

Report of the NEA Directors Committee

Submitted by Linda Freye, Lincoln Education Association & Edward Ventura Jr., Omaha Education Association

The focus of the National Education Association (NEA) is on four priority areas for 2022-2023:

1. Advancing Our Strategic Vision
2. Uniting Our Members
3. Creating, Safe, Just, and Equitable Schools
4. Securing the Environment

As elected members of the NEA Board of Directors, we have been focusing on representing the members of Nebraska at national meetings and conferences throughout the 2022-2023 year. To do this, we have met as an NEA Board virtually and in-person. Your NEA Directors have attended the NEA Representative Assembly in Chicago, the NEA Leadership Summit in San Francisco, and NSEA Board and District meetings, the NSEA Delegate Assembly, and Aspiring Educators events. We have also attended beginning-of-the-school-year events at locals and districts during July and August 2022. The NEA Board made the decision, after much discussion, to have the 2023 NEA Representative Assembly (RA) in Orlando, Florida, in-person. There will not be any virtual components to the NEA RA this year. During our Super Week visits to Washington, DC, NEA Directors meet with our elected representatives and/or designated staff. As of March 2023, we have not been able to meet with the office of Senator Pete Ricketts. Senior Director Linda Freye is a member of the Legislative Committee and the Read Across America Committee. On the Legislative Committee, Linda helps with legislative goals and Legislative Amendments at the RA. The Read Across America Committee works to provide resources for educators to use throughout the year, focusing on an increasingly diverse student population across America. Junior Director Edward T. Ventura Jr. is on the Board Leadership Development Committee. The committee reviews, assesses, and updates as needed the Board curriculum, training model, and schedule to ensure all Board members receive appropriate training throughout their NEA Board service. The Committee also reviews and updates onboarding materials and processes for first-year directors who enter the cohort at different times of the year. Edward was also elected by his peers to be Board Forum Secretary. The Board Forum is an informal meeting of NEA Directors held the evening before the first day of a Board meeting for the purpose of sharing background information on agenda items and emerging issues. The Board Forum also meets at the end of each day of business during the Representative Assembly as needed. This is Linda Freye's sixth and final year as an NEA Director. Thank you, Linda, for your leadership at the national level for the past six years!