

Ad Hoc Committee on the Ethnic and Minority Affairs Committee Report to the 2015 NSEA Delegate Assembly

By NSEA Vice President Jenni Benson, Lincoln Education Association

The Ad Hoc Committee to study the standing of the Ethnic and Minority Affairs Committee on the NSEA Board of Directors, formed as a result of New Business Item No. 8 at the 2014 Delegate Assembly, met on two occasions face to face and also communicated electronically numerous times.

New Business Item No. 8 directed that “The NSEA Board will put together an Ad Hoc Committee of the NSEA vice president, EMAC chair, and a majority of the EMAC recommended NSEA members to investigate the potential of having a minority at-large Board member elected by active membership.”

The committee researched what other state association boards were doing in regard to ethnic minority at-large board positions. The committee members called members in other states, sent emails, and searched online for language regarding at large positions.

After investigating numerous states and checking NEA language, the committee carefully deliberated the research. The committee voted to propose a Bylaw change for Delegate Assembly. The proposed Bylaw will put Nebraska’s Board of Directors in a similar composition as other states while ensuring a voting voice for NSEA’s ethnic minority members.

The recommendation is to create an Ethnic Minority At-Large position to be elected by the Delegate Assembly body beginning at the Delegate Assembly in 2016.