

**Report of the NewGEN (Early Educators) Committee
Submitted by Christian Schuerman and Jake Joliffe**

This year, amid the challenges of the Pandemic, NewGEN continued to work to engage and support early career educators. NewGEN ended the previous school year hosting a virtual Trivia Night. The trivia night was in conjunction with a social hour where a mixologist was invited and engaged members in mixing drinks in their own homes. Members could engage with other members from across the state and had the opportunity to earn some prizes and share uplifting thoughts and advice on ending the 2020-21 school year. Our summer included members of the NewGEN committee presenting and hosting an open panel at NSEA-U. Members of the committee were available to provide input to local leaders on how to recruit, retain, and engage new educators in local associations, and within our local schools. This past fall, members Jake Joliffe and Christian Schuerman led a New Teacher Panel Q & A during the Aspiring Educators Fall annual conference. Through this virtual format, aspiring educators were engaged in asking questions related to the first few years as an educator. We have recently opened the first portion of the monthly committee meeting as a meet and greet. This portion of the meeting is aimed at engaging new member interest in the committee and allowing an additional opportunity for engaging in building a community of new educators across the state. We spend this first portion to allow for conversations and socializations centered on support and current situations in our schools. After thirty minutes, the meeting is then closed to conduct the business of the committee. We look forward to seeing how we can engage young members across Nebraska through this social time and building a professional community of new educators aimed at supporting each other as strong leaders in our Association and school districts.