

**NSEA Resolutions Committee Report  
To the NSEA Delegate Assembly, 2013-14**

**Submitted by Tracia Blom, South Sioux City, and Resa Wiltse, Lincoln**

Nebraska was represented on the NEA Resolutions Committee at the Representative Assembly in Atlanta in 2013 by Tracia Blom, South Sioux City; Resa Wiltse, Lincoln; and Becky Torrens, Elkhorn, who also chaired the committee's Internal Editing Committee (IEC).

Blom and Wiltse were re-elected as the Nebraska representatives for the winter and summer resolutions committee meetings for 2014.

The summer resolutions committee meetings were two days filled with information, presentations and discussion on several proposed amendments and new resolutions, as well as sub-committee work. The Resolutions hearing was held prior to the opening day of Representative Assembly and was attended by all committee members, as well as NEA members from various states. The summer meeting in Atlanta also marked a first for the resolutions committee, in that changes to NEA Policy Statement on Charter Schools were proposed by the Resolutions Committee, and later passed by the RA delegates.

The delegates at Representative Assembly vote on a new budget for NEA each year, which included cuts to various committees and departments. One such cut eliminated the face-to-face winter meeting of the Resolutions Committee, beginning in 2013. The committee members used computers and phones to participate in the first WebEx, or virtual Resolutions Committee meeting. On the evening of Feb. 27, 2014, and afternoon of March 1, 2014, the second Virtual Winter Resolutions Committee meeting was held by phone and computer.

Training sessions were held over the course of two weeks in February hosted by the IEC and NEA staff, to educate and assist committee members in the participation process for the virtual resolutions meeting. The meeting on Thursday, Feb. 27, opened with a welcome from Brian Ferguson, chair of the Internal Editing Committee. The agenda and new guidelines for the virtual meeting were discussed, and an overview of subcommittee work was given. The remainder of the meeting was used to review all resolution proposals submitted, and how we would proceed Saturday, March 1.

That date opened with brief remarks from NEA President Dennis Van Roekel, and continued with discussion and action on proposed resolutions and amendments. The meeting, with 114 committee members, NEA staff and 5 IEC members, went smoothly, with the procedures in place for committee members to contribute to the discussion, and then vote on proposals. Issues presented included Comprehensive School Health, Social and Psychological Programs and Services, which was referred to a sub-committee for further study and research. Other topics submitted were Development of Curriculum, Higher Education, Safe Schools and Communities, Discipline, Teacher Career Paths, and Equal Membership Recognition. A new resolution proposed by the IEC, and passed by the committee, would establish subcommittees to review all current NEA Resolutions for possible consolidation and clarification of language.

All committee members will receive an inquiry asking them to specify their interests in serving on specific resolution subcommittees. After the IEC peruses all responses, they will divide all resolutions committee members up into the subcommittees for the summer meetings in Denver.