

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
ADV200 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Know Your Rights: Leading for Immigration Justice and Organizing for Safe Zone Resolutions</p> <p>Description: Every student, whether they were born here or brought here, deserves the opportunity to learn without fear and distress—knowing they belong. This session will explore how leaders are advocating for and defending immigrant rights. This session will also show how member activists can lead and organize efforts to encourage schools and school districts to adopt a Safe Zones policy that outlines what educators and staff should do if ICE attempts to engage in immigration enforcement.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Hilario Benzon, Lubna Alam</p>
ADV201 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Bargaining for the Common Good (Part 2)</p> <p>Description: Across the country, NEA affiliates are rethinking bargaining and advocacy and expanding their demands to include economic, social, and racial justice. This session focuses on strategies to build power and fight for the common good. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on their own unique circumstances and be challenged to consider how these strategies might be implemented in their locals to create impact in their schools and communities back home. This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Brian Beallor</p>
ADV202 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Have You Communicated with Your School Nurses Lately? The Heartbeat of Health in Schools</p>

	<p>Description: Let's get the school nurses out of the health office and into union and educational discussions. This session will provide information on the significant role of school nurses in the educational space. How can participants in this session learn to do this? By deepening their understanding of school health services, why it is important to have school nurses address health care needs, how nurses assist in addressing chronic absenteeism, and help to meet federal requirements under IDEA and 504 plan development.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Sheila Caldwell</p>
<p>ADV203 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Leadership Opportunities to Promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</p> <p>Description: This session will discuss how leaders can enhance the impact of ongoing litigation concerning the current federal administration's influence over DEI-related teaching, research, and programs. NEA has ongoing litigation challenging the Department of Education's application of Title VI to DEI programming, as well as challenges to anti-DEI legislation at the state level. Participants will learn how to advocate for the preservation of DEI-related programs and teaching at their educational institution.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Stacy Hickox</p>
<p>ADV204 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Speak Up and Speak Out: Learn to be an Advocacy Champion for Your Students, Colleagues and Community</p> <p>Description: The politics of the moment show us that our country is fragile and if we don't fight for our rights and what's important to us, we can lose them. We must speak up and speak out about those issues that are most important to our members, the students they teach, and the communities in which they live.</p> <p>Participants in this session will learn the strategies for meeting with and building relationships with elected officials at all levels of government to further their goals and advocate for their union and school.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Kimberly Trinca, Meg Gruber, Ronny Lau</p>
<p>ADV205 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Mobilizing Communities to Advocate for Marginalized Students: Regalia Rights as a Model</p> <p>Description: This session guides educational leaders to mobilize and advocate for marginalized students, using Indigenous students' right to</p>

	<p>wear tribal regalia at public ceremonies as a powerful example. Participants will learn how coalition-building, community empowerment, and strategic advocacy advance equity and social justice. Attendees will develop practical skills to lead inclusive efforts to defend student rights, engaging diverse stakeholders, and creating lasting systemic change in education.</p> <p>Lead(s): Jordan Bright Trail Woman Lankford</p>
<p>ADV206 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Planning for Electoral Success: Winning in 2026!</p> <p>Description: During this session, participants will hear from the NEA Campaigns and Elections team, who will guide them on how to develop winning electoral campaigns. This session will cover overall campaign strategies and tactics and delve into best practices learned from previous election cycles.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Brandon Rettke</p>
<p>ADV207 <i>Designed for Level 3 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: See Educators (like YOU!) Run for Public Office</p> <p>Description: Electing NEA members on the local, state, and federal level is crucial to our success in creating the schools our students and educators deserve. This session is targeted at leaders who are interested in running for public office. Participants will learn how to craft a one-minute vision statement, examine the core components of what it takes to run for public office, and review the steps to take before kicking off a successful campaign.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Meighan Davis, Amber Holland</p>
<p>ADV208 <i>Design for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: The Politic of the Curl: Confronting Hair Discrimination in Schools</p> <p>Description: This session will examine how hair discrimination is deeply political, rooted in systemic racism, and directly tied to the fight for justice in our schools. Participants will explore the history of Black hair as both a site of resilience, resistance, and joy, as well as uncover how vague policies around "professionalism", "neatness," or "distraction" perpetuate exclusion. Dismantling hair discrimination is more than an equity issue; it is essential for public education as a democratic institution for all.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Linda Miller, Lateefah Scott</p>



COMMUNICATION

Builds an integrated communications strategy that drives the goals of our professions.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
COM200 <i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Boomers, Xers, Millennials, and Zers, Oh My!: Exploring Ways to Use Situational Savvy While Leading</p> <p>Description: In this session, participants will utilize photos, music, and movement to explore their generational identity. They will create a visual narrative using identity maps to develop insights on their thoughts, feelings, opinions, and biases regarding generations in the workplace. This session will help participants understand how they can utilize the Situational Leadership Model to connect, communicate, and lead multiple generations.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Katreca Neale, Angela Addison-Void</p>
COM201 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Media 101: Using News Media Fundamentals for Everyday Communication</p> <p>Description: Effective communication can inspire action, shift public opinion, influence contract bargaining, spark new ideas, or persuade audiences. The media amplifies your voice and broadcasts your message. In this session, participants will learn practical tips from pros on leveraging their credibility as educators to connect with audiences and gain support. They will walk away with foundational media skills that can be applied in everyday scenarios—no formal interview experience required.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Eric Jotkoff, Brian Washington</p>
COM202 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Championing Every Student: Leadership Rooted in Race, Class, and Community Power (Part 2)</p> <p>Description: To <i>lead</i> in our unions and schools, we must ensure every student is seen, heard, and valued in their full identity. At a time when right-wing politicians and billionaire-backed allies try to divide us for power and profit, we must lead with courage. This session offers tools for relational organizing and hard conversations about race, class, and gender—so we can build coalitions, center shared values, and champion students through collective leadership. This part 2 of a 2-part session.</p>

	<p>Learning Lead(s): Shawna Moore, Pamella Johnson, Michael Scott, Merwyn Scott</p>
<p>COM203 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Social Media for Building Union Power</p> <p>Description: With 226 million Americans on social media, the union can unlock its potential to share its vision and leverage power. Join this dynamic session to explore digital storytelling, discover your online voice as an educator, and navigate evolving platforms. Gain insights from our digital experts and best practices for platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and whatever Twitter is called these days. Participants will learn to amplify their advocacy through digital organizing.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Sydney Slifka, Justin Conley</p>
<p>COM 204 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Technology and Storytelling for Advocacy</p> <p>Description: This session equips educators with digital storytelling skills to amplify their voices, reclaim respect, and advocate for public education. Participants will practice using social media, Canva, and short-form storytelling to counter misinformation and engage communities.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Madalyn Wilson</p>
<p>COM 205 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION: From Reporting to Restoring and Rebuilding Trust in School</p> <p>Description: This session helps educators reclaim agency and voice in systems that reward silence. Through embodied practice, narrative reframing, and decision-making tools, participants will learn to disrupt “villain-victim-helpless” stories, practice relational repair, and apply a reflection matrix for advocacy with mindful listening, group work, and role-play. Participants leave with tools for building trust, equity, and leadership.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Soyoung Chung</p>



GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Sets the mission and establishes strategies necessary for a relevant and thriving organization; empowers, motivates, and fosters a pipeline of talent for the future.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
GOV200 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Building Power When You Feel Powerless: Radical Leadership for Uncertain Times</p> <p>Description: In a time of political polarization, educator burnout, and attacks on unions, many leaders, especially those from marginalized backgrounds, are asking: How do I lead when I feel powerless? This interactive, skills-based workshop provides tools to help union leaders reclaim their agency, mobilize members, and influence systems even in restrictive environments. Participants will learn how to assess their current power, strategically build it, and lead from a place of radical authenticity.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Leslie Houston</p>
GOV201 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Emerging Voices to Empowered Leaders</p> <p>Description: <i>Emerging Voices</i> is a program designed to engage current members of the Green Bay Education Association (GBEA) and propel them into active leadership roles. This program is an integral part of GBEA and continues to inspire attendees to be active and involved members of the union.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Audrey Vandeyacht, Abie Vang</p>
GOV202 <i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Boosting Retention and Well-being through Labor-Management Collaboration</p> <p>Description: Strong collaboration between labor and management is a meaningful factor in enhancing educators' job satisfaction and retention. Learn how White Bear Lake Area Educators used an educator-generated tool to understand staff experience and measure progress. Focusing on responsive leadership, union participation, and proper resource allocation created conditions needed for success and led to significant improvements over time. Walk away with strategies to elevate well-being through collaboration.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Tiffany Dittrich, Hallie Fox, Katie LaPointe</p>

<p>GOV203</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Gold Star Failing: How to Use Failure as a Catalyst for Growth</p> <p>Description: What if your biggest flop could become your brightest breakthrough? In this interactive session, participants will flip the script on failure—reframing setbacks as springboards for creativity, resilience, and bold leadership. Walk away with practical tools, a fresh perspective, and your own “gold star” to turn mistakes into momentum.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Tamika Kelly</p>
<p>GOV204</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 1 and Level 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Leading Together: Collaborative Practices that Grow Power</p> <p>Description: Ever felt like there is just too much to do and not enough time? Most leaders find themselves in this situation and then face the terrible choices about what to drop and what to do. We can set ourselves up to lead by sharing the load. But this takes practice and strategy. Join us to discuss how we organize our leadership teams, onboard officers and set goals and give our members the best leadership team possible. And prevent burnout and resentment - the top killers of momentum.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Kate Dias, Gail Jordan</p>
<p>GOV205</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Planting Seeds of Power: How We Grew a Collective of Union Leaders for Justice</p> <p>Description: Union leadership today requires more than representation — it demands vision, courage, and the ability to cultivate a pro-union environment that builds collective power. This session focuses on how to grow and strengthen union stewards and non-leadership members alike by intentionally building leadership capacity across all levels of membership. Participants will learn how to support the transformation of members into active contributors to a shared agenda rooted in racial and social justice.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Tamara Valdes-Russell</p>
<p>GOV206</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 2 and 3 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Working Together on What Matters: Union-District Collaboration for Student Success</p> <p>Description: How do we make sure that our association has a voice in decision-making all the time, not just during bargaining season? This session will help you position your local to increase educator voice within their school and district on the issues that matter to them. This session offers a helpful framework for boosting affiliate capacity, so that you</p>

	<p>approach union-district collaboration from a position of strength, and a shared decision-making process currently used by union-district teams across the nation.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Leigh Kennedy, Sarah Ammar</p>
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LEADING OUR PROFESSIONS

Advocates for quality inside our professions and promotes our union's role in advancing education transformation and student learning.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
LOP200 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: The Discipline Crisis: Why Student Behavior is Devastating America's Schools and How to Change It</p> <p>Description: Student behavior, not educator pay, is becoming the number one concern of educators and is a top reason teacher are leaving the classroom. This session will examine how societal, political, and educational policies and trends have combined to create the crisis facing public education—and what leaders can do to make the changes necessary to ensure educators' safety and provide a quality learning environment for students.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Andy Slaughter</p>
LOP201 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Andragogy in Action: Building Equity and Partnerships That Last (Part 2)</p> <p>Description: This session, co-designed by a non-profit organization and an educators' union, centers on andragogy—how adults learn through relevance, autonomy, and collaboration. Participants will explore equity-driven strategies that transform classrooms and communities, comb and unpack standards, and connect initiatives to school budgets, family engagement, and community partnerships. Gain access to replicable tools to address systemic inequities and foster sustainable, student-centered success nationwide.</p> <p>This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Tamar LaSure-Owens</p>
LOP202 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Cultivating a Culture of Learning: How Aspiring Educators Have Fostered Professionalism</p>

	<p>Description: This session explores how Aspiring Educators can foster professionalism and cultivate a culture of lifelong learning. Through five key areas, participants will engage in presentations, table discussions, and goal setting to build strategies that support their professional growth, leadership, and success. Participants will leave with actionable plans, shared models, and practical advice to strengthen their role as future educators and leaders.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Jaylee Collier, Audrey Gilbert, Kiah Randall, Carson, Salyers, Nadia Pratt, Landen Morris</p>
<p>LOP203 <i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Empowering Engagement: Effective Strategies in Recruiting and Supporting ESPs</p> <p>Description: This interactive session aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to effectively recruit and support Education Support Professionals (ESPs), particularly in areas where no memorandum of understanding (MOU) exists. Through collaboration and hands-on activities, participants will explore the unique needs of ESPs and develop actionable strategies to enhance recruitment and support.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Wendy Rankin, Danette Stokes</p>
<p>LOP204 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Disability Justice is Union Power</p> <p>Description: Disability justice is key to saving public education and our democracy. This energizing session shows how ableism weakens our unions and schools—and how centering access and disabled leadership builds real resilience, respect, and power. Through reflection and action planning, leaders will gain tools to organize, advocate, and create truly inclusive locals that lift every member and every student.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Brandon Gernux</p>
<p>LOP205 <i>Designed for Level 2 and 3 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Critical Ethnic Studies as Teacher Leadership, Resistance and Noncompliance in the Classroom (Part 2)</p> <p>Description: How do educators combat coordinated attacks on teaching truth and develop strategies for resistance and noncompliance in their classrooms? Participants will hear how critical ethnic studies provides educators in St. Paul, MN, an opportunity to examine, dream, plan and execute teaching truth to students. Participants will also outline their own strategy for resistance, non-compliance, and teaching truth in their classrooms.</p> <p>This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p>

	<p>Learning Lead(s): Kimberly Colbert, Cassandra Sheppard</p>
<p>LOP206 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Using the Model Code of Educators in Everyday ESP Work (Part 2)</p> <p>Description: Education Support Professionals (ESP) are the heartbeat of every school system. Whether keeping students safe, supporting instruction, or maintaining essential operations, ESPs shape the conditions that make learning possible. Yet ESPs are often asked to navigate complex situations without formal guidance on ethical decision-making, boundaries, or professional expectations.</p> <p>This session provides ESPs with a practical, easy-to-use framework for ethical professionalism—one that protects students, strengthens workplace relationships, and elevates the status of ESPs as essential educators. Participants will leave feeling empowered, confident, and better equipped to handle the challenges they face every day.</p> <p>This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Loranzo Andrews, Audrey Nichols</p>
<p>LOP207 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Promoting Healthy Communities with Restorative Practices</p> <p>Description: In this session, participants will learn and engage with practical strategies for organizing and building healthy relationships with students, families, and colleagues.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Tyree Rivers, Chaka Diop</p>
<p>LOP208 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Reclaiming Professionalism: Organizing for Educator-Powered Evaluation Systems</p> <p>Description: Educators can—and must—organize to own and lead their professional growth. This session explores how reclaiming evaluation as an organizing issue builds collective voice, advances equity, and strengthens public trust. Through storytelling, strategy, and action planning, educators will gain tools to lead transformative professional development rooted in their expertise, unity, and vision for thriving schools.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Anzer ‘Nikki’ Woodward, Danillya Wilson</p>

<p>LOP209 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: The Power Within: Advancing Equity through Resilience, Respect, and Advocacy</p> <p>Description: This session supports educators in developing key leadership and advocacy skills, professional resilience, and culturally responsive teaching. Participants will examine what it means to use their influence ethically and respectfully to advocate for inclusive learning environments that reflect the needs of all students. Through reflective dialogue and collaborative planning, educators will identify how to sustain their resilience in the face of systemic challenges.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Cherie Feemster</p>
<p>LOP210 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: What's Your Superpower: Bridging the Gap Between Teachers and Paraeducators</p> <p>Description: Inclusive classrooms, which rely on strong collaboration among teachers and paraeducators, are essential but often challenged by unclear roles and communication gaps. This interactive session helps participants build respectful, effective partnerships by recognizing the unique "superpowers" each role brings. Through real-world scenarios and practical tools, attendees will learn strategies to improve communication, clarify expectations, and create a culture of shared responsibility ideal for teachers and paraeducators.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Vickie Gregory, Turkessa Winston</p>



ORGANIZING

Mobilizes to influence successful organizing outcomes, strengthen internal and external relationships, and membership capacity; recruit and identify new members and potential leaders in the Association.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
ORG200 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Building Representative Power, Building Association Power</p> <p>Description: This session shifts the lens from a business model to an organizing model at the building-representative level, demonstrating how this approach will increase engagement and build capacity beyond the building. It also guides building representatives in having effective discourse with administrators. This session provides an organizing overview that centers educators as natural organizers. This framework is used to show how building representative growth and engagement supports association growth and builds power and capacity by increasing member agency.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Sara Butryn</p>
ORG201 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Building Sustainable Escalation Campaigns for Power</p> <p>Description: Locals win when campaigns are built to last. This session equips leaders to design escalation campaigns that grow step by step, sustain participation, and prevent burnout while adapting when challenges arise. Participants will practice strategic pivots and leave with tools and an action plan to strengthen resiliency, sustainability, and long-term organizing power in their locals.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Samuel Reddick</p>
ORG202 <i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Don't Dismiss Me: Seats at the Tables, Strategies to Recruit, Engage and Empower BIPOC Members (Part 2)</p>

	<p>Description: This hybrid session highlights best practices and intentional strategies for recruiting and engaging members of color in our unions as a pathway to building organizational power. Two states—New Jersey and Indiana—have used innovative approaches. Through intentional one-to-one conversations, creating affinity spaces, and culturally responsive organizing, participants will learn skills to create strategies that build trust and empower educators of color as leaders in their unions.</p> <p>This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): LaQuita Maxey, Eric Jones, Wafa Safi Hassan</p>
<p>ORG203 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Harnessing Collective Power: Understanding Power and Navigating Retaliation</p> <p>Description: This interactive workshop explores how to build and protect collective power when facing retaliation. Through real-world case studies and organizing strategies, participants will learn to recognize power dynamics, respond to push back, and create networks of solidarity. Grounded in the organizing domain, this session supports members in mobilizing for justice, protecting one another, and sustaining momentum for transformational change.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Angela Harris</p>
<p>ORG204 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Organizing Your Union Gym to Create Member Resilience, Respect, and Power!</p> <p>Description: Many unions want to move from a service model to an organizing model. But what does it mean to be an organizing local? Learn how to shift your union’s culture so members see their local as a gym membership—strengthening their educational advocacy—not a vending machine that provides services simply because they dues were paid. Participants will explore various concepts of organizing to frame local work and then practice methods of communication to create a member-centered organizing culture.</p> <p>Lead(s): Tony Martinet</p>
<p>ORG205 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Stronger Together: Membership Growth, Leadership Development, and Engagement Strategies</p> <p>Description: This session equips leaders with tools to recruit, engage, and empower members. Participants will explore communication strategies, practice one-on-one conversations, and use mapping to</p>

	<p>identify opportunities. Through the snowflake model, they will learn to share leadership, reduce barriers, and build equity. Participants will leave with an action plan and digital tools to strengthen engagement and union power.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Stacey Sweeny</p>
<p>ORG206 <i>Design for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Today's Special: A Full Menu of Direct Actions to Build Resiliency and Power</p> <p>Description: Using our 100-plus page book filled with creative, successful actions locals have taken to win, this session will help participants scaffold their own actions through a customizable menu. Because one size doesn't fit all, participants can select direct actions from our Happy Hour, Starters, Light and Heavy Fare menus to build an action plan that meets members where they are. By participants scaffolding their actions to fit their unique challenges, locals will be able to build power immediately upon returning to work!</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Molly Smith, Karmen Lee Ortloff</p>



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Understands the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals; demonstrates ability to feel and show empathy, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible, caring decisions.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
SEI200 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Can We Talk? Moving Beyond the Call-Out</p> <p>Description: Educators are on the front lines of dialogue—whether in classrooms, staff meetings, or community spaces. This session offers practical tools to move beyond reactive “calling out” toward intentional “calling in” and empowering “calling on.” Participants will learn how to shift from confrontation to connection by building trust, addressing bias, and fostering equity. Walk away with strategies to support brave spaces for listening, learning, and leading real change in our school communities.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Taraja Shephard Allen, Janaya Foster, Hilario Benzon</p>
SEI201 <i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: From “Difficult People” to Resilience and Respect: Transforming our Relationships!</p> <p>Description: Challenging times and difficult people...the mountain we confront today. Join us to explore how we can create safe, diverse, inclusive spaces by starting with social emotional intelligence. We’ll begin by exploring our own triggers and trials, then discover how to transform relationships with others. Participants will develop action plans to create a culture of collaboration and caring in our worksites and communities while also learning to work with the most difficult person of all!</p>

	<p>Learning Lead(s): Blake West</p>
<p>SEI202 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Mastering Your Story: Leading Crucial Conversations with Intent and Impact (State Presidents Only, Part 2)</p> <p>Description: The stories we tell ourselves about difficult situations and challenging people often become the invisible barriers that prevent breakthrough conversations and meaningful resolution. This workshop helps leaders craft new narratives that open possibilities, align intent with words, and speak truth with compassion while creating psychological safety for transformative dialogue.</p> <p>This is part 2 of a 2-part session.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Andrea Walker</p>
<p>SEI203 <i>Designed for Level 2 and 3 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Resilient Leadership: Using Mindfulness to Amplify Voice and Drive Change</p> <p>Description: This experiential session equips leaders with mindfulness tools to strengthen self-awareness, resilience, and communication. Participants will identify and shift barriers that limit their leadership voice, practice strategies for composure in high-stakes moments, and create an action plan to mobilize others and drive change in their locals, states, and communities.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Comeshia Williams, Courtney Jolly, Comelia Franceschi</p>
<p>SEI204 <i>Designed for Level 2 and 3 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Social Emotional Intelligence (SEI): A conversation with and for Educational Leaders</p> <p>Description: Sustaining our social emotional intelligence is an ongoing and evolving practice for education professionals and public servants. Education can be a thankless yet rewarding occupation, one that depletes our emotional reservoirs if we are not vigilant in restoring our SEI. This session is a conversation with and for educational professionals who lead, will lead, or are colleagues with leaders. Let's talk about our social emotional intelligence. How can we support each other's SEI?</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Bert Stewart</p>



STRATEGY AND FISCAL HEALTH

Builds the brand and accomplishes the goals of the Association through effective financial management and understanding of fiduciary responsibilities.

COMPETENCY DOMAIN FOCUS	SESSION TITLE, DESCRIPTION, LEARNING LEADS
SFH200 <i>Designed for Level 1 and 2 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Demystifying Financial Statements So You Can Ask Questions Confidently in Meetings</p> <p>Description: You do not need to be an accountant or financial wizard to know how to read financial statements. This session is intended to demystify association financial statements, understand basic nonprofit accounting terminology, and learn how to confidently ask questions in meetings about your association's financial statements or budget.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Rodney Rowe, Paula Purdy</p>
SFH201 <i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i>	<p>Title: Regulatory and Other Compliance Matters for Local Leaders</p> <p>Description: NEA can only be as strong as its weakest state affiliate. A state affiliate can only be as strong as its weakest local. In this hostile political environment, it is important that local leaders know and understand the required regulatory filings (IRS and DOL requirements) as well as important recordkeeping information. The session will focus on how to complete a tax return for a typical local association, loss of tax-exempt status, DOL filings (forms LM-3 and LM-4), and document retention policies.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Robert Maleta</p>

<p>SFH202</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 1 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Leveraging NEA Member Benefits to Help Support a More Resilient Association</p> <p>Description: Fiscal health within the association at any level begins with fiscal health at home. To competently and confidently manage the day-to-day financial health of their local, leader-organizers must be clear-minded and not be distracted by external fiscal challenges. Educational empowerment around financial security at home allows for more laser focus around association financial issues and strategies. Leaders who are knowledgeable of NEAMB programs help foster member engagement at the local level.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Michael Reilly, Jason Long</p>
<p>SFH203</p> <p><i>Designed for Level 2 Leaders</i></p>	<p>Title: Ensuring a Strong Financial Future through Pension Advocacy</p> <p>Description: Work with other pension leaders to develop your voice as you learn from, and prepare to share, the National Institute on Retirement Security's research called "Pensionomics." Find out how this applies in your state, learn where to find the information, and develop a plan for sharing this data with legislators, elected officials, and NEA members to secure a pension benefit for all education staff.</p> <p>Learning Lead(s): Susan Lemmo, Sandra Ryan</p>

<p>BOD200</p> <p>Note: For NEA Board of Directors Only</p>	<p>Title: From Local Voices to Capitol Choices: Effective Lobbying in DC and at Home</p> <p>Description: Learn how to turn your local advocacy into national impact! This interactive workshop explores the full cycle of effective lobbying—how to bring your community's priorities to the nation's capital and how to bring federal and state policy updates back home to your states and local EA's. Participants will gain practical strategies for building relationships with legislators, crafting powerful messages, and coordinating advocacy efforts between local and national levels. Whether you're new to the Board of Directors or looking to sharpen your skills, you'll leave empowered to make your voice—and your members' voices—count where it matters most.</p>
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	Learning Lead(s): Laurie Gibson-Parker, Mallorie Evans, Christina Melly, Lauren Greenfield, Daneen Watson, Stephanie Johnson, Linda McCrary, Susan Nicholas
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