

How to vote in KNEA statewide elections.

Cast your votes online
between February 15 and
March 31, 2022.

Who is eligible to vote?

Active Professional members, ESP members and KNEA Retired members are eligible to vote in this election.

More Details

Election and voting information will be sent to your email as we have it in our records. You can update your email and membership information by calling KNEA at 785.232.8271, your UniServ office, or by using our NEA360 member portal (access at www.knea.org).

Add “help+knea@yeselections.com” to your “safe email” list so that you will be sure to receive election emails. Use the address “help+knea@yeselections.com” to get answers to any voting questions you might have.



2022 KNEA ELECTIONS

Positions - Candidates - Statements

KNEA Board of Directors Candidate Statements

Alliance UniServ

Blake Swenson

My name is Blake Swenson and I am running for the Alliance BOD position. I am currently a social studies teacher at Lawrence Free State High School. One of the primary reasons I became a teacher was the ability to join a union, as I think unions are key to a stronger country. KNEA is well positioned from both a membership and budget perspective and I will continue to support policies that have made that possible. One area where I can provide a new voice is in our political advocacy. I have a BA in Political Science and experience working in politics and government. I used that experience to help revive the LEA PAC and in two years we have raised \$1,300 with greater plans for 2022. I hope to provide ideas and actions that will help create a robust, effective and comprehensive strategy. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Cottonwood UniServ

Kristy Oborny - No statement provided.

Kaw Valley UniServ

Jonathan Eshnaur

Kansas NEA has been a constant in the ever-changing world of public education. I am proud of our collective efforts and the guidance and resources that KNEA has provided to me, a high school special education teacher, and all our members during this time. I believe that we must and will continue our focus on how to grow our Association to meet the challenges that await us moving forward for the students of Kansas. I would appreciate your vote as the Kaw Valley Board of Director to the KNEA Board of Directors to provide my leadership and knowledge as a passionate voice for Kansas public education.



South Central UniServ

Brian Skinner

My name is Brian Skinner, and I teach special education at Newton High School. During this time I have worked at becoming continually more involved at the local, regional, and state levels of KNEA. At the local level, I have served on Newton NEAs political action committee, helped research for the negotiations team, and am a current building representative. At the regional level, I serve on South Central's administration board as treasurer and student organization representative, having worked with Bethel College for each of the past several years. At the state level, I am currently a member of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, as well as the Social Justice Leadership Taskforce. Being involved through KNEA has allowed me to grow professionally, and work to strengthen the profession. Should I be elected, I look forward to the opportunity to continue working for Kansas teachers, as South Central's Board of Director.



UniServ Southeast

Anita White

I have represented Uniserv Southeast and the Pittsburg Education Association at the NEA RA numerous times. I appreciate the importance of being part of the decision-making process for this important union. I have been proud to be a member of the Kansas NEA delegation. I would appreciate your support to continue to represent you at the NEA RA.



Wyandotte United UniServ

Dominick DeRosa

Dominick DeRosa, candidate for Wyandotte United's Board of Director, is asking for your vote. I believe that it is important that our Wyandotte County members have a strong voice on the KNEA Board of Directors. We need to continue to grow that voice at all levels of our association and at all opportunities. As your representative it is my goal to continue to help our Wyandotte County locals to grow membership and to help grow fierce advocates for our students and ourselves. Through the work of our state affiliate, our association's voice continues to grow. I would like to be there to put into action my faith in our members. We need to continue to add our voices to our fellow members, not only as a call to action, but to jump in and become more involved in the work. Thank you in advance for your vote of support.



Ethnic Minority Board Representative

Rachel Leonard

Hi Everyone,

My name is Rachel I. Leonard (Rachel). I am running for the Ethnic Minority Position. I have some experience with this role due to unexpectedly stepping up to serve in the position last year. I identify myself as an African American Creole. My philosophy is that no one should count themselves out of learning and self-improvement opportunities because of their past mistakes. My belief is that there is nothing I cannot learn to master while being humbled when learning from blunders. I am flexible. I am punctual. I ask clarity questions. I am focused. I am genuine. I am a team player. I am a lover of learning and gaining experiences. I am your Ethnic Minority representative. Thank you for your vote of confidence in me,
Rachel I. Leonard



KNEA-Retired Board Representative

Ruth Goff

I am asking for your vote for KNEA Retired Board of Director. My name is Ruth E. Goff. As a Lifetime Member I remain active in the association. I have experience while an active member of serving on the KNEA Board and the NEA Board. I know the importance of representing all of our members across the state of Kansas. As a Retiree, I shared leadership roles in a Local Chapter, served on NEA/KNEA Resolutions, the Retired Coordinating Council and currently KNEA Retired Political Action Representative. I value all of my experience at the State and National Levels and look forward to being a voice for Retired KNEA members. I would appreciate your vote to be the KNEA Retired Board of Director. Thank you for voting!



KNEA-Retired Board Representative

Judy Johnson

I, Judy Johnson, would be honored to continue to represent all retired members on the KNEA board of directors. As your board member and elected representative, it has been and would continue to be my obligation to participate in discussion and debate in order to arrive at healthy decisions for the good of the entire organization. I recognize decisions must not be based on demographics and/or geographics alone, but rather on a vision of growth and strength for the good of the whole. Retired members have a valued history with our organization, KNEA. We have a vested interest in it. We grew it and wanted to see it continue to thrive. I embrace the opportunity to be part of the decision-making body of our organization. It would be my sincere privilege to continue representing all retired members on the KNEA Board of Directors.



Candidates for NEA State Director B

Angela Powers

My passion for justice drives my advocacy at all levels. I am Olathe NEA Vice-President and co-chair the Olathe NEA Social Justice Cadre. At the state level, I have served on the KNEA Resolutions Commission and currently co-chair the KNEA Social Justice Leadership Committee. Bringing home what I learn from engagement in NEA learning opportunities, I am helping plan upcoming KNEA Racial & Social Justice Summits. I have over a decade of experience as a delegate to the KNEA and NEA Representative Assemblies and served as NEA Director during the last two virtual RAs. As a member of the 2018 Kansas Teacher of the Year team, I presented to aspiring educators across the state, visited districts stretching from Dodge City to Atchison, and testified in front of the House and Senate Education Committees. Allow me to continue advocating for public education and justice: vote Angela Powers for NEA Director!



Delegates to the 2022 NEA Representative Assembly

Region A

Candidates: Jerry Braun, David Fernkopf, Crystal Plante

Region B

Candidates: Janine Clayton, Brian Skinner

Region D

Candidates: Jeremy Gibson, Bert Lewis, Jose Rafael Perez Reisler

Region F

Candidates: Lindsay Atchison, Dominick DeRosa, Kimberly Gilman, Amber Pagan, Alyssa Passmore, Jamila Walton

Retired Delegate

Candidates: Sherri Carter-Marks, Dian Dotts, Ruth Goff, Judy Johnson

Statewide Candidates

Candidates: Lindsay Atchison, Jerry Braun, Janine Clayton, David Fernkopf, Jeremy Gibson, Bert Lewis, Amber Pagan, Alyssa Passmore, Crystal Plante, Leanne Richardson, Brian Skinner, Jamila Walton