

The Educators'



# ADVOCATE

MARCH/APRIL 2022

Volume 53 | Issue 4

**SOUTH DAKOTA  
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

# 2022 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

April 8-9, 2022 | Drifters Event Center  
Fort Pierre, SD

7-14 **SDEA Election** | 15 **2022 Legislative Session**  
16-17 **SDEA Summer Academy**

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## Vision

We envision valued education professionals providing quality public education for all students.

## Mission

South Dakota Education Association ensures the collective voice for South Dakota public education professionals.

**MARCH/APRIL 2022**

Volume 53 | Issue 4

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# President's Corner

## Look What We Accomplished Together

We are just wrapping up the 2022 Legislative Session, and I finally have a moment to reflect on all that has happened in the last couple of months. This year's session was especially challenging. There were attacks on public education coming from all different directions. Whether it was efforts to micromanage and censor our classrooms or limit how much money was available for public schools in the future, public education was the target of many. However, I am extremely proud to say that our educators stood up, used their educator voice, and helped defeat most of the legislation that would have negatively impacted our students.

What amazes me even more, is that despite all that has been put on your plates this year, you found time to advocate for yourself, your profession, your schools, and your students. You made all the difference this session, and I hope you know how much I appreciate each one of you who took time out of your busy schedule to contact your legislators. Whether it was an email on funding, bans on collective bargaining, the so called "Critical Race Theory Bill" or any of the other burdensome bills that were introduced, your voice was heard. Everyday, I had legislators tell me they were being contacted by their local educators and it was impacting how they were voting. I know that sometimes it is hard to believe, but we do have some legislators who listen and this year we had enough to shape the outcome of many bills.

The lesson we should take from this is that when we come together, we can make change

happen. Sometimes that change is big, and other times that change is small but if we work together, we can make good things happen, and, yes, stop bad things from happening as well. That is why we need to ask those who haven't belonged to our Association to get on board. We are much stronger when we are all united with one voice. Think of the other things we could do at both the state and local level if every certified and classified staff member belonged to SDEA.

This has been a very challenging couple of months, but it's been a rewarding experience. Watching you speak up for your schools, your profession and students has made me proud to serve as your President. Is our work done? No, the work continues. There are contracts to negotiate, school board candidates to elect, Primary and General elections to prepare for, and there are educators we must urge to join us. However, after watching you all pull together over the last couple of months, I know there is a bright future ahead. Again, thank you! Your voice made a difference for the students of South Dakota.

**Loren Paul**  
SDEA President

605-224-9263, ext 116  
loren.paul@sdea.org



# A Word from Our **NEA Director**



**Dana Livermont**

Dana is a certified school counselor and K-12 specialist with the SD Statewide Family Engagement Center who serves as your representative on the NEA Board of Directors. She is passionate about organizing around issues and equity for students in South Dakota. Twitter [@theDanamyte](#)

## **Our Union is a Family**

My professional work is in the world of family engagement. This means I think about families a lot. And as an educator, I hope you think about families often, as well. The word family can mean a variety of things. Most often, we think of people living and growing together, often bonded through blood and ancestry. Families can be a lot more than that, though. I like to think of families as a group of people who show unconditional love for each other, who support each other through difficulties, who celebrate together, and who are united by cause or conviction.

When you joined our Association, you became a member of a family. We don't always agree with each other on the issues and how to solve them. We sometimes have conflict (hopefully with resolution). But, we are united together in our love for our students, our commitment to our schools and communities, and a recognition that public education is the cornerstone of our democracy and the most valuable investment we make as a society.

We must be vigilant in protecting our family as we navigate the uncertain times in which we find ourselves. Others will and are working hard to try to divide us. Just this year we saw legislators attempting to pit Education Support Professionals (ESP) and Certified Professionals against each other in an attempt to end collective bargaining rights. We know that each year Districts try to force bargaining groups to vie for the

same pool of funds or offer proposals that strive to divide veteran educators from their early career peers. Do not lose sight of why others employ these tactics. They weaken us.

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### **When you joined our Association, you became a member of a family.**

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When we find ourselves in these situations, remember your family, your values, and your union brothers and sisters. Although we have different groups—our ESPs, our Retired colleagues, our Aspiring Educators, our Council of Higher Education, and our Active Certified—no one of us less of a member or more. We are all fighting for the same vision. Instead of falling prey to divisive attacks, call on each other for support. Ask yourself, “How can I call upon my union brothers and sisters to help us in this fight?” Whatever the struggle, we are stronger when we link arms and affirm that an attack on one of us is an attack on all of us. Only in solidarity will we win.

# 2022 SDEA Representative Assembly at Drifters Event Center

## Friday, April 8

**7:00 pm Registration Opens**

**8:45 pm 1st Business Session**

Pledge of Allegiance  
Pierre Boy Scouts

Introductions

Adoption of Rules of Order

Adoption of the Agenda

Treasurer’s Report

Preliminary Credentials Report

State of the Association:  
Loren Paul, SDEA President

Nominations

- SDEA Treasurer

NEA Fund for Children & Public Education

**10:30 pm Recess**

**Reception**

## Saturday, April 9

**7:30 am Registration Opens**

**8:15 am SDEA Budget Presentation & Hearing**

**9:30 am 2nd Business Session**

Report of the Executive Director: Ryan Rolfs

Report of the NEA Director: Dana Livermont

Report of Committees

- Awards and Scholarships Committee

2021 NBI A Report

2022 South Dakota Teacher of the Year/Teacher of Excellence Stephanie Ballard

**Keynote:** Ronald Duff Martin, NEA Executive Committee

**10:30 am Registration Closes**

Bylaw Amendments

**11:30 am Lunch**

Acknowledgement of Honored Guests

- Teacher of Excellence
- Friend of Education
- ESP of the Year Award

**1:30 pm Final Credentials Report**

Bylaw Amendments

New Business Items

2023 Legislative Agenda

Sine die Adjournment

**Most Documents for the 2022 SDEA RA can be found at <http://www.sdea.org/sdea-ra>**



# 2022 SDEA Election

## Candidate Statements

### Board of Directors

#### **Treasurer** (3-year)



#### **Tess Canet**

I am a career member of SDEA. I have sat on the Board of Directors representing the Plains Unit for 3 terms and during that time I have been a member of the budget committee.

As a member of the budget committee, I have been very vocal in ensuring that our membership dues be utilized to support our members and the goals of SDEA, cutting excessive spending in areas that we didn't need, as well as being transparent to members. If I am elected as the SDEA Treasurer I will continue to be vocal about how to best direct the dues dollars for the benefit of our members with continued transparency to the SDEA members.

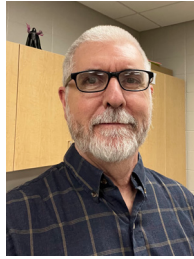
#### **EGL** (2-year)



#### **Olivia Forman**

I am Olivia Forman, in my seventh year of teaching, and currently serve as the Watertown Education Association President. This role has shown me how important it is for

teachers to be involved and to have a voice. I would like to serve as your representative for the EGL unit.



#### **Steve O'Brien**

Through 34 years of membership, I have seen the power of local affiliates to affect change in districts. Sometimes that change is in conjunction with administration; sometimes in opposition. I would like to see educators scale up to the state-wide potential of SDEA to organize and promote education issues.

#### **Eastern Prairie** (2-year)



#### **Lisa Weier**

My name is Lisa Weier and I am asking for your vote to represent Eastern Prairie on the SDEA Board of Directors. I am excited to work on building relationships within our UniServ and having a collective voice at the state and national level.



#### **Kim Soldatke**

It has been an honor being in leadership for SDEA. I will listen, ask questions and continue to be passionate about public education as a representative for Eastern Prairie. It is important to me to strengthen and protect our profession. Together we can make great things happen!

# 2022 SDEA Election

## Candidate Statements — *continued*

### **Plains** (2-year)



#### **Kim Doherty**

Hello, I'm Kim Doherty. I am a current member of SDEA and value the association and what they do for their members throughout the state. I am looking forward to the

opportunity to be the representative for the Plains Unit and the future of SDEA. I would appreciate your vote.

### **SEE** (1-year)



#### **Alexis Smith**

As a current Board member, it is a joy to collaborate with other passionate educators from around the state and make decisions about what is best for the students of South

Dakota. I will continue to advocate for all students.

### **SEE** (2-year)



#### **Paula McMahan**

I am running for an SDEA Board of Directors SEE position. Educators are facing larger challenges than ever before and our voices need to be heard. It

is my desire and passion to advocate for students and educators. Let me be there for you. I want to listen and help!

### **WESTERN** (1 year)

#### **Tyresha Grey Horse**

Hello! My name is Tyresha. I teach Science and Social Studies to 6th grade students. I can bring a beneficial perspective to the SDEA Board. As a registered member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe, I want to be a voice for indigenous educators and students in this beautiful state.

### **WESTERN** (2 year)



#### **Carol Waider**

I live in Rapid City, SD and work for Meade School District. I've been a teacher and member of SDEA for 22 years. I've served as an appointed member of the board of directors.

When elected I will continue this work and be a strong voice for teachers.

### **COHE**



#### **Carri Easley**

I was a Yankton Education Association member for 10 years and have been a SDSU COHE member for 10 years. My range of experience has allowed me to develop

a common-sense approach to decision making and if chosen, would be honored to serve in the COHE Board of Director position.



# NEA RA Delegate

## WESTERN

### **Koreen Hammel**

I have been a member of SDEA for 19 years. I want to be a voice and advocate for teachers in the state. All teachers need to be heard and understood when it comes to education issues. I listen to all sides of the story and find common ground solutions.

## EASTERN PRAIRIE

### **Lisa Jennings**

As NEA ESP-At-Large Director I have the knowledge and experience to represent not only ESP, but all educators at the national level. I would be honored to take that experience and serve as a delegate for the students and educators of South Dakota.

### **Jennifer Bergan Gabor**

As the Eastern Prairie Chair and the SDEA Representative to the NEA Resolutions Committee, I want to continue serving in this capacity. I love to help wordsmith the belief statements of this organization at this time in education that is continually changing. Thank you for your vote to support me.

## SEE

### **Paula McMahan**

I would love to represent SDEA at the NEA RA. Being a part of democracy at work in a group of thousands of educators is exhilarating. I would love to lend my voice to action that will benefit educators nationwide!

## AT-LARGE

### **Barbara Lindquist**

I would like to be a delegate to the 2022 NEA Representative Assembly. I was a delegate a number of years ago. It was an enlightening experience and I returned reinvigorated to

help my local move forward. I would like the opportunity to do that once again.

### **Kelsey Lovseth**

I am Kelsey Lovseth, and I would be honored to attend the 2022 NEA RA. I have served on the SDEA Board of Directors since 2020 and have been actively involved in several sub-committees/teams: including EPIC, hiring the New Executive Director, Legislative Action Teams and the budget committee.

### **Virginia Colgan**

At the 2021 RA, I was appointed to serve on the Elections' Committee and as the alternate for the Resolutions Committee at the 2022 RA. To fulfill this honor, I declare my candidacy for the Eastern Prairie or Delegate At-Large positions for South Dakota. Let your voice be heard!

### **Tim Eckart**

I am the local president for SFEA. It is my hope to represent SD at the NEA RA in order to bring important information back to our state.

### **Alexis Smith**

I will ensure our South Dakota voice is heard when making important decisions for our national organization. I attended several state RAs both as an aspiring educator and early career educator, and I would love to have that experience magnified on a national level.

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## **Deadline for Submitting NBIs at SDEA RA**

The deadline for submitting NBIs (new business items) for the 2022 SDEA RA is April 4 at noon CST. The form for submitting NBIs can be found here <https://www.sdea.org/sdea-representative-assembly>. NBI should be submitted to SDEA President Loren Paul at [Loren.Paul@sdea.org](mailto:Loren.Paul@sdea.org).

# 2022 SDEA RA

## Proposed SDEA Bylaw Changes

### PROPOSAL 1

#### Article XII. Local Associations

...

SECTION 4. BYLAWS AND OFFICERS. Each local education association shall adopt bylaws consistent with the bylaws of the Association. Local bylaws shall be updated every five years.

Each local shall elect a president and a treasurer, and those officers as deemed necessary by the local association. Each local shall elect a delegate or delegates to the representative assembly as provided in the bylaws. All officers and delegates shall be members of the local education association and the Association. Each local shall maintain effective contact with the Association by submitting to the Association president the name of its president by July 1, and a list of its other officers by October 1, and of delegates by March 1. Each local shall maintain on file with the Association a current copy of its bylaws and provide such other information as the board of directors may require.

Local education associations which include ESP membership and negotiate either joint negotiated agreements covering both certified and ESP/classified employees of a school district or any agency described in Section 3 (a) through (e) above or separate negotiated agreements covering only ESP/classified employees of any agency described in Section 3 (a) through (e) shall include ESP/classified member participation on contract negotiations teams and as representatives to the association governing body.

Submitted by: ESP Advisory Council

Bylaws Committee Position: Do Pass

Board Position: Do Pass

Rationale: ESP members and non-members often feel little connection to a local union in which certificated employees run the affairs of the local and conduct bargaining for classified/ESP pay and working conditions without engaging or surveying ESP members and non-members. This discourages ESPs from joining the local or even encourages them to drop their memberships. The bylaw amendment serves to guarantee that ESPs are represented in local governing bodies and contract negotiations in locals with ESP membership and/or bargaining rights for members. Where local leadership has made good faith efforts to get ESP representation and no volunteers will step up, it should not be construed as a violation of this amendment.

### PROPOSAL 2

#### Article V. Dues

##### SECTION 1. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP DUES

...

There shall be an additional \$10.00 reverse check-off for SD-EPIC contributions and two dollars (\$2.00) reverse check-off for ballot issue campaigns. This amount shall be in addition to the annual dues. ~~The Ballot Issue Fund Balance will accumulate to \$25,000. Revenue exceeding \$25,000 will be placed in the general fund once per annum at the beginning of the new fiscal year to provide services to members. This provision will be reviewed annually by the SDEA/NEA Board of Directors.~~ Members requesting a refund of the SD-EPIC/ballot issue contribution must make application to the Association office by October 15 of the membership year. Refund shall be made

by January of the membership year. Refund requests made after October 15 will be considered at the discretion of the president and executive director.

Submitted by: Bylaws Committee

Board Position: Do Pass

Rationale: The ballot fund is funded through a specific \$2.00 assessment on each member's dues. The current bylaw has those funds roll into the general budget if the fund exceeds \$25,000. The \$25,000 maximum does not represent a sum large enough to effectively run a referral, initiated measure, or constitutional amendment campaign. Additionally, keeping the dues assessment for the ballot fund in the ballot fund increases transparency.

### **PROPOSAL 3**

#### **Article X. UniServ Units**

...

#### **SECTION 5. STUDENT ASPIRING EDUCATOR ASSOCIATION.** *Student*

*Aspiring Educator* members shall have representation on the board of directors as follows:

- A. The *Student Aspiring Educator* Association shall be entitled to one nonvoting representative on the board of directors, to be elected by its members.
- B. When membership in the *Student Aspiring Educator* Association meets the one-person, one-vote test of compliance, it shall be entitled to one voting representative on the board of directors, elected by its members

Submitted by: Bylaws Committee

Board Position: Do Pass

Rationale: These changes reflect the changes adopted by the 2020 SDEA RA to change the name of the student program to Aspiring Educator program. This particular section was inadvertently missed when the 2020 changes were adopted.

## **UniServ Program – Advocating for our members since 1970**

The UniServ program provides services to SDEA members and local associations. The term “UniServ” refers to unified service, integrating the local, state and national programs in the delivery of services and benefits to members.

Members and local associations have access to well-trained UniServ staff who provide training, assistance, and information covering each program area of SDEA negotiations, member rights and membership development.

### **Eric Herold**

*Western UniServ Director*

[Eric.Herold@sdea.org](mailto:Eric.Herold@sdea.org)

### **LouAnn Jensen**

*EGL UniServ Director*

[LouAnn.Jensen@sdea.org](mailto:LouAnn.Jensen@sdea.org)

### **Philip Moore**

*SEE UniServ Director*

[Philip.Moore@sdea.org](mailto:Philip.Moore@sdea.org)

### **Sandy Arseneault**

*Plains UniServ Director*

[Sandy.Arseneault@sdea.org](mailto:Sandy.Arseneault@sdea.org)

### **Grace Gill**

*Eastern Prairie UniServ Director*

[Grace.Gill@sdea.org](mailto:Grace.Gill@sdea.org)

# 2022 SDEA RA

## Proposed 2023 Legislative Agenda

### ENSURING CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### SDEA/NEA supports:

- Sufficient funding provided by the state and other sources to ensure that buildings are secure, structurally and environmentally safe and meet 21st century instructional needs.
- A drug-free, tobacco-free, and weapon-free learning environment.
- Funding based on current costs, not averages, for serving those with disabilities (ages birth-21)
- The requirement that school districts provide safe and well-regulated transportation or reimbursement to parents/guardians for transportation of students to and from public school.
- A learning environment free from intimidation, bullying, harassment, and violence.
- A learning environment with access to certified counselors, social workers, mental health professionals, and appropriate medical and nutritional personnel.
- Access to statewide resources focused on meeting the needs of the whole child, including mental, emotional and behavioral needs.
- Equipping education professionals with the skills to recognize the mental, emotional and behavioral needs of the whole child, and the ability to connect their students with the appropriate resources to address those needs.
- A learning environment free from discrimination based on disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity,

race, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.

- SDEA supports funding or programs that empower schools and communities to collaborate in providing critical social services to students and their families who are economically challenged.
- Policies that foster collaboration between communities, school boards, administration and staff in the development of a pandemic preparedness or any other crisis plan.

### PREPARING STUDENTS FOR JOBS OF THE FUTURE

#### SDEA/NEA supports:

- Broad-based curriculum and research-based standards supported by a complement of services that prepare students for life-long learning.
- The implementation of career and technical preparation programs that position students for jobs of the future.
- State funding for post-secondary scholarships across a broad spectrum of student abilities and needs.
- Development of a comprehensive plan to determine individual student growth.
- **Legislation that provides for an environment that allows for the free exchange of ideas.**

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#### SDEA Members Only:

Log into MyNEA360 to join the “SDEA Members Only” group to access SDEA/NEA member only documents and information. New users will need to create a MyNEA360 profile in order to be verified as an SDEA member.

## **STRENGTHENING PUBLIC EDUCATION**

### **SDEA/NEA supports:**

- Providing school districts, parents, educators and students with the resources and support necessary to ensure an equitable education regardless of disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation, geographic location or socioeconomic status.
- Providing adequate state funding to South Dakota preK-12 public schools so that South Dakota's school districts can offer competitive salaries and benefits for school employees and can provide students with 21st century opportunities to learn.
- Providing adequate state funding so that South Dakota's post-secondary public institutions can attract and retain high quality faculty, and that will make post-secondary education, including technical, undergraduate and graduate education, affordable for South Dakota students.
- Through existing resources, SDEA/NEA will work with state legislators to ensure that the state's funding formula for K-12 education meets the needs of all school districts in South Dakota and allows all districts to grant meaningful salary and benefit increases to teachers and education support professionals.
- Legislation requiring school district accountability measures for state aid funding.
- Taxpayer dollars that are directed to public schools which are held accountable, address a specific need, are transparent, and allow for innovation without jeopardizing the promise of the state funding formula, i.e., SDEA does not support charter schools or voucher programs.
- The use of accreditation standards by the State Board of Education in the school accreditation process.
- Efforts to have appropriately certified and endorsed educators in all positions.
- The limitation on the amount of money school districts can maintain or carry over in their fund balances.
- A long-term solution, which includes a balanced tax structure, to fund public education in South Dakota.
- School terms that include student contact days and/or hours, professional development/curriculum days and family conferences.
- The rejection of any taxation plans that adversely affect education funding.
- A full-time all-day kindergarten program.
- Sufficient funding for the programs and resources needed to address the change in compulsory attendance.
- Legislation promoting enhanced teacher quality through instructional leadership, rigorous and responsive teacher preparation programs, quality mentoring and sound professional development programs that support South Dakota professional teacher standards.
- Sufficient time, funding, and resources to provide professional development to address changes required by the implementation of state/federally mandated initiatives.
- Efforts to expand Early Childhood Education programs.
- Efforts to ensure all Kindergarten students are at least five years old at the start of the school year.
- Student assessments that inform instruction and improve student learning. Such assessments should provide for multiple measures of learning, including measures that assess higher order thinking skills.

# 2022 SDEA RA

## Proposed 2023 Legislative Agenda – *continued*

- SDEA supports measures to enhance English language learner programs that provide the necessary tools and resources to give all students access to an equitable education.
- SDEA supports legislation and policies that allows for true academic freedom which ensures that students and faculty are allowed the free exchange of ideas without interference from the State.
- Schools, staff and families receiving the resources to ensure all students have access to the tools, technology and internet required for learning.
- Legislation that ensures that there are collectively bargained salaries and incentives to attract and retain quality educators.
- Legislation that supports enhanced compensation systems that are locally bargained, based on multiple measures, resulting in improved instruction and/or effectiveness and encouraging teacher collaboration, not competition or merit pay.
- Providing a negotiated per diem increase in pay for all school employees if there is an increase in the school term.

### **RESPECTING EDUCATION EMPLOYEES**

#### **SDEA/NEA supports:**

- Increasing the salaries of all education employees to the regional average or above.
- Legislation that provides necessary funding for school districts to fund health benefits for public school employees.
- Efforts to strengthen collective bargaining rights and to achieve greater equity at the bargaining table (i.e. binding arbitration.)
- Legislation that would require rationale be given on decisions by the South Dakota Department of Labor regarding bargaining issues.
- Efforts and legislation to maintain and/or increase the South Dakota Retirement System benefit factor and/or to protect the SDRS Pension Trust Fund sustainability. These efforts shall include, but not be limited to, building a coalition including all organized employee groups covered under SDRS.
- The representation of all levels of instruction in the planning/development and implementation of educational policy.
- Maintaining continuing contract provisions in the law.
- A work environment free from intimidation, bullying, harassment and violence.
- A work environment free from discrimination based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.
- Efforts that acknowledge and support the mental health needs of education professionals.
- **Respecting school and educator autonomy.**



# Educator Voice Has Major Impact on Outcome of the 2022 Legislative Session



South Dakota legislators completed the main run of the 97th Legislative Session. This year brought many challenges for public education, but with the help of educators across the state,

our schools and students fared well overall. Educators played a vital role in the outcome of several pieces of legislation. Here are just a few of the issues they had a direct impact on:



## **Secured a Six-Percent Increase for Education Funding – HB 1360 and SB 59**

While Governor Noem proposed a six-percent increase for state aid to education last December, it was not a guarantee with a conservative legislature – especially with the staunchest conservatives on the House Appropriations Committee, but thanks to hundreds of postcards and emails from SDEA members, the legislature finally reached a budget deal that included the increase.



## **Extended Accountability Provisions for Teacher Compensation – HB 1080**

The accountability measures that ensured the new dollars from the half-penny sales tax were targeted to teacher compensation expired in July – thanks to the leadership of SDEA members, the legislature extended the provision requiring schools to keep

teacher compensation at or above the 2017 level. Why is this important? Compensation in approximately 30 school districts has only grown by three percent or less. Passing this legislation ensures those districts don't fall behind.



## **Defeated a Ban on Collective Bargaining and Due Process Rights – HB 1216**

When a first-term legislator from Sioux Falls, Bethany Soye, introduced legislation to ban collective bargaining and terminate due process rights for employees working in a public school, South Dakota's educators got to work. They flooded legislators' inboxes, and within a week, the bill was withdrawn.



## **Blocked Legislation that Denied Students the Freedom to Learn – HB 1337 and HB 1012**

Governor Noem made a pledge to “protect students from indoctrination” by banning so called “Critical Race Theory”. HB 1337 targeted K-12 classrooms, while HB 1012 was for higher education. Again, educators spoke up and let legislators know that students will be denied the opportunity to have rich discussions that bring various perspectives to the classroom. HB 1337 denied students the freedom to learn. The Senate Education Committee rejected HB 1337 by a vote of 4-3. Even though the legislature went on to pass HB 1012, it was watered down with several amendments, including adding language that exempted classroom instruction and reaffirmed the First Amendment Rights of faculty and students, rendering it meaningless.

– continued to page 18



# SUMMER ACADEMY

July 18 – 19, 2022

University of Sioux Falls

## Monday, July 18

- 9:15–10:00 **Mindfulness in the Classroom**  
**Leadership Opportunities with SDEA/NEA**  
**Managing Student Behaviors**  
**Year Round Membership Organizing**  
(Double Session)
- 10:15–11:00 **Communicating with Members**  
(Social Media)  
**Jack Breckemeyer:**  
**20 Things that Make a Great Classroom**  
**Creating Equitable Learning Environments**
- 11:15–12:00 **Member Organizers — Going through**  
**the Paperwork**  
**Know Your Contract/Rights**  
**Evaluation (Formal vs Informal) and**  
**Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)**  
**Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings**  
**for Beginners**
- 12:15–1:15** **Jack Breckemeyer: Optimism and**  
**Opportunity (KEYNOTE)**
- 1:30–2:15 **Membership Recruitment - Certified**  
**Team Building and Delegation**  
**Leadership Competencies and Training**  
**Opportunities**
- 1:30–3:15 **Assessment-Formative vs Summative —**  
**Best Practices for Rubrics (Double Session)**

**JOIN US!**



<https://bit.ly/3sYdsbj>

2:30-3:15

**Member Recruitment-ESP**  
**Financial Best Practices for Locals**  
(treasurers)



**Bystander to Upstander Training** (SD Voices for Peace)

3:30-4:00

**Meet with UniServ Directors**

5:30-8:30

**Paper Tigers Screening and Social Activity**

## **Tuesday, July 19**

9:15-10:00

**Bargaining Toolkit**

**Communications 101-How to Differentiate Based on Your Audience**

**NEA360 for Locals**

9:15-12:00

**Resilience Screening and Discussion on Trauma + Brain Architecture Game** (Triple Session)

10:15-11:00

**A Bridge to Student Success**

10:15-11:15

**Suicide Training Presented by Children's Home Society of South Dakota**

10:15-12:00

**Bargaining 101 (Double Session)**

11:15-12:00

**LGBTQ+ Rights in Education**

**12:15-1:15**

**Title IX: A Fresh Look at an Underutilized Tool in Your Belt**  
(KEYNOTE)

1:30-2:15

**Accountability and Funding Formula**

**NEA Member Benefits**

**Academic Freedom and Diversity**

**Educator Resilience** (Onward Book)

2:30-3:15

**Education Policy-LAT Teams**  
(Legislative Updates)

**Chat with the Executive Team**

**Chat with Potential Leadership Cohort**

**Tech Tool** (EdCamp Style)

3:30-4:00

**Meet with UniServ Directors**



– continued from page 15



**Blocked Burdensome Lesson Plan Posting Legislation – HB 1310** – Representative Sue

Peterson brought HB 1310, which would have required teachers to upload all their lesson plans and classroom material to a searchable website. This cookie cutter legislation has been introduced in several states. Again, educators spoke up and the House Education Committee defeated by the House Education Committee by a vote of 10-4.



**Other Bills Educators Helped**

**Pass: SB 95** – requires the Teacher Compensation Review Board to meet every two years instead of three. **SB 167** – Clarifies that only the Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission can determine a violation of the Code of Ethics, not the Secretary of Education.



**Other Bills Educators Helped**

**Defeat: HB 1172** – Anti-Science Education Bill, **HB 1015** – So called Moment of Silence Bill, **HB 1198** – Required school districts to post the state motto, **\*HB 1163** – Changed the eligibility date for students to enter kindergarten if they passed a screening.



Hat tip to South Dakota’s K-2 teachers for organizing to defeat this bill!

**Unfortunately, we didn’t win them all. Legislators passed legislation that**



**Increased State’s Voucher Program – SB 71** – increased the

Insurance Tax Credit program by \$2 million. Insurance companies can make contributions to the Partners in Education Scholarship program and then receive a reduced tax bill. While it’s called a “tax credit” program, it is a voucher program which means fewer general fund dollars are available for public schools.



**Targeted Transgender Students**

– **SB 46** – prohibits transgender girls from participating in girls’ sports. The bills unfairly target transgender students and is likely unconstitutional because it violates Title IX. These issues are best left to families and local school districts. The South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) developed a process over 10 years ago to ensure there is fairness for all students.

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## Important SDEA Election Message

All of the SDEA Officer, Board of Directors and NEA RA delegate races are uncontested except for one Board of Directors race in the EGL unit. Consequently, at its January 21-22 meeting, the SDEA Board of Directors voted to send ballots only to the EGL unit for that one contested race allowing the Elections Committee to declare the winners of the uncontested races without the need to send ballots for those uncontested races. That means all other races will not receive ballots. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact SDEA President Loren Paul, [loren.paul@sdea.org](mailto:loren.paul@sdea.org), Elections Committee Chair, Stephanie Hageman, [hagemans42@gmail.com](mailto:hagemans42@gmail.com), or Elections Committee Liaison Anne Plooster, [anne.plooster@sdea.org](mailto:anne.plooster@sdea.org).



## Be a Delegate!

Join us as a delegate for SDEA-Retired Educators at the SDEA Representative Assembly on April 8th-9th. (A \$50 stipend will be provided those who attend.)

And participate in our SDEA-R Annual Meeting the afternoon prior to the SDEA-RA.

We will meet at the RedRossa Grille near the bridge at 3:00 PM, for the annual reports, elections, and discussions concerning our statewide-local association. Voting will only be in-person this year. Cultural entertainment and dinner

will be provided following the official meeting.

Further details will be provided in our upcoming newsletter mailing, email blast, and Facebook page (“SDEA Retired Educators”), so be sure we have your current postal and email addresses. Send address corrections and updates to: [Philip.Moore@sdea.org](mailto:Philip.Moore@sdea.org)

To register as a delegate, send your request to: [sdearetirededucators@outlook.com](mailto:sdearetirededucators@outlook.com)

See you there!

### Contact info:

SDEA-Retired Liaison:

[Philip.Moore@sdea.org](mailto:Philip.Moore@sdea.org)

SDEA Leadership:

[sdearetirededucators@outlook.com](mailto:sdearetirededucators@outlook.com)



Facebook page:

“sdea retired educators”

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# SDEA/NEA OPPORTUNITIES

## GRANT, SCHOLARSHIPS, CAREER



### SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grant

The SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grant Program provides grants to members in support of innovative educational and student-oriented projects. The grant program funds new member-led projects. It does not fund projects on an on-going basis. The SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grants give preference to proposals that address student achievement, cultural diversity issues, include community partnerships, and can be duplicated by others.

**Deadline:** *May 1*

**For more information on all grants and awards offered by SDEA, visit [SDEA.org](http://SDEA.org).**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## April

- 7-8 SDEA BOD Meeting
- 8-9 SDEA RA
- 15 Good Friday (offices closed)
- 18 Easter break (offices closed)
- 22 June Primary Absentee Voting Begins
- 28 Eastern Prairie Unit Meeting @ Brookings
- 29 SDEA Election Committee

## May

- 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 16 Western Unit Meeting
- 23 Voter Registration Deadline for June 2022 Primary
- 30 Memorial Day (offices closed)

## June

- 7 South Dakota Primary Election
- 13-14 SDEA BOD Meeting
- 13-15 Board/Staff Retreat
- 20 Juneteenth (offices closed)

## July

- 2-6 NEA Representative Assembly @ Chicago, IL
- 4 Independence Day (offices closed)
- 18-19 SDEA Summer Academy

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