



March 3-5, 2024
Hyatt Regency Chicago • 151 E Wacker Drive • Chicago, IL

SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024

7:00 am - 5:00 pm CST	Registration opens Silent Auction/PAC
7:00 am - 8:30 am CST	Breakfast on Your Own
8:30 am - 12:00 pm CST	Presidents Meeting w/Anita Gibson State Staff Liaison Meeting w/Todd Crenshaw
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm CST	Lunch (Presidents & Liaisons ONLY)
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm CST	Joint State Presidents and Staff Liaisons Meeting – Anita Gibson & Todd Crenshaw
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm CST	Pre-Conference Session 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating for Our LGBTQ+ Students and Educators in Today's Political Climate. (Catherine Cat Clarke-Illinois). • Lobbying: Honing Your Skills as a Citizen Lobbyist (Karen Solheim-Georgia).
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm CST	Pre-Conference Session 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retirees are our best advocates for community engagement. (Elaine Merriweather-California). • Identifying and Understanding the Groups Working to Undermine Public Education (Diane Chapman-Illinois).
5:15 pm - 6:30 pm CST	Welcome: NEA-Retired President Anita Gibson Introduction of Program: NEA-Retired Vice President, Jean Dobashi Land Acknowledgement: Melba Jones-Searcy Code of Conduct: Loretta Tisdel Conference Overview: NEA-Retired Secretary, Marilyn Warner Greetings: President of Illinois, Al Llorens, NEA Executive Committee, Shannon McCann Opening Plenary Session, NEA President Becky Pringle
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm CST	Dinner

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

7:30 am - 8:15 am CST	Breakfast and Budget (NEA Secretary-Treasurer Noel Candelaria).
8:30 am - 8:00 pm CST	Silent Auction/ PAC (to be open until after dinner).
8:15 am - 9:15 am CST	Promote, Protect & Strengthen Public Education campaign and panel discussion with NEA Deputy Executive Director Karen White.

9:15 am - 9:30 am CST	Live Auction
9:30 am - 9:45 am CST	Break
9:45 am - 11:00 am CST	<p>Breakout Session I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working With Local Partner Organizations to Support School Elections (Jenny Murnane Butcher-Montana). • CORAL Required Session (Anita Gibson-Alabama). • Parliamentary Procedure: The Basics Every Leader Should Know (John Heineman-Nebraska). • Engaging our leaders and retired members in Racial and Social Justice activism with their state/local affiliate (Janice Dwosh-Arizona). • Ship Ahoy! Jump on a NOAA Research Ship and Learn How Our World is Changing (Carol Schnaiter- Illinois). • Who Wants To Be An NEA Knowledge Bowl Winner? (Rosalinda Carreón-Altamiriano-NEA-New Mexico). • Building Up Local Retired Association—One That Grows, Attracts and Retains Members (Michael Priser-Federal).
11:15 am - 12:30 pm CST	<p>Breakout Session II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Social Group to Political Powerhouse: How to grow your retired membership! (Denise Graff Policastro-New Jersey). • Bluegrass Roots - Building Advocacy with Legislators (Lisa Petry-Kirk-Kentucky). • PA PSERS - A Cautionary Tale - A look at PSERS' history which led to two pension cuts in one decade (Corry Schachern-Pennsylvania). • Retirees are our best advocates for community engagement. Participants will learn important steps to stay engaged. (Elaine Merriweather-California). • Cyber Security (Heather Heard-Tennessee). • Public Education Under Attack: A Look at Florida (Melondia Franklin Corpus & Janice Poirier-Florida). • Identifying and Understanding the Organized Groups Which Are Working to Undermine Public Education and Why They Continue Doing So (Diane Chapman & Carol Schnaiter-Illinois).
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm CST	Lunch On Your Own
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm CST	Labor Celebration – 40 Years Bargaining of Illinois with a Panel discussion of successful political engagement activities.
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm CST	<p>Breakout Session III</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are You Ready to Run Your Meetings? Skills for the Presiding Officer (Stephen Gorrie-Massachusetts). • Reaching Across All Membership Categories (Mary Binegar & Valenta Ward Gravely-Ohio).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who Wants To Be An NEA Knowledge Bowl Winner? (Rosalinda Carreón-Altamirano-New Mexico). • Bias is All Around You (Maxine Mosley-New Hampshire). • Can We Talk? Calling Each Other In To Advance Racial and Social Justice (Dr. Hilario Benzon NEA & Dr. Denise Emmerling-Baker Ohio). • Passing the Baton: Transitioning Leadership (Julie Horwin-Arizona). • Look What You're ALREADY Accomplishing! Your Existing Projects Can Be Spirit of Membership Awardees! (Dana Dillon-California).
4:45 pm - 5:30 pm CST	Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) Conversation
5:30 pm	Passport Activities Dinner On Your Own

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

7:30 am - 8:30 am CST	Breakfast
8:45 am - 10:00 am CST	<p>Final Breakout Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Emotional Awareness: Discussing generational gaps. (Dr. Lisa Stewart-Alabama). • Year Round Organizing (YRO) Program and Opportunities for Retired members (Marcy Kamienecki-NEA). • What I Want My Loved Ones to Know: A Practical Look at Life and Preparedness (Susan Estes – Member Benefits). • Public Education Under Attack: A Look at Florida (Melondia Franklin Corpus & Janice Poirier -Florida). • Advocating for Our LGBTQ+ Students and Educators in Today's Political Climate (Catherine (Cat) Clarke NEA-IEA).
10:15 am - 11:00 am CST	Remarks NEA Vice President- Princess Moss
11:00 am - 11:30 am CST	Closing Plenary with Jason Walta