

NEA RA Committees

Steering Committee

This committee is made up of the chairs of all committees and provides structure and leadership to the Wisconsin delegation. They advise the leadership and the delegation on the myriad issues and activities of the RA. This committee will lead activities, sessions, recommendations related to your committee and area of responsibility. They will work with the Officer Team/Leadership Liaison designated to your area of responsibility to address delegate questions and concerns.

Time Commitment: This committee will have a conference call in early June to prepare for the RA.

Constitution & Bylaw & Standing Rules Committee

This committee makes recommendations to the delegation on proposed amendments to the NEA Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules. Questions to consider when making recommendations:

- Do the changes promote democracy and member voice?
- Will the changes impede the business of the union/RA?
- Are there unintended consequences that could accompany the changes?
- Do the amendments or standing rules deviate from Roberts Rules of order?
Does it make sense to deviate from these rules?

Time Commitment: This committee meeting on the day of open hearings prior to the first RA floor session. Members should attend the constitution hearing held virtually before the RA. Constitutional amendments come up early on the RA agenda, so this committee works at the beginning of the RA.

Delegate Coordination / Attendance Committee

This committee is responsible for taking daily attendance of all delegates at caucus meetings and on the RA floor. It is responsible for relaying caucus positions by carrying signs on the RA floor via the white boards and other forms of communication throughout the Wisconsin Delegation.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee need to be in attendance at least a half hour before each caucus meeting and must be on the RA floor at all times.

Hospitality Committee

This committee helps with recreational activities for the delegation, including distribution of tickets and special materials, and helping with the State Night Activity.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee work on an as-needed basis.

Interview Committee

This committee interviews all candidates for NEA office prior to the first session of the RA and reports its findings to the delegation. The committee makes recommendations for endorsement of a candidate(s) to the delegation.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee should be prepared to interview candidates virtually prior to the RA.

Legislative Committee

The members of this committee study the proposed NEA Legislative Program, review all amendments, and make recommendations to the delegation. Questions to consider when making recommendations:

- What do we want to empower our lobbyists to do?
- Would we still want this language if “the other side” were in power?
- Does this language exist elsewhere in the legislative agenda?
- How does this language fit in with current language?
- Are you aware of any legal/constitutional problems with this language?
- Is the language too specific and limiting, or too vague?
- Is this a national issue? Does it affect educators, students/families, or public schools?

Time Commitment: Members of this committee should attend the legislative hearing held virtually before the RA officially begins. The committee meets to take positions on proposed legislative amendments. This meeting has taken place at the close of business session in the past or before the WEAC caucus.

NEA Fund for Children and Public Education

This committee is responsible for collecting monies for the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. These monies are used for political purposes, including, but not limited to, making contributions to and expenditures on behalf of friends of public education who are candidates for federal office.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee should be prepared to help solicit donations to the WEAC caucus auction and work daily at the caucus meetings collecting contributions for the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education.

New Business Items

This committee reviews all new business items to be acted upon by the NEA delegates. The New Business Item Committee is divided into two subgroups; each subgroup makes recommendations to the delegation and on the floor to the leadership. Questions to consider when making recommendations:

- Does the cost match the effectiveness?
- Is this already being done elsewhere?
- Does it impact multiple states?
- Does it connect to education/NEA policies and resolutions?
- Is it logical to complete it in only one year (the length that an NBI lasts)?
- Is the NEA best suited for this work or do we sign on as a partner with allies (rather than lead the work)?
- Does the language match the intent (will the NBI accomplish its intent)?

Time Commitment: New business items are **now** submitted prior to the start of the RA, some of this work can take place prior to the NEA RA through virtual meetings. Traditionally, this committee has met at various times daily during the RA (as needed), although most traditionally they have met at 6:00 a.m., before the WEAC morning caucus.

Resolutions

This committee is **elected** by the Wisconsin delegation the year prior to the RA and serves on the NEA Resolutions Committee attending meetings throughout the year. Questions to consider when making recommendations:

- Does the language need to be more specific, expanded, and/or clarified?
- How does the language fit with in the larger context of resolutions?

Strategic Plan and Budget

This committee reviews the NEA Strategic Plan & Budget and makes sure that both are in alignment. Committee members should understand the NEA Proposed Budget and any modifications to it as it will be reviewed and approved by RA delegates.

Time Commitment: Committee members will need to attend the hearing on the Strategic Plan and Budget. They should be prepared to explain the NEA Strategic plan and Budget with the Wisconsin delegation and answer questions.

WI Delegation Review Committee

This committee reviews NEA Policy Statements to be taken up by the NEA RA. They also review any NBI's proposed by Wisconsin delegates for recommendations.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee work on an as-needed basis depending upon the potential policy statements up for debate and discussion and if Wisconsin delegates are proposing NBI's.

New Delegate Coordination Committee

This committee works to assist our new delegates to the NEA RA. They mentor and answer questions for all new delegates from Wisconsin.

Time Commitment: Members of this committee will help new delegates before and throughout the entire NEA RA to ensure that our new delegates have a positive experience.

*******NEA Committee Reports to Wisconsin Delegation***

The NBI, Legislative, Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and Resolution Committee would first move their proposed positions (support/oppose/ no position) on a group of the proposed amendments with a one sentence explanation of each including their reasoning (content, action, effect/impact, lack of info/waiting for debate).