

Ethnic and Minority Affairs Committee report  
Isau Metes, Lincoln, Chair

The Ethnic and Minority Affairs Committee has presented a New Business Item asking the Delegate Assembly 2018 to direct NSEA to use existing resources and reports to inform our members on the impact of racist stereotypes and mascots on students. We are asking NSEA to focus on how racist imagery affects students in their emotional/ social growth, stress, brain development, health, educational success and safety issues. Out of this will also come professional development of best practices and effective materials for working with students exposed to these racist images.

### **Resolutions**

EMAC has been asked to review the resolutions submitted by Isau Metes, Lincoln, along with those submitted by EMAC, that would add “immigration status” to NSEA Resolution, A-4 Equal Opportunity for Education, which reads:

*The NSEA believes all persons should be given equal opportunity for education and participation in school sponsored activities. Written student policies should be consistent with the guidelines established by federal and state agencies regarding discrimination. In cases of alleged discrimination based upon race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, age, economic status, physical disability, immigration status, or size, students should be given a written copy of these policies and their rights should be protected.*

The NSEA Resolutions are formal expressions of belief and principle. Resolutions provide philosophical direction to Association leaders and members on specific issues.

### **Annual Meeting, Elections**

EMAC will hold elections for one Black Representative, one Native American, one Asian/Pacific Islander, and one Hispanic Representative prior to Delegate Assembly.

### **Officers**

NSEA EMAC Officers are Isau Metes, Lincoln, chair; Jose Hernandez, Norfolk, vice chair; and Susan Loney, Omaha, secretary.

Serving on the committee as representatives from each caucus are: American Indian/Alaska Native representatives Eddie Ventura and Tracy Hartman-Bradley, both of Omaha; Asian Pacific Islander representatives Kristy Lee, Omaha, and Casey Molifua, Hastings; Black/African American representatives Jermaine Guinyard, Harvard, and LeDonna Griffin, Omaha; and Hispanic representatives Liz Carranza-Rodriguez, Lincoln, and Karla Andazola, Lexington.

### **Educators Sharpen Leadership Skills**

NSEA members joined more than 200 of their peers from across the country in Las Vegas at the National Education Association's Minority and Women's Leadership Training Conference Dec. 8-10.

NSEA members spent time sharpening leadership skills and sharing strategies focused on how to advocate for student-centered policies that will improve their schools and communities.

NSEA members attending were LeDonna Griffin, Juan Carlos, Tracy Hartman-Bradley and Lee Perez, Omaha; Steven Dunham, Tahj Willingham and Casey Molifua, Hastings; and Nora Lenz, Lincoln.

### **NEA Leadership Summit**

Black Representative Jermaine Guinyard and other Nebraska educators attended the 2018 NEA Leadership Summit in Chicago in March. The Summit has a reputation for being the place where real questions are asked and answered about real issues and challenges that educators face every day. The event provides breakout sessions addressing all six NEA leadership competencies, inspiring keynotes, heartfelt stories from our locals, and opportunities to engage in innovative discussions to support member leadership development that move the participants from ideas to actions.

### **EMAC Offers Travel Opportunities**

Please check the NSEA EMAC website for the upcoming different NEA Ethnic Caucus Issue conferences hosted by the Black, Hispanic,

Native American/Alaskan, and the Asian/Pacific Islander Caucuses as well as the Social Justice conference preceding Representative Assembly in Minneapolis.

Visit our website at [nsea.org/emac](http://nsea.org/emac) for travel request forms or contact the EMAC Chair Isau Metes for details at: [isaumetes@gmail.com](mailto:isaumetes@gmail.com)

### **Cultural Competency**

We started a series in NSEA's monthly magazine, The Voice, to promote cultural competency among educators. We are already cognizant of cultural competency, which is significant to all of us. The main goal is to help us to become culturally fluent across our personal ethnic groups. We believe that this valuable information will also allow us to be culturally fluent with the students that we work with in our classrooms. Some of the questions are going to be coming from the Asian Pacific Islander Caucus (APIC), Alaska Native/American Indian Caucus, Black Caucus, and Hispanic Caucus by networking with them. If you want to contribute questions that deal with various cultures please contact Susan Loney at: [susanloney7@gmail.com](mailto:susanloney7@gmail.com)

### **Social Justice Conferences**

Conferences focusing on Social Justice within our schools and community will be held in Omaha and Lincoln. Topics include culturally relevant and ELL strategies, LGBTQ, cultivate diverse leadership, diverse engagement of members at DA, leadership opportunities in the association. EMAC is collaborating with the NSEA Metro District and its various locals in hosting the event.

### **Self-Identification**

There are a high number of NSEA members who have not identified their ethnic minority status. EMAC is asking them to identify themselves ethnically. According to NSEA data, there are 1,601 members with an unidentified ethnicity. A goal of the EMAC is to increase their membership by getting "unidentified" NSEA members to self-identify on the membership rolls. How can you update your ethnicity status? Contact

your NSEA Organizational Specialist or call the NSEA at 1-800-742-0047 to update your records.