

Representative Assembly 2022 Framework

The 2022 Representative Assembly (RA) will be in person, with a virtual option.

This year's RA theme is Joy, Justice and Excellence: The Strength of Educators, The Brilliance of Students, The Power of Community. Using this foundation, each day of the RA will highlight a specific theme.

The RA will be inspiring and interactive, featuring celebrities, choirs, impactful speakers and Delegate engagement experiences that will equip educators with tools that they can employ at home.

An invitation has been extended to the White House for an appearance by President Joe Biden or Vice President Kamala Harris.

Delegates will have an opportunity to engage in the larger visioning work around the future of public education.

- Each day, there will be Delegate engagements in the S-100 lobby, just outside of the caucus rooms. Delegates may visit those spaces at any time.
- During the lunch break, Reimagining Education and Assessment team members will staff the area to ask Delegates for their input on the two issues.
- Delegates will have the opportunity to respond to a series of questions via QR code.
- Delegates can take part in interactive games and art projects.
- There will be video booths throughout NEA's convention center spaces where Delegates can record short messages.
- NEA will also get input prior to the RA, by reaching out the 2021 delegates to request short, member-generated videos to play at the RA and future NEA conferences and events.

Back by popular demand, DJ Spinna will generate energy and excitement each day.

There will be a daily pre-show at 9:45 am that will feature compelling videos that spotlight NEA, members, our accomplishments, and resources. Each preshow will include content geared specifically toward the daily themes.

DAY ONE – JULY 3: THE CHARGE

RA Show

We will set the tone and expectations by explaining the Joy, Justice and Excellence theme and showing Delegates how they are part of the solution.

The RA floor will be a sea of orange as Delegates wear the color to promote gun violence awareness.

President Pringle will deliver her keynote address, immediately following a performance by the Walt Whitman and the Soul Children Choir of Chicago.

Tyler James Williams and Sheryl Lee Ralph of Abbott Elementary will make an appearance.

Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker has been invited to welcome the RA to Chicago.

Delegates will hear from candidates running for the Executive Committee and the NEA Board.

Delegates will take action on the Secretary Treasurer's Report, New Business Items and Proposed Amendments to the NEA Constitution and By Laws.

A diverse group will open the day with a nontraditional approach to the opening ceremonies.

- **Pledge** – Ethan Garibay, Virginia Heretick and Connor Walitsky-Oliver
- **Mission Statement** – Candace Shivers Higher Ed NEA Board of Director MA
- **Invocation** - Aspiring Educator Chair Cameo Kendrick
- **Land Acknowledgement** – Duff “Duff” Martin
- **Poem and Song** – NEA Board Member Jennifer Scurlock of Oregon
- **Color Guard** – The Air Force Academy High School
- **National Anthem** – NEA Choir

Other Elements

After the RA concludes, President Pringle will go live on Instagram with a student.

DAY TWO – JULY 4: JOY

RA Show

On the second day of the RA, we will uplift joy...the joy of students, the joy of being an educator, and the joy of making a difference.

NEA Executive Director Kim Anderson will address educators.

As we uplift the joy that students bring, we will note their candor, bravery and advocacy in a video from the Joy, Justice and Excellence Tour.

It's anticipated that the Department of Education will release two new regulations regarding Title IX in June. The order and specific timing of the releases are unknown. If the Federal Registry open comment period falls during the RA, we will ask delegates to use their phones for a mass outreach on the RA floor.

Education Secretary Miguel Cardona has been invited to provide video remarks on Title IX and the future assessments.

Delegates will take action on NBIs, along with new and existing policy statements.

Attendees will be treated to a July 4 celebration with music and fireworks via video.

DAY THREE – JULY 5: JUSTICE

RA Show

On the third day of the RA, we will uplift justice.

Two videos from the Joy, Justice and Excellence Tour will air on the floor to uplift the justice theme. One video will feature parts of the tour where President Pringle saw educators and partners tackling racial and social justice issues. The second will focus on the elections and voter rights.

Hopefully, President Joe Biden or Vice President Harris will appear this day to demonstrate why elections are so critical.

Delegates will take action on NBIs and the NEA Legislative Program.

Delegates will be treated to a video from Dolly Parton, the 2022 NEA Friend of Education.

Kurt Russell, the 2022 Teacher of the Year, will address the RA live in Chicago.

DAY FOUR – JULY 6: EXCELLENCE

RA Show

On the final day of the RA, we will uplift excellence and wear red in support for Red for Ed. We will acknowledge and demonstrate the expertise and strength of advocating for our students, our professional rights and improving our practice.

We will also showcase amazing educators who bring excellence to their work: ESP of the Year Debra Ward-Mitchell and the Higher Educator of the Year Bonniejean Alford.

Author, professor, and activist Dr. Shawn Ginwright will address the RA via video. He leads a national nonprofit consulting firm, whose mission is to design strategies that unlock the power of healing and engage youth of color and adult allies in transforming their schools and communities.

We will feature the final video from the Joy, Justice and Excellence tour that showcases President Pringle visiting schools across the country and marveling what educators have been able to accomplish despite the various challenges.

Delegates will take action on NBIs, the Strategic Plan and Budget, and the Standing Rules for 2023.