

IMPORTANT

NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEA FUND FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION CAN BE DISEMINATED USING A GOVERNMENT COMPUTER OR THE DODEA OUTLOOK EMAIL SYSTEM.

NO SOLICITATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO “THE FUND” CAN BE MADE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY OR ON DUTY TIME. DO NOT DOWNLOAD THIS INFORMATION WHILE ON DUTY TIME OR WHILE USING A GOVERNMENT COMPUTER. DO NOT FORWARD THIS INFORMATION VIA ANY EMAIL SYSTEM.

VIOLATIONS OF THESE RESTRICTIONS CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE ‘HATCH ACT’, AND CAN RESULT IN VERY SEVERE PENALTIES

NEA FUND FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION (“THE FUND”)

PLEASE NOTE: *ALL contributions to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education are completely voluntary. This means you are under no obligation to donate and your decision whether to donate to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education will not impact your membership status or the services you receive in any way.*

The NEA Fund is the largest and most effective national political committee working to elect candidates to Congress and the Presidency who will fight to safeguard and strengthen public education for each and every American student.

We urge you to go to the “Fund” website to learn more about how the Fund works, and how contributions are used in a bipartisan manner to further the cause of great public education for every student (www.neafund.org). *Please remember that this cannot be done on a government computer or while on duty time.*

Most states can raise contributions to the NEA Fund through payroll deductions. FEA members **cannot** participate using payroll deductions. Our alternatives are limited to three options: a continuous monthly credit card or electronic funds transfer (EFT) contribution, a one-time donation, and raising funds at the RA.

Each year, the NEA President recognizes the state delegation which has the highest ‘per delegate’ contribution to The NEA Fund. For many years, FEA has won this recognition, and we have become the “affiliate to beat” in the friendly competition. **For the past several years, we have contributed well over \$800 per delegate to the NEA Fund.** Before you panic at that amount, I must stress that this figure is the total of ALL of our fund raising efforts for the entire year, divided by the number of delegates. So the more money we raise prior to the RA, the better for our total.

We cannot overstate how important this recognition is! As mentioned earlier in this memo, FEA members are very limited in the way they can make contributions to the NEA Fund. Other states can solicit their fellow educators at their worksites, and they can make contributions via payroll deductions all throughout the year. **FEA members are prohibited from doing either of these.** NEA is completely aware of these restrictions on our members. That makes them even more grateful for the gigantic effort put forth by the FEA delegation at the RA. We are probably the smallest delegation at the RA, but every other state is aware of our mighty effort on behalf of the NEA Fund. Let's not drop the ball this year!!!

FUND RAISING AT THE RA:

Currently, the RA is the primary venue for FEA to raise contributions for "The NEA Fund". We will be doing this in two ways:

1. **FEA CAUCUS AUCTIONS:** At the end of the daily meetings of the FEA delegation, we have some fun to benefit the "NEA Fund for Children and Public Education". The FEA staff will auction items contributed by the delegates. All proceeds go to the "The NEA Fund" and participants have valuable treasures to take home from the RA. **THIS AUCTION TAKES PLACE AT THE FEA CAUCUS MEETINGS, SO ONLY YOUR FELLOW FEA DELEGATES CAN PARTICIPATE.**

As a delegate, we ask you to bring two items to contribute to the auction (please limit to two, as storage sometimes becomes a problem). Ideally, these items should be something of good quality that is unique to the region where you live and teach. Examples of popular auction items are pottery, nutcrackers and smokers, tea sets, obis, kimonos, framed pictures (small), saki sets, nice books, etc. Again, you can ask your Local Association for help—perhaps they can donate at least one of the items. If you have a question about the auction items, feel free to contact us. Talk to your Area Director about this. He/she can help!

Information on how to mail your auction items to our meeting hotel will be included in a future delegate update.

2. **FUND RAISING KIOSKS AT THE RA**

There will be many kiosks located around the convention center, where you will be able to swipe your credit card and your delegate badge and make a donation to The Fund. This can be a one-time donation, or a continuous credit card donation. The

past several years, we have had almost 100% participation from our delegation in signing up for continuous credit card contributions. Even a donation of \$5 or \$10 a month is significant. **IF YOU ARE A FIRST TIME DELEGATE, ONE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES CAN GO WITH YOU TO SHOW YOU THE CONTRIBUTION AT THE KIOSK WORKS.**

ONCE AGAIN, PLEASE NOTE: *ALL contributions to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education (including any items you may choose to donate for the auction described above) are completely voluntary. This means you are under no obligation to donate and your decision whether to donate to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education will not impact your membership status or the services you receive in any way.*

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US AT THE FEA HEADQUARTERS OFFICE FOR YOUR IMPRESSIVE EFFORTS AND YOUR WONDERFUL SUPPORT!

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