations as needed related to the LPRTP guidelines, and reviews and reports on the LPRTP’s annual training to ensure that grant recipients are provided the tools necessary to accomplish program objectives and advance a culture of organizing within the local.

Membership Organizing

The Membership Organizing Committee identifies specific ways in which staff and elected leaders can use NEA’s year-round organizing programs to deepen, support, and enhance local and state efforts to engage members as professional practice leaders, racial justice in education activists, and advocates for the necessary tools and resources for every student to be successful.
Professional Standards and Practice
The Professional Standards and Practice Committee identifies the specific policies and practices necessary to support teachers’ growth, development, and excellence throughout an entire career.

Read Across America
The Read Across America Committee reviews and provides feedback on the Association’s work to “Celebrate a Nation of Diverse Readers” by highlighting diverse authors and books for an increasingly diverse student population across America.

UniServ Advisory
The UniServ Advisory Committee reports to the NEA Board of Directors on the structure, operation, and grants of the UniServ Program to ensure they are aligned to advance NEA’s strategic objectives.

Social Justice and Constituency Committees
Aspiring Educators
The Aspiring Educators Committee actively promotes and recommends strategies to increase Aspiring Educator membership and engagement on college campuses while creating a seamless path to active membership, with the goal of creating high quality education leaders and advocates in every school to ensure an exceptional educational experience for every student. In collaboration with the Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee, the committee assists in developing a framework to guide programming and organizing initiatives that support the recruitment and retention of talented individuals into the teaching profession, with a focus on communities of color and other underserved populations. The committee also provides input to the Aspiring Educator Conference Planning Team.

Other Board Committees

Annual Meeting Review
The Annual Meeting Review Committee reviews adopted and referred new business items addressing the conduct of the Representative Assembly and makes recommendations to the NEA Board of Directors on implementation. The committee also recommends to the Board dates and locations for future Annual Meetings.

Executive Officer Compensation
The Executive Officer Compensation Committee reviews the salaries and fringe benefit policies of the Executive Officers and the financial policy package for members of the Executive Committee, and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors as appropriate.

Friend of Education
The Friend of Education Committee reviews the criteria, process, and forms for nomination of candidates for NEA Friend of Education, reviews nomination submissions, and recommends to the Board of Directors a recipient of the Friend of Education award.
Ethnic Minority Affairs

The Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (EMAC) identifies systemic patterns of inequity—racism and educational injustice—that impact educators and students and recommend partnerships and strategies for the organization to consider as opportunities in its racial justice in education work. In collaboration with the Aspiring Educators Committee, the committee assists in developing a framework to guide programming and organizing initiatives that support the recruitment and retention of talented individuals into the teaching profession, with a focus on communities of color and other underserved populations. The committee also provides input to the Racial and Social Justice Conference Planning Committee; reviews testimonies from the EMAC hearings and organizes the broad themes that will inform and enhance NEA’s Strategic Objectives; and review the goals and objectives for Bylaw 3-1(g) and other racial equity policies within NEA to create and enhance existing strategies to improve ethnic minority involvement at all levels across the organization.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee (SOGI) identifies specific strategies to enhance NEA’s efforts to raise member and affiliate awareness of rights and protections available to LGBTQ students and staff and to counter widespread backlash against individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning (LGBTQ). The committee also provides input to the Racial and Social Justice Conference Planning Team; and reviews testimonies from SOGI hearings and organizes the broad themes that will inform and enhance NEA’s Strategic Objectives.

Women’s Issues

The Women’s Issues Committee (WIC) identifies specific strategies that can be implemented in partnership with allies to address the challenges facing women/girls and the intersection of race, with particular focus on gender equity issues. The committee also gathers information and identifies specific strategies and partnerships to help address sexual harassment and intimidation issues in the education workforce that impact women and girls, i.e., #MeToo. The committee provides input to the national Racial and Social Justice Conference Planning Committee, reviews testimonies from WIC hearings, and organizes the broad themes that will inform and enhance NEA’s Strategic Objectives.
NEA Committees

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 π α τ δ ε τ α, the ancient Greek word for education) with new direction for the future (➤). 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.