

2025



NEA-
Retired



NEA RETIREES CONFERENCE

Detroit, Michigan
March 9th-11th

Welcome

Anita Gibson, President, NEA Retired



NEA Members and Supporters

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Introduction of Program

Jean Dobashi, Vice President, NEA Retired



Land Acknowledgement

Bertha Arribas, President, North Oakland Retiree Association



Standards of Conduct

Al Beamish, President, Region 16 MEA-Retired Chapter



NEA Standards of Conduct

NEA has adopted a Standards of Conduct policy to ensure that all of our gatherings are welcoming to all and free from discriminatory, harassing, or otherwise unacceptable behavior. Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by law will not be tolerated. If you experience any discriminatory, harassing, or otherwise unacceptable behavior please see **Robert Rodriguez (RRodriguez@nea.org)** or **Christine Sampson Clark (CClark@nea.org)** to report the incident. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring a positive event for all.



Conference Overview

Marilyn Warner, Secretary, NEA–Retired



PAC Information

Barbara Schram, Retired Conference PAC Lead



PAC Information

- ❖ PAC Room is Grand C
- ❖ MONDAY: 7am – 8pm, bidding open
- ❖ TUESDAY: 7am -8:30am final time to bid
- ❖ Live Auctions during plenary sessions
- ❖ Auction winners will be posted at the end of the last general session



Kinnaman Scholarship

The NEA-Retired Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund was established in honor of Jack Kinnaman, the then-serving NEA-Retired Vice President. As Retired members have continued to generously donate, the amount has greatly increased to five scholarships of \$3,500 each. The NEA-Retired Intergenerational Committee selects the winners, who are announced at the NEA-Retired Annual meeting.

Mailing Address:

National Education Association Attn: Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund 1201 16th ST, N.W., Ste 414 Washington, DC 20036



Kinnaman Scholarship

IMPORTANT: Check must be made payable in the following manner!!!

Please make your check payable to:

NEA Foundation

In the memo line:

Jack Kinnaman
Scholarship Fund

5719

DATE: _____

NEA Foundation

PAY TO THE ORDER OF: _____

\$

_____ DOLLARS

Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund

MEMO: _____

⑆000045678000 0000⑆ ⑈0000

State Welcome

*Kay Walker Telma, President,
Michigan Education Association Retired*



Executive Committee Greetings

Shannon McCann, NEA Executive Committee



Executive Committee Greetings

Shannon McCann, NEA Executive Committee





NEA Retired **Mary Kusler, Senior Director,** **NEA Center for Campaigns and** **Political Action**

A Grounding Reflection

They told us we wouldn't get here. And there were those who said that we would get here only over their dead bodies, but all the world today knows that we are here and we are standing before the forces of power in the state of Alabama saying, "We ain't goin' let nobody turn us around."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

March 25, 1965 in Montgomery, AL

After the third – and finally successful – march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge all the way to the state house.

Now, the Positive: GPO/WEP Repeal!



- Member Advocacy Made the Difference! Active and Retired Members made calls, sent emails, held rallies, and made Hill and in-district visits.
- We worked with allies across the Labor Movement.
- Social Security Fairness Act signed into law on January 5.
- Retroactive Payments started February 25 – dating back to January 2024. Most people will see their benefits change in April 2025 (for their March benefit)



Gallup: Trump Approval Rating

- At this stage of a Presidency, the only President less popular than Trump is now was.....Trump last time.
- The other trend that this chart shows is the increase in partisan perspective polarization since the 90s.
- Other sources:
 - The Economist/YouGov: 47 Fav/50 Unfav
 - Post/Ipsos: 45 Approve/53 Disapprove
 - FiveThirtyEight: 46 Fav/48 Unfav
- Trump agenda even less popular than Trump.
- Congress is woefully unpopular, including Congressional Democrats.

Presidents' Initial February Job Approval Ratings, 1953-2025

% Approve

	Overall	Rep	Ind	Dem	Rep-Dem gap
	%	%	%	%	pct. pts.
• Trump, 2nd term, 2025	45	93	37	4	89
• Biden, 2021	56	12	53	96	-84
• Trump, 1st term, 2017	40	87	35	8	79
• Obama, 2009	64	32	61	89	-57
• G.W. Bush, 2001	62	91	59	31	60
• Clinton, 1993	51	24	49	74	-50
• G.H.W. Bush, 1989	63	82	58	46	36
• Reagan, 1981	55	78	57	39	39
• Carter, 1977	71	58	69	79	-21
• Nixon, 1969	60	76	56	52	24
• Kennedy, 1961	72	52	67	87	-35
• Eisenhower, 1953	67	85	68	57	28

Each poll was conducted entirely in February of each president's first term, except for George H.W. Bush, which was completed Feb. 28-March 2, 1989. The latest readings for Donald Trump are for the first February of his second non-consecutive presidential term.

[Get the data](#) • [Download image](#)

GALLUP

How it Started...



HOW IT'S GOING...

Cabinet Secretaries and Officials



STATE

Marco Rubio



TREASURY

Scott Bessent



DEFENSE

Pete Hegseth



AG

Pam Bondi



INTERIOR

Doug Burgum



ODNI

Tulsi Gabbard



AGRICULTURE

Brooke Rollins



COMMERCE

Howard Lutnick



LABOR

Lori Chavez-DeRemer



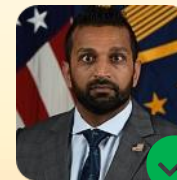
HHS

RFK Jr.



HUD

Scott Turner



FBI

Kash Patel



TRANSPORTATION

Sean Duffy



ENERGY

Chris Wright



EDUCATION

Linda McMahon



VA

Doug Collins



DHS

Kristi Noem

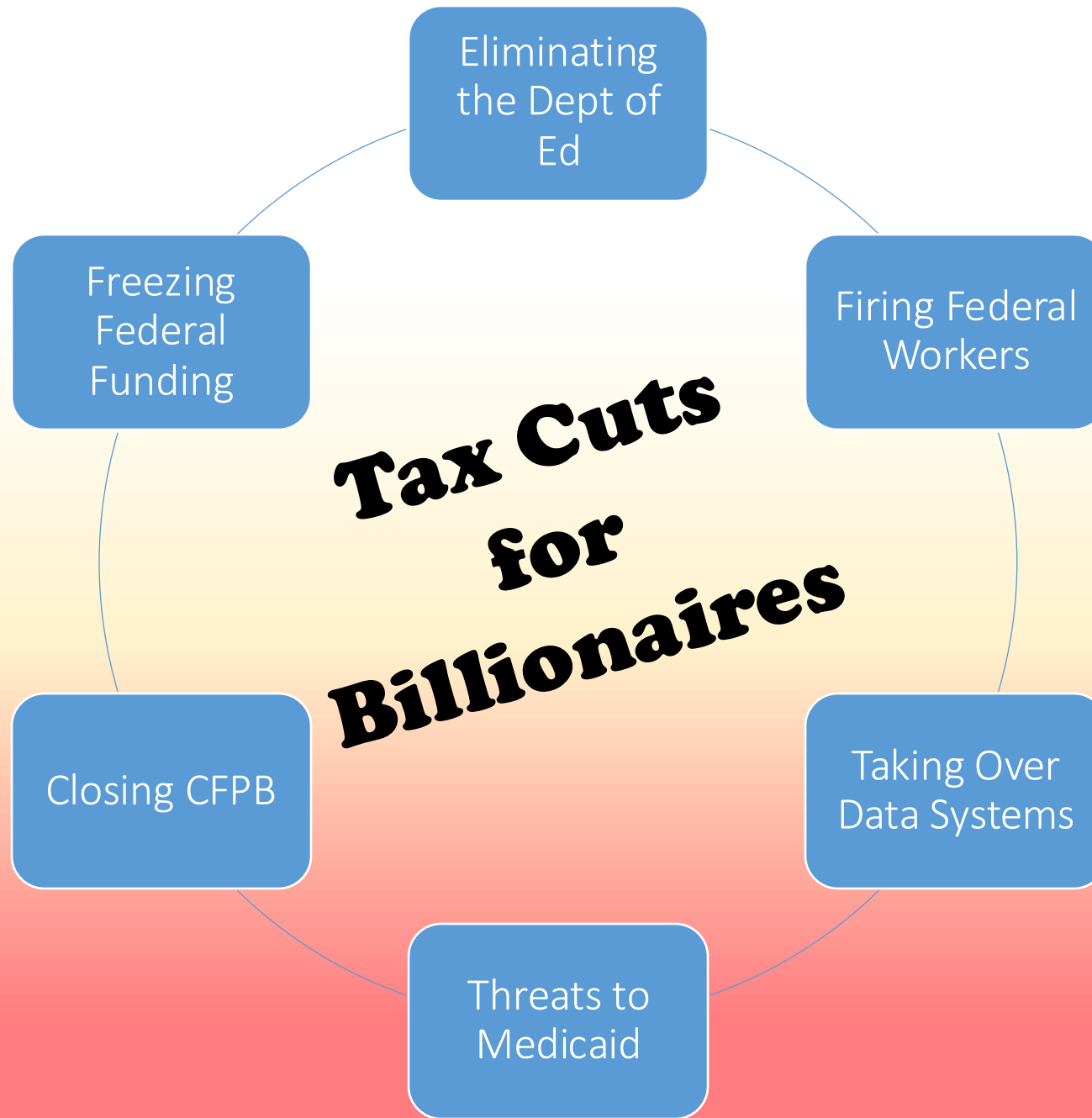


DOGE

Elon Musk



CONFIRMED BY SENATE



Closer Look: Medicaid

Republican proposals to cut Medicaid could be politically fraught

Trump's Return Puts Medicaid on the Chopping Block

Trump Just Endorsed Sweeping Medicaid Cuts

Trump's Medicaid Cuts, If Enacted, Will Affect You

Trump blindsides staff, Congress with conflicting Medicaid messages

Republicans are getting worried about how much they'll have to cut from the popular health safety-net program, and whether the president will protect them from political blowback.

31. Thinking about the following U.S. program, do you believe it should be given more or less funding?

	This program should be given more funding	This program should be given the same level of funding	This program should be given less funding	This program should be eliminated entirely	Not sure
Medicaid	48%	29%	10%	3%	10%
Medicare	57%	30%	3%	3%	8%
Social Security	60%	28%	4%	1%	7%

Dept. of Education in Jeopardy

What the Department of Education does for students:

- **FUNDS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS** FOR 7 MILLION STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
- **PROVIDES PELL GRANTS** & STUDENT LOANS FOR COLLEGE & CAREER TRAINING
- **PROTECTS STUDENTS' CIVIL RIGHTS**
- **SUPPORTS LOWER-INCOME STUDENTS** IN RURAL, SUBURBAN, & URBAN COMMUNITIES



Draft executive order set for Thursday calls for closing Education Dept.

Education Secretary Linda McMahon has said that congressional approval is needed to close the agency. Deep cuts to the workforce are expected in the short term.

Yesterday at 11:00 p.m. EST

🔗 3 min ⚙️ ➦ 📌 📄 1312



Education Secretary Linda McMahon leaves the House chamber Tuesday after President Donald Trump's address to a joint session of Congress. (Jose Luis Magana/AP)

Taking the Fight to the Streets, the Courts, in Districts, to the Media, Online – using every tactic at our disposal

- We have a huge opportunity to organize and amplify our members' voices.
- Need to move the fight outside of DC.
- Communities need to understand impact of the Trump Administration's policies
- Pay attention to what Congress is doing... Medicaid and School Lunch Cuts
- How are we thinking creatively of the ways to bring attention?
- **Amplify member stories.**

**Nation's Largest Teachers' Union
Sues Education Department Over
DEI Threats**

**NEA and ACLU Sue
U.S. Department of
Education Over
Unlawful Attack on
Educational Equity**

**TELL CONGRESS: STOP THE
DESTRUCTION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Bring the Impact Home:
Protecting Students and Public
Education**

Step-by-step guide to hosting community events and actions locally

Town Hall: March 13th – 8pm ET

NEA Town Hall: Response to Executive Order to Dismantle the U.S. Department of Education

March 13th, 8 PM EST



SHARE



TAKE ACTION

Take action, and help protect public education from the imminent threat of dismantling the U.S. Department of Education.

Take future action with a single click.
Log in or Sign up for FastAction

fastaction ?

CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name

Last Name

Postal Code

Email

Mobile Phone (Optional)

☐ Sign me up for text messages.

By submitting your cell phone number you are agreeing to receive periodic text messages from NEA. Message and data rates may apply. Text HELP for more information. Text STOP to stop receiving messages.

☐ Yes, sign me up for email updates.

☒ Remember me so that I can use FastAction next time. 🔒

Walk-ins to follow on March 19th!


Public School Strong



Take Action

Our primary national campaign, Public School Strong, is growing in communities across the country.

Public School Strong has one simple goal: to convince policymakers that every child – regardless of zip code, race, gender, or ethnicity – deserves equitable access to quality public schools that don't discriminate.



Public School Strong Orientation!

Virtual Meeting

PUBLIC SCHOOL STRONG ORIENTATION!

2ND TUESDAY EVERY MONTH



- STEP 1 - GET TRAINED & SIGN THE COMMITMENT FORM!
- STEP 2 - GET YOUR T-SHIRT
- STEP 3 - JOIN OTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL STRONG MEMBERS AT YOUR MONTHLY SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS
- STEP 4 - BUILD THE MOVEMENT FOR HONEST, EQUITABLE & FULLY FUNDED PUBLIC EDUCATION!



Time

Tuesdays

6:30 – 8pm EDT



Location

Virtual event

Join from anywhere

Each day we have a new chance to defend our values and win a better future for educators and students.

We are in this together.



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Becky Pringle

President, NEA



ac·tiv·ist

- noun
- a person who campaigns to bring about political or social change.
- "activists have been calling for change"

Similar:

Campaigner, reformer, demonstrator, champion, advocate, promoter, crusader, fighter, battler, militant



**"Every moment is an organizing opportunity,
every person a potential activist, every minute
a chance to change the world."**

- Dolores Huerta



DATA



**Step #1: Copy a phone number
or email of a retired contact**

**Step #2: scan the QR code and
enter the phone or email in the
associated field**



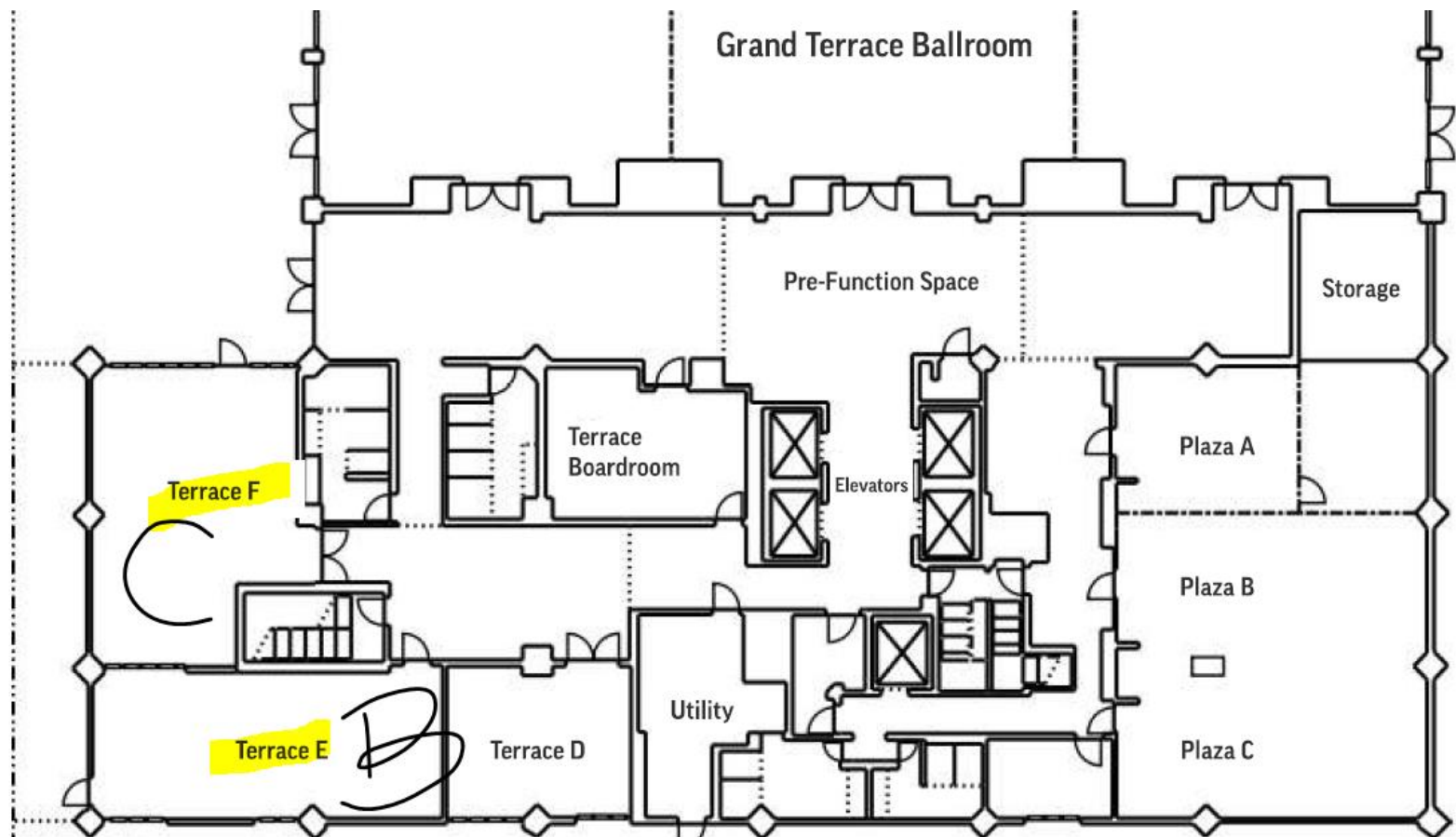
Announcements

- All Plaza AB sessions are now in general session room, Grand AB



Program Book page 17

Terrace F = C
Terrace E = B





NEA-
Retired



Organizing to Win

Best Practices in Retiree Organizing



State Affiliate Stories

Mary Lindsay

President

Washington Education Association - Retired



State Affiliate Stories

Linda Linn

President

IOWA State Teachers Association - Retired

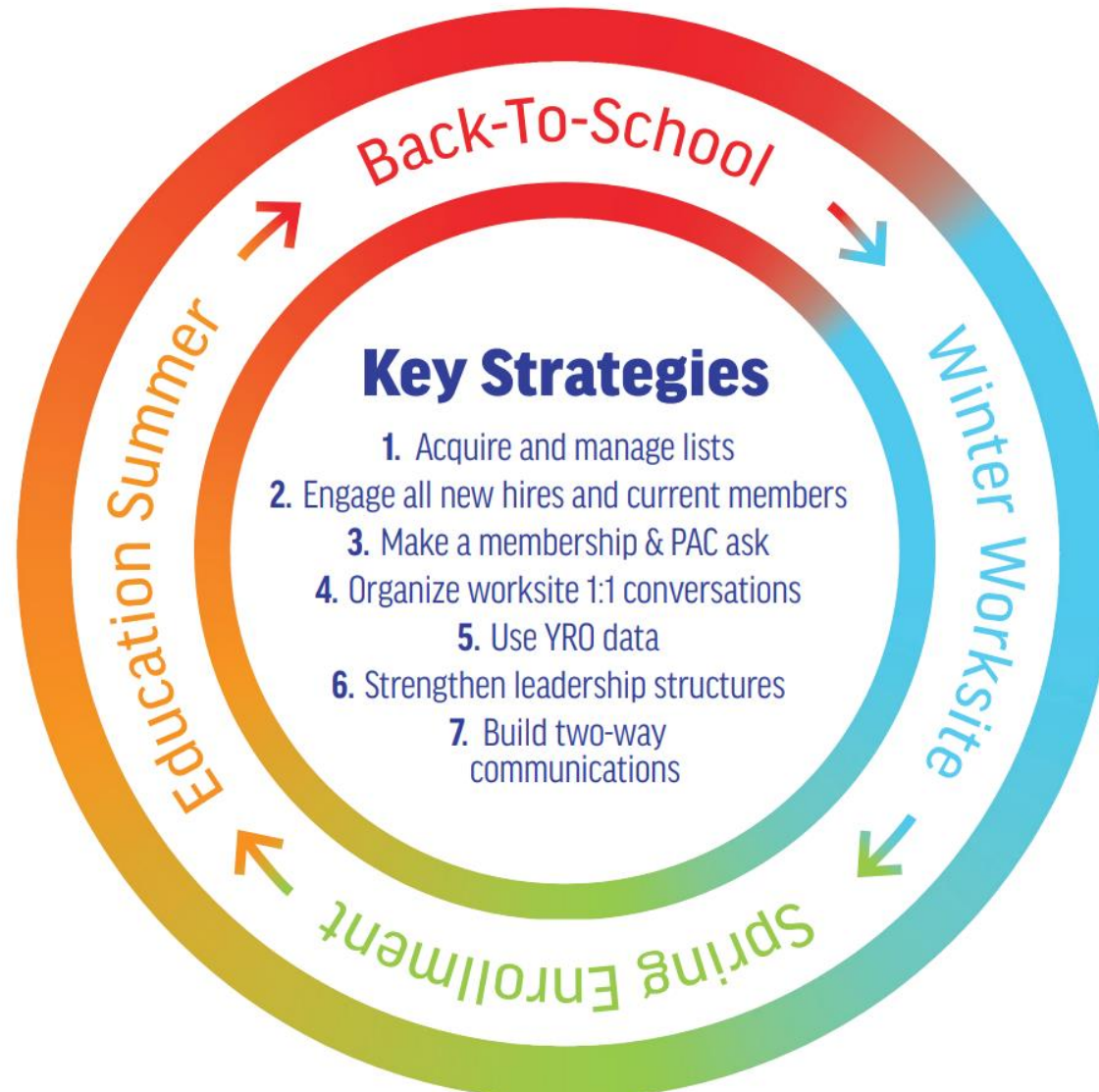


Best Practices for Retiree Organizing

Develop a list of retiree organizing activities and practices that work and record on chart paper.



Using the Seven Key Field Strategies



Develop a YRO Plan for Retired

Use the graphic organizer provided on your table to place your activities and actions into the appropriate season.





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THANK YOU!

We will collect all your materials and send you a copy of all our great ideas and plans.



STUDENT SUCCESS

YOUR RIGHTS & WORKPLACE

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT

TAKE ACTION ▶

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2025 Retired Conference Documents

Find all the documents you need below

SHARE



BREAKOUT EVALUATION ▶

BREAKOUT SLIDES AND HANDOUTS

[Advancing LGBTQ+ Inclusion and Belonging Handout 2](#) [RCGN Messaging Guide](#)
[Trans Youth & the Freedom to Be Ourselves. Handout 1](#)

[Advancing LGBTQ+ Inclusion and Belonging Handout 1](#) [Race Class Message](#)
[Checklist 2024. Handout 2](#)

