

Sunday, March 14, 2021 (AM)  
2021 Virtual NEA National Leadership Summit  
CONTENT BLOCK #3: 10:00-11:00 AM EST

10:00am – 11:00am    ADV300    ADV    1,2    **Organize! Activate! Let's Protect Public Education in 2021!**

As educators and union leaders, we must understand how and why our profession is under attack by understanding those who seek to undermine the guarantee of a public education for our students and silence the collective voices of our members. Our adversaries understand that an educated populace—which can use critical thinking skills and knowledge of their rights and responsibilities as citizens—limits their ability to control the wealth, governance, and economy of our nation. In this session, participants will learn basic organizational strategies, which can be used at the local and state levels, to engage and empower members. Through group work, attendees will learn ways to help members counter the activities of the many, intertwined groups, which use their power to sway public opinion with misleading propaganda that undermines public education and public policy at the state and federal levels in favor of free markets, the privatization of our schools, and the diminishment of unions, retirement programs and retiree benefits.

Presenters: Diane Chapman, Carol Schnaiter

10:00am – 11:00am    COM300    COM    1,2    **The Power of Storytelling**

Everyone loves a good story, and educators have the best stories. Participants in this session will explore ways to use stories from their personal experiences as educators to help advance student success, public education and education professions. Session participants will gain a deeper understanding of how personal stories have the power to change attitudes, perceptions, behavior, and win support for public education.

Presenters: Brenda Alvarez, Robin Brown

10:00am – 11:00am    GOV300    GOV    2,3    **Are Your Governing Documents Actually Governing Your Organization?**

In a post-Janus era, it is more important than ever for unions to keep all operations above board. Publicly, unions must be transparent and beyond reproach. In this session, participants will be asked to think critically about their governing documents; develop new ideas about how their state or local can be run; and consider how governing

documents can become part of that structure. Attendees will also work through the potentially problematic or outdated parts of their governing documents. This session will provide participants with the tools they need to analyze and revise state and local constitutions, bylaws, and rules with an eye towards actual organizational best practices. Aimed toward experienced leaders, this session will help participants analyze their organization's current practice and align their governing documents accordingly.

Presenter: Joshua Rubin

10:00am - 11:00am GOV301 GOV 1

### **SEL and the Leadership Journey**

Now, more than ever, education leaders must learn to navigate challenges of current crisis and change in order to lead healthy and productive lives, and model for others the often overlooked, social and emotional skills of leadership. This session will provide an overview of the NEA Leadership Competency Framework and introduce participants to a new addition, a 7th competency: Social Emotional Intelligence. This interactive workshop will help educators explore ways to deepen their awareness and practice of the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

Presenters: Katherine Bishop, Clinton Smith, Benita Moyers

10:00am – 11:00am GOV302 GOV 3

### **Being Vice Presidential—Creating Space to Lead Collaboratively When You Are Not in Charge**

In this session, participants will learn to build healthy relationships based on trust, gain an understanding of why clear association and leadership goals matter, and explore ways personal interests can be leveraged into support for the organization's president. Participants will begin by reflecting on why they decided to run for vice president, and they will learn ways to receive and deliver feedback to their leadership teams to ensure success for everyone.

Presenters: Marisol Garcia, Sherri Schwanz

10:00am – 11:00am GOV303 GOV 3

### **Why Are We Doing This Event? How Planning and Purpose Can Make Experiences Powerful and Effective**

Do you host a training or bring members together for any reason? Do you hold events because "you always have?" In this session, we will create a tool for you to use to assess any event, training, or convening that you host to make sure that you are getting what you need from

what you are paying for. The tool will be personalized to your state or local needs.

Presenters: Shelly Moore Krajacic, Robert Rodriguez

10:00am – 11:00am GOV304 GOV 1,2

### **Navigating Your Leadership Journey**

Anybody have a map? In this session, participants will consider their personal leadership development as an ongoing process and how NEA resources can support their leadership journey. We will examine strategic goal setting, identifying strengths, and building and managing strong relationships within teams. Topics will include: tactical and strategic thinking, social-emotional leadership, building a leadership pipeline, values clarification, and managing time as our most valuable asset. Participants will access multiple tools and guides to work independently (or with local teams) and will be able to continue their leadership journey beyond the Summit with the support of our edCommunities group online.

Presenter: Rebekah McIntosh

10:00am – 11:00am LOP300 LOP 1,2

### **Promoting Social Emotional Learning in Digital Environments Powered by Microsoft Education**

Online learning offers many unique challenges to educators and students. One of these challenges is discovering how educators can continue to support Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) when students are learning from home. How can an online classroom promote the five core competencies of SEL (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making)? This session will showcase ideas that help educators address each SEL competency and support their learners. It will be geared toward Level 2 and 3 leaders who engage with others and build reflective practice in their communities.

Presenters: Leaza Silver, Robyn Hrivnatz

10:00am – 11:00am LOP301 LOP 2,3

### **Connecting Your Union Digitally with Microsoft Teams**

Education unions are called on to create and promote a learning culture within their organization, but are often left without an effective platform. Microsoft Teams offers time-saving, and successful collaboration that is proven to reduce email churn and promotes positive member interactions all year long from one communication and learning hub. Within Microsoft Teams, members can share files, have ongoing discussions, share resources, enjoy live meetings, integrate third-party apps and websites, and more. This session will not cover the basics of Microsoft Teams, but instead will

be geared toward the Level 3 agenda-driven leader who is ready to implement strategies to positively impact organization capacity.

Presenters: Sonja Delafosse, Kim West

10:00am – 11:00am LOP302 LOP 2,3 **Recognizing the Associations’ Role in Improving the Learning of all Students.**

In this reflective session, participants will identify experiences and opportunities to enhance leadership skills. Participants will review NEA’s support of land acknowledgment, learn about the competency levels, and listen and share examples at each level of the competency progression. Participants will leave the session with many ideas they can implement in their local associations.

Presenter: Juanita “Jany” Ortiz

10:00am – 11:00am LOP303 LOP 1,2 **How to Advance Your Bill Through Effective Policy Engagement**

Leading in your profession means advocating, outside of a classroom or worksite, for policies and strategies that positively impact our professions and students. This interactive session will walk participants through an example of how one educator worked to create and advance a bill. Participants will receive the tools and strategies needed to identify bill sponsors (policymakers), learn to organize and facilitate an effective policy meeting, learn tips for engaging decision-makers, and gather tactics that will help garner support for their bill.

Presenter: George Stewart, II

10:00am – 11:00am LOP304 LOP 1,2,3 **Power-Mapping Stakeholders to Initiate Policy Change for Socially Just Learning Environments**

In this interactive session, participants will evaluate an identified need to determine who would be instrumental in initiating a policy change to address this need. Learn how to power-map the stakeholders to determine who can influence and who has the scope of authority to affect policy change. Collaborate with other educators to create an action plan to foster productive partnerships in establishing socially just learning environments. Using the NEA Leadership Competency Framework, participants will explore how affiliates can lead by advocating for policies and strategies that positively impact our profession and the learning of all students.

Presenter: Sandra Skordolas

10:00am – 11:00am LOP305 LOP 1,2,3 **The Assets Are There: Mapping Student Success**

All communities have assets and resources. Identifying those assets is critical to supporting student and family needs. We'll discuss Community Asset Mapping as a tool to identify the strengths and resources of communities in order to identify solutions.

Presenters: Andy Coons, Amber Parker, Andrea Prejean, Jose' Munoz

10:00am – 11:00am LOP306 LOP 1,2 **Each One Reach One: Two Stories of Self, One Journey to Leadership**

Start building your leadership capacity within the Association now! And while you're at it, bring a colleague or two, or three along for the journey. By the end of this session, participants will be prepared to maximize the plethora of professional development opportunities available through the Association. Participants will also generate school and district maps to identify and recruit new members to join and become active in the Association.

Presenters: Kristi Gregoire, Rakeal Williamson

10:00am – 11:00am ORG300 ORG 1 **Navigating Student Loan Debt**

Student loan debt is now the second category of consumer debt in America today, with \$33,000 as the average amount owed. As lifelong learners who often continue their education past a Bachelor's Degree, many educators owe much more. This session will focus on the three student loan forgiveness programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education, the requirement and process of forgiveness, how to prevent being denied forgiveness, and the latest developments on student loans coming out of the CARES Act and the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, NEA Member Benefits has made the "NEA Student Debt Navigator" powered by Savi available at no cost to NEA members for the first year. This tool will analyze members' specific student loan debt and assist with the paperwork process.

Presenter: Aaron Warner

10:00am – 11:00am ORG301 ORG 1,2,3 **Building Capacity by Leading on Issues that Matter**

Being a member of the union means more than signing up. The union creates the capacity to take collective action to lead on issues that matter most to members. In this session, we will develop the skills to identify issues and learn how organizing can help build the leadership muscle of activists and leaders in your local.

What are the issues that matter most for members in your local and how can you build your union strength by expanding how you lead? Union leadership can expand the union's capacity by identifying issues that matter and members that can lead the work. Build it and they will come.

Presenter: Linda Manny

10:00am – 11:00am SFH300 SFH 2

**Resource Development: Grant Writing and Beyond! Part 3**

In part three of Grant Writing and Beyond you will understand and develop aspects of the budget, explore partnership options more in depth, and discover additional options for grant resources.

Presenters: Marlin Jeffers, Barbara Hopkins

10:00am – 11:00am SFH301 SFH 1

**Fiduciary Responsibilities and Association Policies to Support an Ethical Association Culture**

To be good stewards of the association’s financial resources and reputations, there are fiduciary responsibilities that all leaders are legally obligated to perform. In this session, participants will learn about the fiduciary responsibilities and explore how ethical conduct, the absence of conflict of interest, and the presence of whistleblower policies and an audit committee help to promote an ethical culture and deter fraud.

Presenter: Doug Taylor

10:00am – 11:00am SFH302 SFH 1,2

**Compliance 101: What Every Leader Must Know About Regulatory Filings and Recordkeeping Requirements**

In this session, participants will receive an understanding of legal and compliance requirements, which help to ensure the association is in good standing with federal and state regulators and that the association’s reputation remains protected.

Presenter: Kristin Butler

10:00am – 11:00am RSJ003 RSJ 1,2,3

**Talking Race: Grounding Our Understanding to Effectively Talk About Race and Racial Justice**

Combating institutional racism and advancing racial justice in education and beyond is at the forefront of the NEA’s vision to provide a great public school for every student. At the 2015 Representative Assembly, NEA adopted NBI-B, which recognized the role that institutional racism plays in our society, including in our schools. NBI-B directed NEA to spotlight patterns of systemic racism and educational injustice that impact students, and to take action to enhance access and opportunity for all students to have a great education.

We know that if we are to achieve racial justice and equity in our schools and impact the lives of students and educators, we must also

examine, assess and create meaningful change within our association. Our work promotes a vision for public education that advances inclusion, equity, and racial and social justice in our schools and society. Our work must dismantle white supremacy, and ensure that bigotry or discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin are not part of our classrooms, educational curricula, school policies and discipline practices. We will take action by demanding changes to policies, programs, and practices that condone or ignore unequal treatment of students and hinder their success.

This session is designed for local and state leaders to deepen their understanding of the levels of racism and its impacts on institutions and systems. We will outline why a race equity/justice lens is critical to our work. Activities and tools will be introduced to support the development of a racial analysis as well as basic tools to engage in constructive discussion about race.

Presenters: Hilario Benzon, Pam Rios, Aaron Dorsey

10:00am – 11:00am EVO003 EVO 1,2,3

**My School, My Voice: Building Equity for the Schools Our Students Deserve**

This session will address the concept of “educator voice” and how we use it to build equitable learning spaces that support student success. Attendees will learn ways to engage with colleagues nationwide to maximize the power to promote equity for all students in our schools with families and community leaders. Attendees will participate in facilitated dialogue with peers about how to use school data, educators’ expertise, and your collective voices to achieve wins to strengthen the schools our students deserve.

This session is designed for those new to or familiar with engaging in local policy efforts, and is designed for local and state members and leaders who want to connect with colleagues and create action that will address equity and opportunity gaps in schools and districts.

Presenter: Elic Senter

10:00am – 11:00am BOD003 BOD 3

**(BOARD of DIRECTORS ONLY)  
Leaders, Take Care of Yourself: Work Smarter Not Harder**

As a leader in the organization, one of the greatest pitfalls is allowing too much of your time to be consumed in union business. By reflecting on what continues to bring you personal fulfillment, you can create a balance that will allow you to be a stronger and more effective leader. Leaders have a responsibility to model effective ways for members to advocate for themselves. By the end of the session, participants will:

- Develop strategies for self-care

- Learn to navigate resources to ease the demands of your Association role
- Empower members to be self-advocates
- Effectively utilize time management

Presenters: Russell Leone, Robin Brown, Candace Shivers, Anita Kober, Kevin LaDuke