

Student Education Association of Nebraska
Madison Kinney, York College, President

The Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) has had a busy year, but it is my honor as President to give the report for the 2017-2018 association year.

This year I am on my third term on the Executive team. Working with the second President-Elect, London Bercey (Wayne State), has been a lot of fun. We both have attended the NSEA Board meetings to represent the student voice. Along with us, our Executive Team consists of a Secretary Megan Wallace, Peru State College; Underclassmen Rep Alicia Laufenberg, University of Nebraska-Omaha; and our Regional Representatives, Elizabeth Milliken, University of Nebraska-Omaha (Metro); Bailey Schlueter, Wayne State College (Northeast); Evann Vrana, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Southeast); and Tommy Eckhart, York College (Western). We had a lot of opportunities to bond with each other as well as grow in our passions for education.

As in years past, our year began this past summer in Boston, MA, at the Student Leadership Conference. We took 10 students to represent Nebraska as well as our two staff advisors, Kristi Capek and Kristen Sedlacek, and the Hastings College Student Education Association Advisor Ann Auten. While we were there our state won three of the seven national awards. Overall, our state is doing very well with our Aspiring Educators program. Because of the opportunity for many of the executive committee to attend the conference, we were able to get a jump start on our year, creating goals and instilling ideas for our upcoming events.

We had our annual fall event, Fall Conference and Outreach to Teach. Friday night was a huge success as we learned to be advocates for our LGBTQ+ students. Held at Peru State College, our Outreach to Teach was a little different compared to years past. Instead of the usual cleaning up a school building, we packed backpacks to send to Port Arthur School District in Houston, TX, a school affected by the recent hurricane. To close out the day we had a DACA panel that affected many of our attendees. Our upcoming events also include our Lobby Day in Lincoln, and Spring Conference and Delegate Assembly in Kearney.

As a group, we did a lot of hard work and it paid off in our successes. We have had a voice on the national level of Aspiring Educators through my opportunity to attend the Leadership Summit in Chicago. Overall, our Aspiring Educators are becoming more and more active and aware of the political and social justice issues that they will face when they enter the

workforce for themselves. As our program continues, we hope to help improve the teacher quality, widen our political action, and continue our work with the community around us.