Report of the RA Planning Committee of the Board of Directors to the 2016 NSEA Delegate Assembly,

By Nebraska NEA Director Deb Gnuse, Grand Island, Chair

The Representative Assembly Planning Committee of the NSEA Board of Directors has met several times over the past year to prepare for the NEA Representative Assembly in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Nebraska delegates will stay at the Omni Shoreham Hotel near the Woodland Park Zoo stop on the metro. The cost for a room is \$223.28/night. This includes all taxes, so a shared room would be \$111.64/night.

State delegates will receive a per diem rate to cover the cost of food. We will deduct \$20/day for the days breakfast is provided at caucus. The total delegate allowance for room, food and transportation to/from the airport will be decided at our next meeting. State delegates will need to contact NSEA administrative assistants for all travel reservations, unless given permission from the NSEA president to make their own flight arrangements. NSEA state delegates will be allowed to expense back out of their travel allowance the total amount paid for Nebraska Night and/or the HCR banquet.

The delegate fee for 2016 was set at \$130 last year so locals would have advance notice with plenty of time to include it in their budgets. Nebraska Night will be held on July 2 at a Washington Nationals baseball game. Nebraska delegates will have the opportunity to enjoy the game and get a \$15 concession credit. It is a package worth \$60 but will only cost us \$35. While at the game, delegates are encouraged to move around our section and take the opportunity to get to know the other delegates from Nebraska.

We will also be deciding our "dress" suggestions at the next meeting.

A reminder from last year, state delegates will have 20 days following the conclusion of RA to turn in expense vouchers. Those state delegates not turning in vouchers within the allotted time will be given only air fare and hotel costs up front the following year and the remainder must be expensed out with receipts. Those delegates not turning in vouchers before the end of the NSEA fiscal year will not receive reimbursement.

We will once again be raising money for the NEA Fund for Children and Education. Our committee is always looking for new ways to raise money. If anyone has ideas, we'd love to hear them.

Special thanks go to Julie Wolf and Joan Sparks! They do a lot of the leg work and research for the committee so we have up-to-date, relevant information when we meet.