Report of the NEA Directors By Tracy Hartman-Bradley, Omaha Education Association, and Linda Freye, Lincoln Education Association

The National Education Association Board of Directors has focused on how the strategic plan and budget relates to the work of the NEA and strong state and local affiliates.

The NEA Board of Directors lobbies Congress during each meeting in Washington, D.C., with the Nebraska delegation focusing on the Secretary of Education, the implementation of the Dream Act, Children's Health Insurance Program, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Higher Education and educational issues affecting our members across the country.

Leading the profession has focused on leadership development, the Center for Organizing, the Great Public Schools Fund, and the Common Core Standards.

NEA Strategic Goals

GOAL 1: Strong Affiliates for Educator Voice and Empowerment GOAL 2: Empowered Educators for Successful Students

Goal 2018–2020 Strategic Framework

To achieve our mission, and realize our vision of a great public school for every student, we, the NEA, will grow and strengthen our Association and promote quality public education by:

- Advancing opportunities that will identify, organize and engage new early career educators; amplify the voices of and all educators; support our members' professional growth; and promote social iustice for our students, communities, our and our nation;
- Securing a pro-public education environment for students, educators, and families; and
- Building the capacity of the local, state, and national union to ensure the success of public education.

Strategic Objectives

To grow and strengthen our union, we will organize our members around issues that affect teaching and learning and the lives of our students. In partnership with our affiliates, NEA will:

■ Increase educator voice, influence, and professional authority;

- Recruit and engage new and early career educators;
- Advance racial justice in education;
- Provide professional supports;
- Secure the environment to advance the mission of the NEA and its affiliates;
- Enhance organizational capacity.

Core Functions

Research, policy, and practice for Great Public Schools requires these core functions: organizing, advocacy, communications, business operations and governance.

Lobbying on Education Issues: NEA Legislative Agenda

NEA supports federal policies that will help strengthen our democracy and economy by fulfilling the promise of public education and helping America's struggling middle class achieve the American Dream. Those include:

- Ensure the resources necessary to help all students succeed.
- Promote social and economic justice for all.
- Ensure every child has access to high-quality early education.
- Promoted Higher Education Funding and Student Debt relief.
- Protect students and enhance school safety.
- Ensure a secure retirement for working Americans.
- Safeguard essential health care benefits for children and families.
- Protect and promote public education.
- Promote public schools over private schools, charter schools and vouchers schemes.

Lobbying Issues 2018-19

NEA opposed the Supreme Court appointment, the DeVos plan to arm teachers, tax cuts 2.0, the federal government shutdown and U.S. detention centers for immigrants.

NEA supported raising funding for education, community schools, background checks to prevent gun violence, the Rebuild America's School Act/School Modernization and the National Education Support Professional Award.