Advocacy

ADV 114  Level 1: Foundational
        Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building

Voter Suppression and Why Every Vote Matters

Educators and unionists need to be able to recognize and understand the well-coordinated national groups that threaten voting rights. In this session, participants will learn how to use advocacy strategies to effectively share information about all aspects of voting and organize state and local affiliate members, family/friends, and their community to beat back and prevent attacks on the right to vote. Among other activities, participants will receive a graphic organizer and have time to create a Get Out the Vote plan to share with their local affiliate members.

Presenters: Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter

Communication

COM 106  Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
        Level 3: Agenda Driving

LISTEN to Learn

In today’s fast-paced, high stress world, good communication and effective listening is more important than ever. Listening is a way to make someone feel important, included, and acknowledged. It’s also key to the work we do as an association. How can we effectively advocate on behalf of students and our members if we don’t listen to what is happening in their schools, and classrooms? This session is designed to help participants learn to be better listeners. Participants will learn to develop and lead listening sessions. This skill can be applied to listening in various contexts, including informal conversations, meetings, and formal settings.

Presenter: Erica Seifert
COM 104 Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building

Social Media and Advocacy: Putting Platforms to Work

This session will provide participants with a brief overview of social media platforms that can help engage members, and decision-makers, while expanding their online presence. Members will learn to use their online presence to help ensure great public schools for every student.

Presenter: Justin Conley

GOV 106 Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving

Daring Leadership Requires Us to Step Into the Arena

Based on the Dare to Lead curriculum, which comes from research conducted by Dr. Brene' Brown, and outlined in her book Dare to Lead, this session will focus on two skill sets: rumbling with vulnerability and learning to rise. Useful to association leaders at every level, these skills will help leaders advance the goals and missions of their local and of NEA, prepare them to face diverse challenges, and learn from successes, disappointments, and defeats. Participants will leave with an authentic understanding of their advocacy, why they have entered the “arena” and leave with specific steps to rise after conflict, struggle, and defeat.

Presenter: Kelly Peaks Horner

LOP 102 Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building

Beyond the Rhetoric of ‘Restorative Justice’: Using Data to Strengthen Safety and Belonging

As an alternative to using harsh and/or exclusionary disciplinary practices, many schools moved toward “restorative justice” programs. Yet the ideals of restorative justice can get lost if such programs are not implemented with fidelity and sufficiently resourced. While community-building is a critical building block for restorative justice, data collection on key school culture and climate measures is limited.
In this session, presenters will share insights from two National Coalition on School Diversity working groups: one focused on intersections between (de)segregation and discipline and the other focused on authentic, equitable, robust, and asset-based assessment systems. Session presenters will explore questions such as: What is the relationship between school demographics and school discipline, and why should educators care about it? How might we more effectively measure whether a school is a safe and nurturing environment? What existing tools and models might help provide educators the information they need to strengthen school climate and culture?

Presenters, and special guests, will share examples of ways educators can generate actionable data on safety and belonging to support restorative justice efforts in their schools and communities.

Presenters: Gina Chirichigno, Christine DonFrancesco, and Peter Piazza

Organizing

ORG 109 Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving

Together We Win: Inclusive Organizing in Higher Ed

Higher education (de) is facing both severe challenges and opportunities. It is imperative that stakeholders coalesce. Reflective of this are campaigns such as the New Deal for Higher Education, and the work of advocacy groups like Scholars for New Deal in Higher Education and Higher Education Labor United. Now more than ever, higher-de faculty need to look beyond the traditional confines of their unions to other important stakeholders. For example, classified staff and paraprofessionals, graduate student workers, student organizations at both the local and state level, local labor boards, and community groups, including locally elected boards of trustees. Mainly focused on the problems and challenges of academic contingency and the defunding of higher de, the presentation will give a summary of the parallel development of higher-de defunding and contingency, then discuss their impacts of terms of faculty work life and impact on students. These impacts are a challenge to the promise of equity in higher de at all levels. At the same time, the presentation will also look at how student workers, classified staff, and hourlies have fared to show larger community impact. The presentation will then look at the challenges in higher-de organizing within K–12 dominant unions dealing with local varied state and national structures, and how cross union/cross sector coalitions can work effectively in consort in larger union bodies toward a common goal. Taking it down to the local and state level, the presentation will further look at the example of the 2015 to 2020 California Community College contingent faculty-focused categorical funding campaigns. This includes the pushes for contingent faculty rehire rights, paid maternity leave for female educators, and student loan forgiveness. It shows how, if done in concert with the state legislative cycle, there can be the possibility of creating a year-round organizing campaign model, which can be reshaped and adjusted at the local and national level, as well as grow future faculty and student leaders.

Presenter: Geoffery Johnson
Together We Win: Inclusive Organizing in Higher Ed

Organizing conversations are the most effective way to move members to action and ultimately grow local membership. Effective organizing means building relationships, one at a time and over time, through structured one-on-one conversations. In this session, we’ll share new research insights that will equip association members and leaders with the skills to move from “transactional” to “transformational” conversations. We will learn what potential members care about most and practice ways to answer “difficult questions.” Participants will leave the session confident and ready to sign up new members in their local.

Presenters: Katrina Byrne, Floyd Cox, Caitlin Rollo, Robin Henderson Wilson

Strategy and Fiscal Health

Social and Emotional Intelligence

SEI 101 Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving
The Revolution Will Not be Televised (Part 1)
This 2-part session will explore how community leaders and educators can utilize social and emotional learning (SEL) to disrupt systems of inequity while leveraging their social capital to activate communities for collective action. The goal of this exploration is to cultivate student activism, joy, liberation, and radical healing within teaching and learning spaces.
This session will be interactive and will include learning blocks where learners will explore the following topics: culturally responsive SEL practices and how to leverage transformative SEL to support students, systems of inequity (harm in education) and how to leverage social capital. This session seeks to equip community leaders and educators with the necessary skills and resources to commit to an equitable education system. Participants are highly encouraged to attend both sessions.
Presenters: Kamilah Drummond, Kimberly Early, Dionne Grayman, and Tynisha Jointer

SEI 108 Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Why We Need a Happy ‘NEA’ Revolution: Addressing the Pandemic of Stress and Burnout in Education

Happy Teacher Revolution is a Baltimore-born, international movement with the mission to organize and conduct support groups for teachers in the field of mental health and wellness to increase teacher happiness, retention, and professional sustainability. This discussion-based session will explore topics of caregiver burnout, vicarious trauma, the importance of self-care in the field of education, and the necessity for teachers to feel empowered to claim happiness as their own as a “best-practice” to help
students. Participants will have the opportunity to experience and participate in a “demo” Happy Teacher Revolution meeting as part of the breakout session.

Presenter: Danna Thomas

SFH 106  Level 1: Foundational  
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building  
Level 3: Agenda Driving

Using SWOT Analyses for Strategic Planning

In this session, participants will examine their environment from a variety of areas to identify opportunities and key capabilities that help to shape organizational goals. The session will be interactive and will provide participants with a series of tools to support strategic decision-making and planning.

Presenters: Sarah Ammar, Leigh Kennedy, and Andrea Walker

Saturday, March 12, 2022 • Content Session Block 2 • 1 to 2:30 p.m. PST

Advocacy

ADV 216 Level 1: Foundational  
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building

Voter Suppression and Why Every Vote Matters

Educators and unionists need to be able to recognize and understand the well-coordinated national groups that threaten voting rights. In this session, participants will learn how to use advocacy strategies to effectively share information about all aspects of voting and organize state and local affiliate members, family/friends, and their community to beat back and prevent attacks on the right to vote. Among other activities, participants will receive a graphic organizer and have time to create a Get Out the Vote plan to share with their local affiliate members.

Presenters: Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter
LISTEN to Learn

In today’s fast-paced, high stress world, good communication and effective listening is more important than ever. Listening is a way to make someone feel important, included, and acknowledged. It’s also key to the work we do as an association. How can we effectively advocate on behalf of students and our members if we don’t listen to what is happening in their schools, and classrooms? This session is designed to help participants learn to be better listeners. Participants will learn to develop and lead listening sessions. This skill can be applied to listening in various contexts, including informal conversations, meetings, and formal settings.

Presenter: Erica Seifert

COM 204 Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Social Media and Advocacy: Putting Platforms to Work

This session will provide participants with a brief overview of social media platforms that can help engage members, and decision-makers, while expanding their online presence. Members will learn to use their online presence to help ensure great public schools for every student.

Presenter: Justin Conley

GOV 206 Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving

Daring Leadership Requires Us to Step Into the Arena

Based on the Dare to Lead curriculum, which comes from research conducted by Dr. Brene' Brown, and outlined in her book Dare to Lead, this session will focus on two skill sets: rumbling with vulnerability and learning to rise. Useful to association leaders at every level, these skills will help leaders advance the goals and missions of their local and of NEA, prepare them to face diverse challenges, and learn from successes, disappointments, and defeats. Participants will leave with an authentic understanding of their advocacy, why they have entered the “arena” and leave with specific steps to rise after conflict, struggle, and defeat.
Beyond the Rhetoric of ‘Restorative Justice’: Using Data to Strengthen Safety and Belonging

As an alternative to using harsh and/or exclusionary disciplinary practices, many schools moved toward “restorative justice” programs. Yet the ideals of restorative justice can get lost if such programs are not implemented with fidelity and sufficiently resourced. While community-building is a critical building block for restorative justice, data collection on key school culture and climate measures is limited.

In this session, presenters will share insights from two National Coalition on School Diversity working groups: one focused on intersections between (de)segregation and discipline and the other focused on authentic, equitable, robust, and asset-based assessment systems. Session presenters will explore questions such as: What is the relationship between school demographics and school discipline, and why should educators care about it? How might we more effectively measure whether a school is a safe and nurturing environment? What existing tools and models might help provide educators the information they need to strengthen school climate and culture?

Presenters, and special guests, will share examples of ways educators can generate actionable data on safety and belonging to support restorative justice efforts in their schools and communities.

Presenters: Gina Chirichigno, Christine DonFrancesco, and Peter Piazza

Together We Win: Inclusive Organizing in Higher Ed

Higher education (de) is facing both severe challenges and opportunities. It is imperative that stakeholders coalesce. Reflective of this are campaigns such as the New Deal for Higher Education, and the work of advocacy groups like Scholars for New Deal in Higher Education and Higher Education Labor United. Now more than ever, higher-de faculty need to look beyond the traditional confines of their unions to other important stakeholders. For example, classified staff and paraprofessionals, graduate student workers, student organizations at both the local and state level, local labor boards, and community groups, including locally elected boards of trustees. Mainly focused on the problems and
challenges of academic contingency and the defunding of higher ed, the presentation will give a summary of the parallel development of higher-de defunding and contingency, then discuss their impacts of terms of faculty work life and impact on students. These impacts are a challenge to the promise of equity in Higher Ed at all levels. At the same time, the presentation will also look at how student workers, classified staff, and hourlies have fared to show larger community impact. The presentation will then look at the challenges in higher-de organizing within K–12 dominant unions dealing with local varied state and national structures, and how cross union/cross sector coalitions can work effectively in consort in larger union bodies toward a common goal. Taking it down to the local and state level, the presentation will further look at the example of the 2015 to 2020 California Community College contingent faculty-focused categorical funding campaigns. This includes the pushes for contingent faculty rehire rights, paid maternity leave for female educators, and student loan forgiveness. It shows how, if done in concert with the state legislative cycle, there can be the possibility of creating a year-round organizing campaign model, which can be reshaped and adjusted at the local and national level, as well as grow future faculty and student leaders.

Presenter: Geoffery Johnson

**ORG 210**  
**Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building**  
**Level 3: Agenda Driving**

**Together We Win: Inclusive Organizing in Higher Ed**

Organizing conversations are the most effective way to move members to action and ultimately grow local membership. Effective organizing means building relationships, one at a time and over time, through structured one-on-one conversations. In this session, we’ll share new research insights that will equip association members and leaders with the skills to move from “transactional” to “transformational” conversations. We will learn what potential members care about most and practice ways to answer “difficult questions.” Participants will leave the session confident and ready to sign up new members in their local.

Presenters: Katrina Byrne, Floyd Cox, Caitlin Rollo, Robin Henderson Wilson

**Social and Emotional Intelligence**

**SEI 208 Level 1: Foundational**  
**Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building**

**Why We Need a Happy ‘NEA’ Revolution: Addressing the Pandemic of Stress and Burnout in Education**

Happy Teacher Revolution is a Baltimore-born, international movement with the mission to organize and conduct support groups for teachers in the field of mental health and wellness to increase teacher happiness, retention, and professional sustainability. This discussion-based session will explore topics of caregiver burnout, vicarious trauma, the importance of self-care in the field of education, and the
necessity for teachers to feel empowered to claim happiness as their own as a “best-practice” to help students. Participants will have the opportunity to experience and participate in a “demo” Happy Teacher Revolution meeting as part of the breakout session.

Presenter: Danna Thomas

SEI 201 Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving
The Revolution Will Not be Televised (Part 2)
This is Part 2 of a 2-part session that will explore how community leaders and educators can utilize social and emotional learning (SEL) to disrupt systems of inequity while leveraging their social capital to activate communities for collective action. The goal of this exploration is to cultivate student activism, joy, liberation, and radical healing within teaching and learning spaces. This session will be interactive and will include learning blocks where learners will explore the following topics: culturally responsive SEL practices and how to leverage transformative SEL to support students, systems of inequity (harm in education), and how to leverage social capital. This session seeks to equip community leaders and educators with the necessary skills and resources to commit to an equitable education system. Participants are encouraged to attend both sessions to maximize their learning. Presenters: Kamilah Drummond, Kimberly Early, Dionne Grayman, and Tynisha Jointer

Strategy and Fiscal Health

SFH 206 Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving
Collaborating for Student Success: An Educator Voice Strategy
Learn how labor management partnerships result in collaboration that improves student outcomes, educator retention, and transforms the role of the union in teaching and learning decisions. In this interactive session, participants will learn about and use some of the tools available to prepare for collaborative practices, implement collaboration in your district and schools, and reflect on your outcomes.

Presenters: Sarah Ammar, Leigh Kennedy, and Andrea Walker
Sunday, March 13, 2020 • Content Session Block 3 • 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. PST

Advocacy

ADV 314  
Level 1: Foundational  
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building

Voter Suppression and Why Every Vote Matters

Educators and unionists need to be able to recognize and understand the well-coordinated national groups that threaten voting rights. In this session, participants will learn how to use advocacy strategies to effectively share information about all aspects of voting and organize state and local affiliate members, family/friends, and their community to beat back and prevent attacks on the right to vote. Among other activities, participants will receive a graphic organizer and have time to create a Get Out the Vote plan to share with their local affiliate members.

Presenters: Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter

Communication

COM 306  
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building  
Level 3: Agenda Driving

LISTEN to Learn

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Presenter: Kelly Peaks Horner

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state level, the presentation will further look at the example of the 2015 to 2020 California Community College contingent faculty-focused categorical funding campaigns. This includes the pushes for contingent faculty rehire rights, paid maternity leave for female educators, and student loan forgiveness. It shows how, if done in concert with the state legislative cycle, there can be the possibility of creating a year-round organizing campaign model, which can be reshaped and adjusted at the local and national level, as well as grow future faculty and student leaders.

Presenter: Geoffrey Johnson

ORG 310  Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving

Together We Win: Inclusive Organizing in Higher Ed

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Strategy and Fiscal Health

SFH 305  Level 1: Foundational
Level 2: Mobilizing and Power Building
Level 3: Agenda Driving

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Presenter: Danna Thomas