
What are the Standing or Procedural Rules?

Such rules govern how the DA will operate. For example, a local association could propose that “all NBIs will be submitted prior to the Friday night recess.” Proposals for rule changes are due in advance of the Assembly and require a majority vote of delegates for approval. Rule changes proposed during the Assembly require a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

Speaking to the Assembly is Easy!

Don't be shy! If you wish to engage in debate on the floor of the Assembly, you may do so! NSEA is a democratically-run Association, and all Delegates may utilize the microphone. If you wish to speak, simply approach one of the numbered microphones. You will find red, green and yellow cards. Simply hold up the color card that fits what you need to say:

Red Card: Indicates you will speak in opposition to the matter being debated.

Green Card: Indicates you will speak in favor of the matter being debated.

Yellow Card: Indicates you have a question for the chair or for the maker of the original motion under discussion.

What If I Still Have a Question?

You may ask a fellow delegate, speak to an officer from your local association, an NSEA board member or a member of the Executive Team.

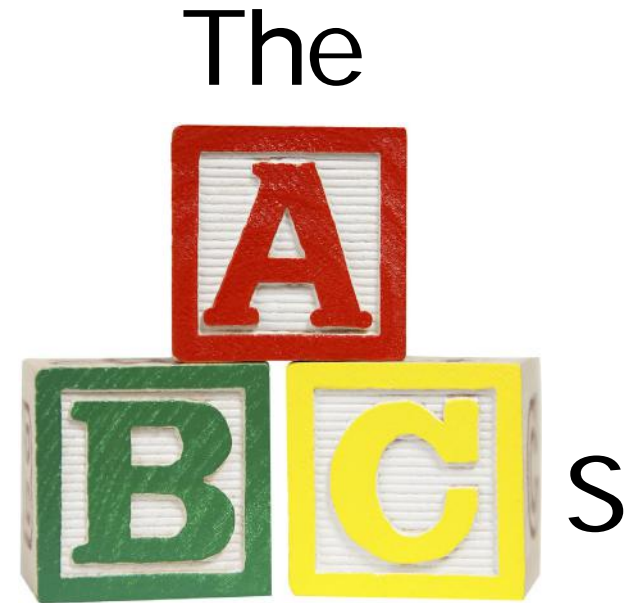
Where Can I Get More Information?

Visit www.nsea.org/delegateassembly to find links to all sorts of helpful information. You can also consult your Delegate materials, which include a Bylaw and Resolutions booklet; and your delegate booklet with reports, proposed NBIs, and a copy of current and proposed Standing Rules, as well as this year's Agenda.

THANK YOU for being a delegate!
We celebrate and appreciate your active involvement
in your professional association!



Nebraska State Education Association
605 S. 14th St., Suite 200
Lincoln, NE 68508
800-742-0047 | 402-475-7611
nsea.org



for Delegates

NSEA
Delegate Assembly

FREQUENTLY-ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Purpose of Delegate Assembly?

This annual meeting provides an opportunity for all Association members, through their elected delegates, to set Association goals and dues, vote on New Business Items, and to update the Association's governing documents embodied in the Bylaws and Resolutions. Delegates also elect NSEA leaders — President, Vice President and two members of the NEA Board of Directors. The Assembly is the legislative and policy-making body that sets the agenda for the Association. Approximately 300 delegates from across Nebraska attend.

What is the Order of Business?

Friday evening's session includes adoption of Standing and Procedural Rules; adoption of the formal Order of Business; nomination of candidates for NSEA elections; remarks by those candidates; a report of the Bylaws Committee; debate on proposed Bylaws amendments; a report of the Resolutions Committee; submission of proposed new Resolutions; a report of the Auditing Committee; and formal presentation of the dues proposal for the coming year. Friday ends with Resolution and Budget hearings, as well as a reception that offers opportunity for social interaction.

As time allows on Friday night or Saturday, delegates will also hear the report of the Executive Director and a keynote address by an elected or NEA official.

Saturday brings delegate voting on issues and candidates by secret ballot (when appropriate); submission of New Business Items; submission of Resolutions and/or Amendments to Resolutions; and elections results. The agenda also includes an awards program; debate and voting on New Business Items and Resolutions; and the President's address. The agenda generally concludes with consideration of the dues proposal.

Why is Seating Assigned by Districts?

The NSEA is organized into six districts. Delegates are seated by district to allow interaction and discussion within districts as decisions are being made. In addition, delegate credentials are tallied by district, with a formal reporting of the number of seated delegates to ensure the required quorum is present.

In addition, NSEA's two affiliate organizations are seated together by membership. Those affiliates are the Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) and the NSEA-Retired.

Who Sits at the Head Table?

The NSEA president leads the Assembly. Others who participate in conducting the Assembly and are seated at the dais include a hired Parliamentarian; the NSEA vice president; NSEA's two members of the NEA Board of Directors; and Association management staff. Others who may appear at the podium include the chairs of committees, award recipients and presenters.

What is My Role as a Delegate?

Delegates are responsible for attending to the business of the assembly by listening to discussion and debate; participating in the debate (as you desire); casting votes (both voice and secret ballot votes); and for participating in District caucuses and discussions.

What is a New Business Item (NBI)?

A New Business Item calls for a specific action. It is a statement that establishes, alters or abolishes substantive policies or programs of the Association. Such a proposal shall not be in direct conflict with an existing Resolution. Each New Business Item shall be in force for one year, or other length of time specified by the Assembly, and may be renewed at the discretion of the delegates. For example, "The NSEA shall lobby the Legislature for an increase in teacher salaries." NBIs may be submitted to the NSEA office in advance of the Assembly; new NBIs may also be submitted during the Assembly, with time deadlines as designated on the official agenda. Approval requires a majority (usually voice) vote by Delegates.

What is a Bylaw Amendment?

A Bylaw Amendment would change the Association's governing documents. For example, a particular section of the Bylaws could be altered to add additional duties to the job description of the President. Bylaw Amendments must be submitted in writing in advance of the Assembly. Approval requires a two-thirds majority vote by secret ballot.

What is a Resolution?

A Resolution is a statement of belief. For example: "The NSEA believes that all students should have a safe environment in which to learn." Delegates annually consider a lengthy series of Resolutions, most of which carry over from year to year. Resolutions are due in the NSEA office approximately two weeks in advance in order to be included in the delegate workbook.
