

The Educators' **ADVOCATE**



MAY/JUN 2023

Volume 54 | Issue 5



SUMMER ACADEMY

July 17-18th | Augustana
Pre-Conference July 16th

AUGUSTANA
UNIVERSITY



5 Locals in Action!

8-11 Summer Academy | 18 SDEA/NEA Election Winners



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**Discounted Online Graduate Courses
for SDEA Members**

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.

MAY/JUN 2023

Volume 54 | Issue 5

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President's Corner

Perseverance: Congratulations on Surviving Another Year

Congratulations, you have made it through another very challenging year. Just when we thought this school year might be a little easier, Mother Nature decided to throw us some curve balls: endless snowstorms and blizzards. Closures and cancellations meant constantly changing lesson plans and after-school activities. School calendars have been rearranged and extended. Many of you were disappointed that we had to move our SDEA RA to Zoom. It was a long winter, and I for one am happy to see the first traces of spring with warmer weather and ice-free roads.

Winters like this remind me why I am so proud to be the President of this Association. It takes perseverance to make it through a tough winter and it's that perseverance that makes our educators so good at what they do. Schools are facing so many challenges. Educator shortage, behavioral issues, mental health issues, and the rancorous politics dividing our communities are just some of the reasons that many of you think about leaving. You wonder is it worth it. However, most of you look at your students and say YES! You then commit to coming back in the fall.

As the school year ends, I want to leave you with a message of hope. I do believe if educators stick together, we can improve our schools. Together we did make progress. Through Legislative Action, we secured a seven percent increase in education funding. Legislators are finally acknowledging the educator shortage is real and exploring ways to address the mental health crisis facing students and educators alike. They went on record supporting the idea that schools

need alternative pathways for students who will not find success in the traditional classroom. While this progress may not seem like much, we are indeed moving forward.

There is still much work to do, and we can't do it without you. So, as we begin our summer 'break', I need you to take some time for you. Get recharged and then be ready to come back with the determination that has gotten you this far. How, you ask? First, you can sign up to attend SDEA's Summer Leadership Academy, July 17-18 in Sioux Falls. There is more information in the next pages of this *Educators Advocate*.

We also need more educators to join us in this important work, so over the summer we will be working with your local leaders to organize SDEA's fall membership campaign. We want to have as many one-on-one conversations as possible with new staff and those educators who still haven't joined. There is strength in numbers, and the more who join SDEA the more power we will have. Please talk with your local leaders to see how you might be able to help.

Finally, I just want to end with a simple thank you. I so appreciate the support you give me, your fellow educators, and your students. I am confident that there are better days ahead because I know you have the determination to persevere. Enjoy your summer. You deserve it!

Loren Paul
SDEA President

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Locals in Action!

Vermillion Education Association Book Donation

This fall, teachers and staff that are members of Vermillion Education Association (VEA) collected children's books and funds to give back to the community. The books were delivered to Sanford Vermillion in December. Each baby born at Sanford Vermillion in 2023 will receive a children's book as a part of the care package sent home with parents.



Inside each book is a label stating that babies who are read to every day are exposed to around 78,000 words each year. When the child is five, the child has already been exposed to 1.4 million words. This exposure is one of the easiest ways for parents to set their children up for academic success.

VEA wishes to thank all teachers and staff who donated books or money for this cause. A special thank you to the Vermillion

Middle School Student Council who held a dodge ball tournament to raise \$180 for the purchase of labels for the books. A generous donor also matched the funds raised at the dodge ball tournament. Suzanne Johnson, VEA secretary, is pictured making the donation.



Local Treasurer's Training

- Responsibilities as an Association Officer
- Reporting Association Income and Expenses
- Important Tax Topics
- Membership Dues/Reconciliation
- ACH payment option

Contact Holly Frederick at holly.frederick@sdea.org and Lathie Under Baggage at lathie.underbaggage@sdea.org to set up your training date!

SDEA Responds to the Adoption of Social Studies Standards by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards



The South Dakota Board of Education Standards (SD BOES) adopted the proposed social studies standards.

The following comments can be attributed to South Dakota Education Association (SDEA) President Loren Paul in response to the board's decision:

"Today's decision by the Board of Education Standards to adopt the proposed social studies standards is very troubling. We are very disappointed that the board chose to ignore the educators, parents and community leaders of South Dakota who were almost unanimous in their opposition. While this decision is frustrating for educators, it truly is a complete disservice to South Dakota's students.

First, we want to thank Dr. Nebelsick and Dr. Willard for their support of educators and students. Unfortunately, the majority of the board decided to put politics ahead of the needs of students. Instead of working with the people who will be responsible for implementing these standards, the board

decided to completely ignore them. It is abundantly clear that this board does not value or respect the work teachers do every day in their classrooms.

There will be many challenges to implementing these standards including the lack of available curriculum and the steep price tag for school districts. However, SDEA is committed to working with educators, parents and community leaders to ensure the implementation of these new standards do not completely up-end the education we provide to students who must remain our focus.

SDEA will also be asking the state legislature to bring more clarity for the composition of the SD BOES. The majority of the board's current members are not certified to teach or be an administrator in an accredited school in South Dakota. That is a problem. Parents and educators must have confidence that the individuals serving on this board have a real time understanding of how the decisions the board makes will impact teachers and students every day in the classroom. This clarity will also assure that decisions by this board are about students and not politics."



SDEA's 2023 Teacher of Excellence – Alyssa Cassels

SDEA named Deuel 5-12 Band Director, Alyssa Cassels, the 2023 SDEA Teacher of Excellence. Cassels will also be nominated for the NEA Foundation's Awards for Teaching Excellence. Educators selected for this award have demonstrated outstanding professional practice, association advocacy, community engagement and leadership in professional development.



Cassels has taught in the Deuel School District since 2016 and has grown the band program throughout that time. “Alyssa returned to her hometown to teach because she understands the importance of providing a great public school for every student and she wanted to give back to a community who gave her so much”, said SDEA President Loren Paul. “Her goal is to instill personal responsibility in her students while encouraging them to use

their talents to build community pride. She is a role model for her students and shows them that whether a community is large or small it has value and opportunity if you are willing to put in the work.”

Paul says that Cassels knows the importance of advocating for teachers and students and how it will impact the future of education in South Dakota. “Alyssa understands the challenges the teacher shortages are causing for schools, especially in small rural communities and I cannot think of a better advocate for the teaching profession,” said Paul. “Her story and passion for the profession is a story that must be told. I believe her enthusiasm will inspire young people to go into the profession and her inspiration will encourage others to stay and that is why Alyssa is most deserving of this award.”

The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence recognize, reward, and promote excellence in teaching and advocacy for the association. The awards are jointly presented by the NEA Foundation and the NEA. Along with a \$1,000 grant from SDEA, Cassels will receive a trip to the NEA Foundation's 2024 Salute to Excellence in Education Gala in Washington DC. Five awardees are selected for The Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence and receive \$10,000. The NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence recipient, selected from the five, receives \$25,000 in cash.

SDEA/NEA
EARLY CAREER
EDUCATOR
AWARD

SDEA/NEA Early Career Educator Award

An individual member or a local may nominate an early career educator for this award. Each governance unit may select an Early Career Educator of the Year from nominations submitted in their unit. All the unit winners will be candidates for the statewide award, which will be announced at the 2024 Representative Assembly in Pierre.

Deadline: *December 1*



SDEA members (certified, classified, higher education, retired, and aspiring educators) are invited to make plans to attend a two-day event on the Augustana University campus. We are proud to feature a keynote from Kim Campbell a dynamic middle school educator from Minnesota.

Breakout sessions have selections for a variety of professional development, leadership development, advocacy, and organizing. Sessions can be combined for graduate credit.

This summer academy is free and open to members only. We encourage your local to bring a team to take advantage of information in all sessions. Attendance at the pre-conference and conference can be utilized for earning 1 grad credit through Augustana University.

Keynote | Kim Campbell



We Will Survive

We survive as teachers because teachers know and understand that having a sense of humor, building positive and strong relationships,

and being able to manage our scholars are all critical to our survival as educators. Join me as we have fun laughing, playing, and celebrating all the great things about being a teacher.

Featuring other sessions including:

- **Talk Saves Lives** (Suicide Prevention Session for Teacher Recertification)
- **Keep Calm and Teach On**
- **Speaking Up for Schools Our Students Deserve**
- **Bystander to Upstander Training**
- **Story of Self—Sharing Your Public Narrative**
- **Mental Health for Educators**
- **Member Recruitment**
- **Engaging with Families**
- **Collaborating with School Board Members for Student Success**
- **Differentiation Methods**

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH

Pre Conference at Augustana

- 3:00–7:00 pm True Colors Personality Assessment
- 3:00–7:00 pm Member Organizing

MONDAY, JULY 17TH

- 7:30–8:15 am Registration
- 8:15–8:30 am Opening
- 8:45–10:00 am **ROOM 1** Sticks and Stones: Understanding Implicit Bias, Microaggressions, and Stereotypes | Lisa Jennings (Sioux Falls)
- ROOM 2** Keep Calm and Teach On | Jennifer Nedrebo & Jackie Richey (Pierre)
- ROOM 3** Talk Saves Lives (Qualifies for SD Suicide Prevention Recertification Requirements) | Samantha Christopherson American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- ROOM 4** Hosting Book Club on Teacher Resilience (Onward Book) | Tammie Wood (Spearfish)
- ROOM 5** Tech-Tools EdCamp Style
- 10:15–11:15 am **ROOM 1** Speaking Up for the Schools our Students Deserve | Kelsey Lovseth (Brookings)
- ROOM 2** Leaders for Just Schools | Kayla Sylvester
- ROOM 3** Communications with Members | Sandra Waltman
- ROOM 4** Story of Self—Public Narrative | Ambereen Khan-Baker and Korey Erickson
- ROOM 5** SDRS—Know Your Retirement Benefits | Ryan Hofer and Patrick Ebert (Horace Mann)
- 11:30–12:00 pm LUNCH
- 12:00–1:00 pm **KEYNOTE: Stephanie Ballard (Brookings)**
EdRising Panel Discussion
- 1:15–2:00 pm **ROOM 1** UD – Meeting Eastern Prairie
- ROOM 2** UD – Meeting EGL
- ROOM 3** UD – Meeting Plains
- ROOM 4** UD – Meeting SEE
- ROOM 5** UD – Meeting Western

- 2:15–3:15 pm **ROOM 1 Leadership Opportunities within SDEA and NEA** | *President Loren Paul and Vice President Stephanie Hageman*
- ROOM 2 Computer-Aided Drafting in Elementary to Increase Math and Writing Skills** | *Lisa Weier*
- ROOM 3 Member Recruitment** | *Sandy Arseneault and Member*
- ROOM 4 Rights and Responsibilities Under Title IX** | *Korey Erickson (SDEA)*
- ROOM 5 Utilizing Hustle for Communication and Advocacy** | *Lathie Under Baggage*
- 3:30–4:45 pm **ROOM 1 Managing Destructive Behaviors** | *Amy Atkins*
- ROOM 2 Stigma around Opioid use in Students** | *WICHE*
- ROOM 3 Bystander to Upstander Training** | *Jen Dreiske (South Dakota Voices for Peace)*
- ROOM 4 Utilizing the 5 Keys to Transformation** | *Ambereen Khan-Baker, Shannon Scheel, Nicole Mutchler, Kelsey Lovseth, and Cassandra Ford*
- ROOM 5 Visualizing for Success** | *Stephen Heidenreich*

TUESDAY, JULY 18TH

7:30–8:15 am **Registration**

8:15–8:30 am **Opening**

- 8:45–10:00 am **ROOM 1 Meeting Needs of Students in Poverty**
- ROOM 2 Stigma around Opioid use in Students** | *WICHE*
- ROOM 3 Talk Saves Lives (Qualifies for SD Suicide Prevention Recertification Requirements)** | *Samantha Christopherson American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*
- ROOM 4 Mental Health for Educators** | *Darby Boyd NEA MB*
- ROOM 5 Differentiation Methods** | *Heather Harmon (Rapid City)*
- 10:15–11:15 am **ROOM 1 Meet in the Middle at that Old Bargaining Line**
- ROOM 2 Collaborating with School Board Members for Student Success** | *Paula McMahan (Elk Point Jefferson)*
- ROOM 3 Membership Processing and Procedures** | *Lathie Under Baggage (SDEA)*
- ROOM 4 STEM Partnerships with Civil Air Patrol and Air and Space Force Association**
- ROOM 5 ESP Organizing** | *Heather Harmon (Rapid City) & Emily Meier (SDEA)*

11:30–12:00 pm **LUNCH**

- 12:00–1:00 pm **KEYNOTE: We Will Survive — Kim Campbell**
- 1:30–2:30 pm **ROOM 1** Engaging with Families
ROOM 2 Leadership Summit | *Sioux Falls Education Association*
ROOM 3 Esports in K12 Education | *Gannon Karsky (Fenworks)*
ROOM 4 National Board Certification | *Joann Stephens*
ROOM 5 Working with Exceptional Students (Autism) | *Heather Harmon (Rapid City)*
- 1:30–2:30 pm **ROOM 1** School and Student Safety for Educators
ROOM 2 Using Social—Emotional Learning in the Classroom
ROOM 3 Book Bans
ROOM 4 Mental Health for Educators | *Darby Boyd NEA MB*
ROOM 5 Paraprofessionals and IEPs... What to Know!? | *Heather Harmon (Rapid City)*



SUMMER ACADEMY PRESENTERS



State Legislator Approves 7 Percent Increase for Schools – And Say No to Vouchers!

Education Funding – Perhaps the best news coming from the 2023 legislative session was the seven percent increase to state aid for education. This is good news for school districts struggling with teacher shortages and inflation. Lawmakers were able to make the investment in schools because of the robust sales tax revenues. The increase was above and beyond Governor Noem’s proposed five-percent increase. The legislature will need to continue these investments if South Dakota is going to remain competitive with neighboring states when it comes to teacher salaries. South Dakota continues to lag all of our neighbors despite the record increases.



There is also good news for students who attend South Dakota’s public universities and technical colleges. For the second year in a row – legislators were able to fund a tuition freeze. This is great news for our students and our future teachers. Lawmakers also increased the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship by \$1,500 per recipient.

Tax Cuts – Lawmakers also reduced the state’s sales tax by .3 percent at a cost of



\$106 million. This equates to a 30-cent savings for every \$100 a taxpayer spends. Lawmakers did reach a compromise to sunset the reduction after four years. Members of the state senate opposed a permanent cut because of economic uncertainty. Senate negotiators say sales tax revenues may return to normal as the federal dollars from COVID-19 package come to an end. The fear is that a permanent sales tax cut might lead to future cuts in the budget including cuts to state aid for education.

Tax cuts will remain an issue next year as there are already efforts being made to make the sales tax cut permanent and or to repeal the sales tax on food. SDEA continues to urge lawmakers to adopt a budget and tax policy that ensures our schools have the resources necessary to overcome the current educator shortage and meet the needs of students.

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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.

Vouchers – As voucher bills continue to pass state houses across the nation, South Dakota’s Republican dominated legislature bucked this trend. South Dakota’s three voucher bills were defeated in committee. HB 1233 – Creates a statewide virtual school. This bill amounted to virtual vouchers and would have forced public schools into a perpetual hybrid model without any additional resources or support it. The House Education Committee deferred to the 41st Day.

A true voucher bill - HB 1234 would give vouchers to parents who send their children to accredited private schools. The fiscal note that accompanied the bill estimates the program would cost taxpayers and



public schools \$45.2 million annually. Again, the House Education Committee deferred it to the 41st Legislative Day.

Finally, Governor Noem’s program to create a voucher program for foster children also

failed in committee. SB 100 – Created a “voucher” program for foster children. This bill appropriated \$15 million to fund a program that would give some foster children \$4,000 in annual “scholarships” for educational purposes, including paying for private school tuition. SDEA believes these dollars would be better targeted at the Department of Social Services to provide more support to children who have

been abused and/or neglected. The Senate Education Committee deferred this to the 41st Legislative Day.

While vouchers failed this year, the national trend shows this issue will be back next year.

Censorship – Book bans and curriculum censorship are also making national headlines. South Dakota lawmakers said no to two bills that would have made it much easier for books to be banned. HB 1163 required schools and public libraries to have policies and procedures in place to review all books in the libraries and provide a complaint procedure. Schools and public libraries already have these policies and procedures. The House Education Committee deferred it to the 41st Legislative Day.

The Senate Education committee also defeated SB 193. Like HB 1163. It required school boards to have policies and procedures in place to review all “instructional materials” and provide a complaint procedure. Schools already have these policies and procedures in place.



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**Contact a UniServ
Director today!**
605-224-9263



Answering Questions About Your Union

What Can I Say? What Can I Teach?

Educators are experts in making sure our students learn honesty about who we are, integrity in how we treat others, and courage to do what's right. Recent broad-ranging attacks on how we teach and what we teach have created confusion about how we can safely continue teaching accurate and updated curricula to help our students understand our past and present to create a better future.

You are protected in teaching the curriculum.

We are instructed by our school districts to teach prescribed curricula and cannot be disciplined for teaching these. We know that by presenting factual information, we allow our students to draw their own conclusions and engage deeply with the material. The best practice is to use the state standards as your guide and or use the district approved curriculum.

Note that the First Amendment does not extend into the classroom.

When instructing students, legally speaking, we are speaking on behalf of the district. That means, unless otherwise stated in your contracts, we must refrain from taking political positions or espousing personal beliefs. That includes our speech, classroom decorations, and displays.

Know Your School Districts Parental Complaint Policy

Your school district policy should outline the procedures for parents to submit complaints. Make sure you read and understand the complaint policy. If policies have been violated, SDEA can assist you in

seeking the appropriate remedies.

Some contracts and school board policies go further to ensure academic freedom.

Read your local contract or board policy to determine whether you have additional protections for speech in the classroom. If you're not sure, talk with your building rep or UniServ Director.

Safety comes first.

For our students and ourselves, the first consideration is safety. We must create an environment where all students feel safe, and we must demand that our employers protect our personal safety. If you feel that you or your students may be threatened by activists, report this to your administration immediately, and to the police as well if necessary.

To learn more about Teaching the Truth in classrooms visit:



Disclaimer: This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended as a substitute for specific legal or other professional advice. If you have specific questions about your legal or contractual rights, contact your SDEA UniServ Director. This guidance will be updated periodically based on new information and guidance, so please refer back to this link for the most current information.



SDEA Board of Directors meeting minutes can now be found online at NEA EdCommunities on the "SDEA Members Only" group page.

McLaughlin Community Alliance Group Receives SDEA's 2023 Friend of Education Award

The South Dakota Education Association (SDEA) presented the 2023 Friend of Education Award to McLaughlin Community Alliance Group. The Friend of Education is given to individuals or organizations that contribute on a statewide basis toward achieving quality public education for all students.



“The McLaughlin Community Alliance Group through their Mission Statement is committed to uplifting and empowering the community through hope, healing and forgiveness for the good of all. They fulfill this with their vision to engage all people to help each other be their best and find strength through positivity and love, while living, working, learning and playing together as a community,” wrote McLaughlin Education Association President Carissa Aberle. “The group is responsible for organizing the CAG Lyuha Othi Resource Center and Thrift Store. Partnering with other local groups such as

the Boys and Girls club and the McLaughlin School District. The Community Alliance group provides so many resources and activities that pull our community together. They have sponsored events such as the National Night Out highlighting many of the communities first responders to providing the children of the community activities such as Kids Fun Day, Summer Movies in the Park, and most recently the Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treating. During Christmas time, they let all students pick out and wrap a gift to give to someone in their family (from the thrift store). While these activities may not be direct work in the classrooms, this group provides opportunities for family engagement and support which focuses on the whole child and their wellbeing. They are such a positive light for the students and the community of McLaughlin.”

“We are honored to present this year’s Friend of Education Award to the McLaughlin Community Alliance,” said SDEA President Loren Paul. “The sense of community they are building is paying off with an increase in school attendance. They are a shining example of what some hardworking committed individuals come together to make a difference for their neighbors and the students in their community. I am excited to see what they do next.”



SDEA/NEA Friend of Education Award

Nominate a person or organization for the Friend of Education Award by visiting ‘Grants & Scholarships’ at [SDEA.org](https://www.sdea.org). The nominee must be a person or organization outside of SDEA/NEA, have proven to be a genuine friend of education, educators, and/or students, reflect the philosophy and principles of the association and through leadership, acts and support must have made contributions toward achieving a first-rate education for students in South Dakota. **Deadline: November 1**

SDEA Presents 2023 Taking A Stand, Making A Difference Award Presented to Taneeza Islam

SDEA presented the 2023 Taking a Stand, Making A Difference Human and Civil Rights Award to Taneeza Islam, founder and Executive Director of South Dakota Voices for Peace, which is a nonprofit organization with a mission to build power and enable healing in immigrant, refugee, and Muslim communities by amplifying their voices and working in solidarity with all who dismantle bigotry and racism. Their goal: a “South Dakota that is diverse, inclusive, and anti-racist.” The organization is based in Sioux Falls.



Islam was nominated by Sioux Falls Education Association President Tim Eckert who wrote, “Taneeza is a leader and motivator, who inspires and encourages others to stand up for what is right.” Eckert goes on to say that Taneeza developed

the Cohorts of Courage program for BIPOC students and educators. “She is on the forefront of speaking up and speaking out on social justice issues.”

“Taneeza and South Dakota Voices for Peace are great partners in the work of creating equity for all students in South Dakota especially those who come from communities that are too often marginalized and discriminated against,” said SDEA President Loren Paul. “She helps our friends in the immigrant community to find their voice and use it to make South Dakota a more welcoming place for all. It is an honor to work with Taneeza and to present her with this most deserving award.”

The Taking A Stand, Making A Difference Human and Civil Rights Award recognizes student groups, or organization for their work in promoting human and civil rights. SDEA/NEA presents the Taking A Stand, Making a Difference Award to an individual, group, or organization for involvement in one or more of the following areas: child abuse prevention, cultural awareness, eliminating racial and gender inequities, drop-out prevention, suicide prevention, strengthening minority education, women’s concerns, disability awareness, or working with the disadvantaged.



SDEA/NEA Human and Civil Rights Awards

The South Dakota Education Association/NEA is seeking nominations for the Human and Civil Rights Award to honor an individual, student group, or organization for their work in promoting human and civil rights.

Deadline: November 1

For more information on all grants and awards offered by SDEA, visit SDEA.org.

Penny Osborne, SDEA's 2023 ESP of Year

The South Dakota Education Association (SDEA) named Rapid City's Penny Osborne, the McKinney-Vento Education Advocate, the 2023 Education Support Professional of the Year.



Jennifer Macziewski, Rapid City Education Association and SDEA Board member nominated Osborne.

“I have been a colleague of Penny’s for around ten years. In my time in education, Penny has consistently shown professionalism, positivity, efficiency, and compassion – more so than any other ESP I have known,” wrote Macziewski. “Penny has many roles and responsibilities in our district. Her official job title is McKinney-Vento Education Advocate. When I see Penny at school, she is always completing a

task that directly impacts the wellbeing of a child. She transports students, organizes and delivers Feeding South Dakota bags, monitors and tracks resources for students, and assists families in getting additional assistance. Penny is always always always helping somebody! Penny is an active member of the Rapid City Education Association as the Lead Paraprofessional. She holds meetings with the ESP group and regularly reports back to the RCEA executive board!”

Macziewski continued. “Recently, Penny has had some difficulties with her health. Even with these struggles, Penny continues to put students and staff first. I admire Penny’s ability to have a positive disposition and willingness to help despite her current health concerns. Penny is an excellent model of what the very best ESP’s should be and do. I whole-heartedly believe she deserves the honor of the SDEA’s Education Support Professional of the Year Award.”

SDEA/NEA’s ESP Award recognizes the contributions of Education Support Professionals (ESPs) to their schools, communities, and their professions. The award is presented to a member of SDEA/NEA who demonstrates outstanding accomplishments and who reflects the contributions of ESP to public education.



SDEA/NEA’s ESP Award

The award is presented to a member of SDEA/NEA who demonstrates outstanding accomplishments and reflects the contributions of ESP to public education.

Recognize the contributions of your favorite Education Support Professional (ESP), TODAY by visiting ‘Grants & Scholarships’ at SDEA.org.

Deadline: November 1

SDEA Scholarship Recipients

The South Dakota Education Association/NEA awards scholarships to outstanding students who are planning on entering the teaching profession.

Ramia Boersma Scholarship



Taesha Monahan
Sturgis Brown
High School

Gordon Horgen Memorial Scholarship



Emily Olsen
Dupree
High School



Kaeley Malm
Pierre T.F. Riggs
High School



Kenna Webb
Timber Lake
High School

2023 SDEA Election Winners

The SDEA/NEA Elections Committee met on April 21, 2023, to count and certify the results of the election.

SDEA President

- 1. Loren Paul

SDEA Vice President

- 1. Stephanie Hageman

NEA Director

- 1. Kelsey Lovseth

Board of Directors

Western (1)

1 year term

- 1. Jennifer Macziewski

Western (1)

2 year term

Open Position

EGL 2 year term

- 1. Paula Hanson

Plains 2 year term

- 1. Shawn Olsen

Eastern Prairie (1)

2 year terms

- 1. Danyelle Cleveland

SEE 2 year term

Open Position

ESP At-Large

2 year term

Open Position

COHE At-Large

1 year term

Open Position

Minority At-Large 2 year term

- 1. Curt Anderson

NEA RA UNIT

DELEGATE WINNERS

Western

- 1. Open Position
- 2. Open Position

EGL

- 1. Olivia Forman

ALT.

- 1. Madeline Scarlett

Plains

- 1. Open Position

SEE

- 1. Open Position

Eastern Prairie

- 1. Tim Eckert
- 2. Kelsey Lovseth

ALT.

- 1. Lisa Jennings
- 2. Jennifer Bergan Gabor
- 3. Virginia Colgan

NEA RA AT-LARGE DELEGATE WINNERS

Minority At-Large

- 1. Jennifer Bergan Gabor

AT-LARGE DELEGATES

- 1. Lisa Jennings
- 2. Madeline Scarlett
- 3. Virginia Colgan



I want to begin by thanking everyone who took time out during the March 31st blizzard to join us on my first attempt at holding a Zoom Annual Meeting. The bylaws were amended to permit the teleconference meeting. Paul McCorkle was elected our treasurer, and Phil Moore (our newly retired staff liaison) was elected our vice president. With Kathy Meyer continuing as our secretary and LouAnn Jensen joining us as our staff liaison, I look forward to another productive year.

I cannot thank our out going vice president, John Salladay and treasurer Dorothy Falk enough for all the help they have given me over the last several years. THANK YOU!

There are a few dates I'd like you to put on your calendars. The SDEA

Summer Academy will be in Sioux Falls at Augustana University again this July 16–18. Mileage and double room occupancy are provided. There is a lot to learn and it's great fun!

I'm also in the process of setting up the West River Social. I HOPE to have it in the Rapid City area July 14, but as of the writing of this article I'm still working out the details. Watch for an email/postcard as we get closer to the date. If you are in the area, please try to join us.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our events throughout the year. Your help at the social studies hearing and lobbying was invaluable, and it's always fun to meet at the socials and academies. Come join the fun!

Mary Jane Chiles
SDEA Retired President

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

SDEA Retired Staff Liaison:
LouAnn Jensen | 605-220-1688
LouAnn.Jensen@sdea.org



Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8–12 2023.

Despite all of its challenges, this past year has made me prouder than ever to be an educator. It has been an honor to watch you rise to every occasion and meet every challenge with compassion, creativity, and care for all of your students.

— Becky Pringle, NEA President

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South Dakota
Education Association



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UPCOMING EVENTS

June

- 12-14 SDEA Board/Staff Retreat
- 19 Juneteenth (SDEA offices closed)
- 28-7/1 NEA Aspiring Ed Conference
- 30-7/1 NEA Racial/Social Justice Conference

July

- 6/28-1 NEA Aspiring Ed Conference
- 6/30-1 NEA Racial/Social Justice Conference
- 2 NEA BOD meeting
- 2-6 NEA RA - Orlando, FL
- 4 Independence Day (SDEA offices closed)
- 16-18 SDEA Summer Academy**
- 19-20 Jump Start Training