Opportunities to Learn

NJEA Government Relations offers scholarships for you!

If you are interested in running for office or learning the nuts and bolts of political organizing, the following programs might interest you:

- NJEA Summer Leadership Conference
- NJEA Winter Leadership Conference
- Center for American Women and Politics Ready to Run cawp.rutgers.edu
- NJEA Political Leadership Academy
- NEA See Educators Run
- Emerge New Jersey emergenj.org

If you are interested in participating in any of these programs, or are thinking about running for public office, contact the Government Relations Division at 609-599-4561.

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What does NJEA fight for?

To help students be successful and ensure schools have the funding they need to maintain and improve their quality,

NJEA supports:
- Ch. 78 relief.
- Due process rights for educational support professionals.
- Ensuring that contracts between school districts and our ESPs are honored.
- Full-day preschool.
- Universal full-day kindergarten.
- Smaller class sizes, especially in earlier grades.
- Release time for parents to attend school functions.
- Healthy, safe and modern schools.
- Accountability standards for all public schools.
- Expansion of public school choice options.
- Human and civil rights, and social, racial and economic justice.
- Ensuring schools are not for profit.
- Ensuring public funds are used only for public schools.
- Equitable funding for economically stressed school districts.
- Adequate state funding for regular education programs.
- Aid for facilities and debt service.
- Funding for programs for at-risk and high-needs students.

To ensure an outstanding education for every student while preserving a high-quality workforce,

NJEA supports:
- A fair evaluation system that relies on multiple measures of student progress.
- Expanded opportunities and rights for educational support professionals.
- Educator-driven professional development for professional and support staff.
- Two-year, state-funded mentoring for novice teachers.
- A defined benefit pension plan in retirement, as it is part of a school employee's compensation.
- Collective bargaining at the local level.
- Access to excellent health care for employees, with any premium-sharing subject to local bargaining.
- Local control over decisions that affect schools and communities.

Why does political action matter?

Almost every aspect of a school employee's job is determined by appointed or elected officials.

- Class sizes
- Wages
- School funding/resources for students
- Privatizing services
- Due process rights
- Pensions and health insurance
- How student test scores are used

If we want to exert influence over the issues that are important to us, our family, our profession and our community, we need to know:

- Who the appointed and elected decision makers are.
- What information they have BEFORE they make their decisions.

As NJEA members, our job is to be sure that policymakers at the local, state and federal levels hear directly from us on education issues. We know what students need to succeed. If we are absent from the process, we will allow important decisions about education to be determined by people who may have never set foot in a classroom or worked with a student.

This guide will provide you with information about these decision makers, your role in making sure the right people get to hold these positions, and what you can do to help them make the right decisions.

How are policy decisions made?

There are two main ways that policies affecting public schools and public school employees are made.

- The first is through the legislative process of developing and voting on bills that can then be approved or vetoed by the governor. If the bill is approved, it becomes law.
- The second way is through the State Board of Education. The New Jersey Department of Education proposes new code or revises existing regulations that the State Board of Education must approve for the change to go into effect.

Policies can also be created or changed by an executive order issued by the governor, a court decision or a federal law or regulation.
How to find a bill online

To find a bill, go to njleg.state.nj.us and use the bill search tool on the right-hand side of the page. You can search by bill number (remember to use A for Assembly bills and S for Senate bills), sponsor or subject. You can read a bill’s text, see its sponsors, find out where it is in the process and view any votes on the bill.

How a bill becomes a law

Idea developed
A legislator sponsors a bill, often at the suggestion of a constituent, interest group or public official.

Bill drafted
The Office of Legislative Services, a nonpartisan agency of the Legislature, prepares the bill.

Bill introduced
During a legislative session, the bill’s title is read aloud (first reading). The bill is released to the public.

Bill referred to committee
The Senate President or Assembly Speaker then usually refers the bill to a committee for review.

Committee action
When scheduled by the chair, the committee considers the bill at a public meeting. The committee may leave the bill as is, make amendments or prepare a substitute bill.

Second reading
A bill is considered at second reading when it is reported to the floor and its title is read aloud. Amendments can again be made. If not considered or reported, the bill remains in committee.

Third reading
When scheduled by the Senate President or Assembly Speaker, the bill is given a third reading and considered on the floor. To make additional amendments, the bill must be returned to second reading.

House vote
The bill passes when approved by a majority of the members and is sent to the other house. If a final vote is not taken after the third reading, it may be considered at another time or may be returned to a committee.

Second house
The bill follows the same process in the second house. If amendments are made, the bill is returned to the first house for a vote. A bill receives final approval when it passes both houses in identical form.

Governor’s action
After final passage, the bill is sent to the governor, who may sign it, conditionally veto it (returning it for changes) or veto it absolutely. The governor may veto single line items of appropriation bills. Bills passed in the last 10 days of a two-year session may be “pocket vetoed,” which means ignored until the session expires, ensuring they do not become law.

Law enacted
A bill becomes law upon the governor’s signature or after 45 days if no action is taken. Vetoed bills can become law by a two-thirds override vote of the Legislature. A law takes effect on the day specified in its text or, if unspecified, the next July 4.
Who makes important policy decisions? How do these decision makers get their jobs?

STATE GOVERNMENT

The governor, who is elected by a popular vote every four years, implements state laws and oversees the operation of the state executive branch.

The governor has the power to:
- Sign bills into law or veto them.
- Recommend laws and call the Legislature into special session.
- Issue executive orders, which can be used to trigger emergency powers during a natural disaster, create a study or advisory commission, or exercise administrative powers (e.g., begin a hiring freeze).
- Appoint judges as well as commissioners to lead executive agencies, such as the Department of Education and the Department of Labor.

The Legislature has the power to enact laws and propose amendments to the New Jersey Constitution. Members of the Legislature are elected.

There are two houses of the Legislature—the Senate and the General Assembly. Assembly members are elected every two years. Senators are elected every four years, except for the term immediately following the Census, which is a two-year term. The Senate has the power to approve gubernatorial appointments of judges and other officials like the Commissioner of Education and members of the State Board of Education.

There are 40 legislative districts in New Jersey. Each has one senator and two assemblypersons.

APPOINTED EDUCATION POLICYMAKERS

The Commissioner of Education oversees the New Jersey Department of Education and supervises all public schools in the state. The commissioner makes policy recommendations and develops rules and regulations for the State Board of Education to consider. The commissioner apportions state aid to local school districts, decides legal controversies arising under school law, and makes sure local school districts are operating in accordance with all legal and regulatory requirements.

The State Board of Education adopts administrative code. Administrative code is the set of rules that implements laws passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor, or implements policy changes and court decisions, such as the rules about teacher evaluation, special education and charter schools.

The Secretary of Higher Education is the primary advisor to the governor on higher education initiatives and incentive programs. The secretary reviews requests for state support from institutions and works to ensure that students have access to high-quality higher education, as well as administering grant programs that help students.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

A Board of Chosen Freeholders governs each of New Jersey's 21 counties. Freeholders are elected. These county government officials provide funds for county vocational schools, special services districts, education commissions and community colleges.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Municipal governments make and implement policies within a town. Municipal policymaking bodies may be called by different names including council, committee, commission or board of trustees. People are elected to serve on these local governing bodies. They pass local ordinances, enact a budget and determine the local government share of taxes paid by members of their community.

Boards of Education make and implement policies, goals, and objectives for a school district. While boards of education do not run the day-to-day workings of a district, they do oversee the overall operation of the district and are responsible for developing and adopting a budget, approving a collective bargaining agreement, and providing adequate facilities and equipment. Most boards of education are elected in November, but some are appointed.

How are administrative code and regulations made?

The process of developing or changing regulations is called “rulemaking.” New rulemaking can happen when there is new legislation, a change in agency/governmental policy, an executive order issued by the governor, a court decision, or a federal requirement.

Code/regulations usually go through the following steps:
- Discussions at two State Board meetings.
- A public testimony session following discussion.
- Publication of the proposed code in The New Jersey Register.
- Following publication, a public comment period, usually 60 days, and another public testimony session.
- Adoption of the code by the State Board, after which it is published in the Register with its effective date.

How do administrative code and regulations get changed?

The process of developing or changing regulations is called “rulemaking.” New rulemaking can happen when there is new legislation, a change in agency/governmental policy, an executive order issued by the governor, a court decision, or a federal requirement.

Code/regulations usually go through the following steps:
- Discussions at two State Board meetings.
- A public testimony session following discussion.
- Publication of the proposed code in The New Jersey Register.
- Following publication, a public comment period, usually 60 days, and another public testimony session.
- Adoption of the code by the State Board, after which it is published in the Register with its effective date.

Want to see the action?

The Legislature usually meets on Mondays and Thursdays in Trenton. Check the schedule at njleg.state.nj.us. The State Board meets monthly at the Department of Education in Trenton. Check the agenda at http://state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/agenda/
How does NJEA decide which candidates to support?

By supporting candidates for public offices who believe in public schools and public school employees, we can make sure that we are empowering the right people to make these decisions for us.

Regardless of whether the election is for federal, state or local offices, all decisions to endorse candidates are made solely by NJEA members.

In each case, candidates are given the opportunity to share their views by filling out a questionnaire and/or meeting with a local screening committee of NJEA members that reflects the diversity of our membership.

The local screening committee votes on whether to recommend candidates for endorsement.

NJEA PAC Operating Committee

In state elections, the recommendations of the local interview team are considered and voted upon by the NJEA PAC Operating Committee. This is a committee made up of 125 NJEA members currently serving our association as an NJEA officer, county president, or as a member of NJEA’s Executive, Government Relations, or Congressional Contact committees. The NJEA Preservice president, as well as several New Jersey Retirees’ Education Association (NJREA) representatives, also serve on the NJEA PAC Operating Committee.

In federal elections, the NJEA PAC Operating Committee uses the same process to recommend candidates for final approval to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education.

Local and county associations can make endorsements in races within their jurisdiction if they get approval from their membership to initiate the process, create a screening committee that is inclusive of the entire association, and give all major party candidates the opportunity to be screened. Upon making an endorsement, presidents or LAT chairs can request assistance for endorsed candidates through the web apps tool on njea.org.

How can you influence elected and appointed officials?

Join your LAT

Become a member of your local Legislative Action Team (LAT). LATs are a network of NJEA members at the county and local levels who communicate legislative and political information to decision makers as well as to their fellow NJEA members. To attend an LAT, contact the county association. Find their information at actioncenter.njea.org/lat

Support NJEA PAC

Members can support NJEA PAC in three ways:

- Contribute.
- Support NJEA PAC-endorsed candidates at the polls.
- Volunteer to support pro-education candidates running for office.

Stay informed

- Connect through text messaging. To receive text messages from NJEA on hot topics and issues that matter to you, text UNITY to 738674 on your mobile phone. Have an issue that you’re passionate about? After you opt in, text one of our keywords such as PENSION, ESP, TESTING, HIGHER ED or CHANGE (for our political campaigns) to 738674 to receive specialized messages on these important topics.
- Make sure NJEA has your current personal email address on file so you never miss an important update. Sign in to njea.org using your PIN or email and password. Go to your profile and verify your information.
- Read the NJEA Review. Learn more about the issues, the players and NJEA’s plan of action.
- Visit actioncenter.njea.org to find out what you need to know and what you need to do! Go to the Action Center to access NJEA position statements on pending legislation, information on current issues and to take action to protect public education and public school employees.
- Use social media to connect and advocate! NJEA’s Instagram account @insta_njea, Facebook page, New Jersey Education Association, and Twitter, @NJEA, give you the links and news to help every NJEA member, parent and voter in the state understand the impact that policy decisions have on our students and our communities.

Vote! Resources for voters

Find your polling place: nj.gov/state/elections

Voter registration: nj.gov/state/elections/voter-registration.shtml

Vote by mail: https://nj.gov/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml

N.J. Division of Elections: njelections.org
NJEA’S POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

NJEA’s Political Action Committee (PAC) is one of NJEA’s 50 committees. NJEA’s Delegate Assembly, Executive Committee, and all of NJEA’s committees are made up of members just like you. The PAC is bigger than most committees. It includes NJEA officers; members of the Executive, Government Relations, and Congressional Contact Committees; county association presidents; and representatives of educational support professionals, the NJEA Preservice, and the New Jersey Retirees’ Education Association (NJREA).

The purpose of the PAC is to screen and endorse candidates who support public education, students, and schools as well as college staff; raise funds; and develop support for endorsed candidates.

Why does NJEA need PAC?
Our association needs NJEA PAC to elect supporters of public education. NJEA PAC also provides us with an opportunity to bring the issues to the candidates and help them understand the concerns of public school employees. Our ability to support proven or potential friends of public education has helped us to build the relationships we need to advance public education.

How does NJEA PAC choose which candidates it will support?
Candidates, individual NJEA or NJREA members, county or local associations, or political parties may submit a written request for endorsement to NJEA PAC. These requests for endorsement are processed by screening committees comprised of NJEA and NJREA members. The screening committees make recommendations to NJEA PAC. NJEA PAC considers these recommendations and chooses which candidates to support.

Candidates are selected on a strictly nonpartisan basis. Candidates are asked to complete questionnaires or submit information regarding their positions on issues of importance to public education. This information is forwarded to screening committees that conduct interviews of interested candidates to further explore their ideas about public education and to assess their electability.

YOU have a voice!
You have direct input in selecting candidates through your local and county association leaders and your representatives serving on NJEA PAC. In fact, they count on you for information about local issues, the political climate in your area, and your assessment of local attitudes.

How is NJEA PAC funded?
NJEA PAC funds come solely from voluntary contributions of NJEA and NJREA members. NJEA does not use dues money for campaign contributions. NJEA PAC is your voluntary voice!

Why contribute to NJEA PAC?
- NJEA PAC funds come solely from the voluntary contributions of our members.
- A strong PAC fund helps us build relationships with decision makers and advance our issues with policymakers.

Why follow the recommendations of NJEA PAC?
- Decisions are made by members, not NJEA officers or staff.
- Endorsements are nonpartisan.
- Candidates are put through a thorough vetting process and asked tough questions by NJEA members.
- Endorsements are based entirely upon issues important to public education and public school employees.

How can you work for PAC-endorsed candidates?
Every election cycle, NJEA members volunteer to help elect NJEA PAC-endorsed candidates, whether at the state or federal level. Volunteers typically make phone calls, write post cards, or deliver literature to other members. To join the effort, contact your local or county association.

How can you contribute to NJEA PAC?
If you wish to begin contributing to PAC, request an APD (automatic payroll deduction) form from your local leader or building rep. This will allow your contribution to be deducted automatically from your paycheck each month. You can also fill out this form online by visiting this link: bit.ly/apdpac

We’re asking for a contribution of at least $3 a month. If you’re already giving to PAC, please consider increasing your contribution.

Fill out the APD, sign it and send it to:
NJEA PAC
c/o WSFS
P.O. Box 13661
Philadelphia, PA 19101
Attend your county’s legislative dinner

2020 Legislative Dinners

Learn about current educational issues, meet your state lawmakers and share your thoughts about making public education even better.

For further details, contact your county education association office, county association president or county government relations chairperson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATLANTIC</td>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>The Carriage House 25 S. Pitney Road, Galloway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BERGEN</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>The Venetian 546 River Drive, Garfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURLINGTON</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>The Merion 1901 Route 130 South Cinnaminson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMDEN</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Camden County Council of Education Associations 2 Sheppard Road #700-D Voorhees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPE MAY</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>The Grand Hotel 1045 Beach Avenue Cape May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMBERLAND</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Eastlyn Golf Course 4049 Italia Avenue Vineland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSEX</td>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Nanina’s In the Park 540 Mill St. Belleville</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER/SALEM</td>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Holiday Inn 1 Pureland Drive Swedesboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUDSON</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Waterside 7800 B River Road North Bergen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUNTERDON/SOMERSET</td>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>The Farmhouse 86 Route 173 West Hampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERCER</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Mercer Oaks 725 Village Road West Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLESEX</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Grand Marquis 1550 U.S. 9 Old Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONMOUTH</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Jumping Brook Country Club 210 Jumping Brook Road Neptune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORRIS</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Birchwood Manor 111 Jefferson Road Whippany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCEAN</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Ramada Inn, Toms River 2373 Highway 9 Toms River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASSAIC</td>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>The Brownstone 351 W. Broadway Paterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALEM/GLOUCESTER</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Holiday Inn 1 Pureland Drive Swedesboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOMERSET/HUNTERDON</td>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>The Farmhouse 86 Route 173 West Hampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSSEX</td>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Perona Farms 350 Andover Sparta Road Andover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNION</td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>The Westwood 438 North Avenue Garwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARREN</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Hawk Pointe 4 Clubhouse Drive Washington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contact your lawmakers about pending legislation

Tips for contacting your lawmakers

Writing a letter or email: the most effective letters and emails are individually written and personalized rather than form letters simply signed and sent. However, it is critical that you double-check your spelling and punctuation. As educators, you are held to a higher standard.

- Address your letter to “The Honorable ________.” If you want a response, be sure to include your return address.
- In the salutation of your letter, refer to the individual as Governor, Lt. Governor, Senator, Assemblyman/Assemblywoman, or Representative.
- Be sure to mention your full name, address and position in the public schools. Identify yourself as either a resident of, or an employee who works in the legislator’s district, or as a member of an organization interested in the legislation.
- If you are writing in regard to a specific bill, identify it by number and title in your letter. State your position (support, oppose, wish to amend). Please remember to THANK the lawmaker for considering your view.
- Limit your letter to a single subject or piece of legislation – and only one page.

Making a phone call: identify yourself (name, address, your school and position).

- You do not need to speak directly with the lawmaker. Speaking with his or her legislative aide is a very effective way of getting your point across. Always ask for the name and position of the person to whom you are speaking.
- If you are calling about a specific bill, be sure to use the proper name and number. Be sure to ask for the legislator’s position.
- Remember to listen as well as speak and offer to send additional information supporting your opinion, if appropriate.
- THANK the person for speaking with you.

You can also use Facebook or Twitter to communicate directly with legislators.

See Page 15 for the district index followed by lawmakers and their contact information.

State Board members

Contact members of the State Board about proposed regulations

Kathy Goldenberg, president .........................Burlington
Andrew Mulvihill, vice president ..................Sussex
Arcelio Aponte .........................................Middlesex
Mary Beth Berry ........................................Hunterdon
Elaine Bobrove ........................................Camden
Fatimah Burnam-Watkins .............................Union
Ronald Butcher, Ph-D. .................................Gloucester
Jack Fornaro ............................................Warren
Mary Elizabeth Gazi ....................................Somerset
Nedd James Johnson, Ed.D. ..........................Salem
Ernest Lepore, Ph-D. ....................................Hudson
Joseph Ricca, Jr., Ed.D. .................................Morris
Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi .....................................Monmouth

Interested in learning more about current members’ backgrounds? Please go to state.nj.us/education/sboe.

Tips for contacting the State Board

Writing a letter: the most effective letters are individually written or typed rather than form letters you simply sign. However, it is critical that you double-check your spelling and punctuation. As educators, you are held to a higher standard.

- Be sure to mention your full name, address and position in the public schools. Remember that the State Board votes on regulations (education code), not legislation. Cite the specific item of code that you wish to address (e.g. Educator Effectiveness or Special Education).
- Limit your letter to a single subject or item of code – and only one page.
- Address the envelope to the State Board of Education and mail it to:
  NJDOE, State Board Office, P. O. Box 500,
  Trenton, NJ 08625-0500.

Speaking at a public testimony session: generally, public testimony sessions are held the first Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. in Trenton.

- Dates, topics for testimony, and which sessions are “open topic” (held three times a year) are published in advance at state.nj.us/education/sboe. Click “meetings” found on the left side of the page.
- To speak during a public testimony session, you must register in advance online or call the State Board office at 609-376-3500.

Submitting written testimony: if you are unable to attend a public session, you may submit written comments on the topic to be considered by the State Board.

Mail it to:

NJDOE, State Board Office, P. O. Box 500,
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500
Meet some of the NJEA leaders and staff working to help you make a difference in our state

**NJEA Executive Director’s Office**

Steve Swetsyk  
Executive Director

Kevin Kelleher  
Deputy Executive Director

**NEA Directors**  
NEA Directors advocate for NJEA members on NEA policy and at the federal level. There are 13 NEA Directors who represent New Jersey, including two ESP-at-Large members.

Ann Margaret Shannon, Chair  
Rich D’Avanzo  
Amber Ingram  
Anita Kober  
Robert LaMorte  
Susan McBride  
Deanna Nicosia-Jones

Kimberly Scott  
Marilyn Weeks  
James Frazier, ESP-at-Large  
Ashanti Rankin, ESP-at-Large

**NEA Director Alternates**

Peter Moran  
Barbara Rheault  
David Walker

When you are an NJEA member you stand with more than 200,000 people who share your values across the state – and together, we make great things happen.

Marie Blistan, president (center),  
Sean M. Spiller, vice president (left),  
Steve Beatty, secretary-treasurer (right)
NJEA’s Government Relations (GR) Division coordinates NJEA’s legislative activities and political campaigns and is responsible for monitoring the functions of government departments, bureaus and agencies. The GR Division analyzes and reports on legislation, testifies before legislative committees and executive agencies, coordinates state and federal lobbying efforts, provides legislative and political action training to members, and organizes members for legislative and political action. GR staff assists counties in conducting Legislative Action Team (LAT) meetings and works to help NJEA members develop strong and positive relationships with elected officials at all levels of government. Division staff also coordinate NJEA’s Political Leadership Academy program, which provides members with the tools and information they need to run for political office.

Kevin Kelleher
Interim Director

Marybeth Beichert
Jerell Blakeley
Janet Bush
Mike Flynn

Michael Giglio
Sean Hadley
Anna Hanzes
Mary Kemery

Carol McWilliams
Sabrina Moore
Francine Pfeffer
Christie Procell
Carolyn Thompson

NJEA 609-599-4561 ext. email
Kevin Kelleher 2346 kkelleher@njea.org
Marybeth Beichert 2247 mbeichert@njea.org
Jerell Blakeley 2447 jblakeley@njea.org
Janet Bush 2249 jbush@njea.org
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Michael Giglio 2452 mgiglio@njea.org
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Anna Hanzes 2343 ahanzes@njea.org
Mary Kemery 2327 mkemery@njea.org
Carol McWilliams 2266 cmcwilliams@njea.org
Sabrina Moore 2395 smoore@njea.org
Francine Pfeffer 2326 fpfeffer@njea.org
Christie Procell 2258 cprocell@njea.org
Carolyn Thompson 2358 cthompson@njea.org
The NJEA Government Relations Committee lobbies state legislators and other political leaders and chairs screening committees in New Jersey legislative races.

Christina Dare .................................................. Chairperson
Debra Steineder, Melissa Tomlinson .................... Atlantic
Howard Lipoff, Michael Ryan ............................... Bergen
Christine Hewitt, Steven Nahill .......................... Burlington
Dianna Morris, Larry Zahn ................................. Camden
Cynthia Rosenberg, Gregory Young ...................... Cape May
Nicole Carminati, Temika Langston-Myers ............. Cumberland
Peter Blodnik, Jacqueline White ......................... Essex
Ryan Griffin ....................................................... Gloucester
Frank Mazzone, Vacancy ..................................... Hudson
Lynn Szczeka, Vacancy ........................................ Hunterdon
Grace Rarich, Lisa Rizziello .............................. Mercer
Jennifer Herrick, Vacancy .................................. Middlesex
Chiarina Guzik, Erin Wheeler ............................. Monmouth
Brian Adams, Mark Eckert ................................. Morris
Susan Morgan, Melissa Whitworth ....................... Ocean
Dennis Carroll, Trent Johnson .................. Passaic
Kenneth Buck, Colleen Gilmartin ...................... Salem
Daniel Epstein, Henry Goodhue ......................... Somerset
Ann Smith, Vacancy ........................................... Sussex
Amy Brown, Nancy Lucas-Miller ..................... Union
Erin Durkin, Vacancy ......................................... Warren
Michael Frank ................................................ Higher Ed
Susan Maurer ................................................ NJREA
Kimberly Cacciato, Angello Villarreal ................. NJEA
Patricia Kebrdle ................................. CC Cmte. Chairperson
Marybeth Beichert ........................................ staff contact
The NJEA Congressional Contact Committee maintains contact with New Jersey's congressional delegation and chairs screening committees in congressional races.

Patricia Kebrdle .............................................. Chairperson
Heather Flaim .............................................. Atlantic
Julia Guttilla, Debra Kwapiowski ................. Bergen
Patricia Bland .............................................. Burlington
Ryan Strothers ............................................ Camden
Tammi McGarrigle ....................................... Cape May
Stephen Garavento ..................................... Cumberland
Jennifer Bailey, Cameron Parke ..................... Essex
Laurie Boyle .............................................. Gloucester
Rosanne Versaci ......................................... Hudson
Christine Lewis .......................................... Hunterdon
Carl Romero .............................................. Mercer
Christopher Finnegan ................................. Middlesex
Christopher Collins, James Weldon ............. Monmouth
Shawn d’Anunciaco ..................................... Morris
Joshua Eckersley ........................................ Ocean
Patricia Kebrdle, Tara Temprano .................. Passaic
Jesse Stemberger ........................................ Salem
Theresa Fuller .............................................. Somerset
Justine Giovanetti ....................................... Sussex
Diego Alvear, Joanne Barrett ...................... Union
Janie Brown ................................................ Warren
Mecheline Farhat ........................................ Higher Ed
Carol Friedrich ........................................ NJREA
Richard D’Avanzo ...................................... NEA Director
James Frazier ............................................. NEA Director
Anita Kober ................................................. NEA Director
Robert LaMorte .......................................... NEA Director
Susan McBride ........................................... NEA Director
Ashanti Rankin .......................................... NEA Director
Kimberly Scott .......................................... NEA Director
Ann Margaret Shannon .............................. NEA Director
Marilyn Weeks ........................................... NEA Director
Amber Ingram ........................................... Preservice
Ashanti Rankin .......................................... NEA Director
Kimberly Scott .......................................... NEA Director
Ann Margaret Shannon .............................. NEA Director
Marilyn Weeks ........................................... NEA Director
Amber Ingram ........................................... Preservice
Christina Dare ........................................... GR Cmte.
Sean Hadley, Esq. ....................................... staff contact
Meet the New Jersey Retirees’ Education Association

L-R: Judy Perkins, John Carlson, Kitty Sausa, Joan Wright and Dianne Papadinec

NJREA is dedicated to improving the quality of life for retired educational personnel. As the daytime face of NJEA, our NJREA leaders work with NJEA & NEA to organize and keep retired members informed, pass beneficial state and federal legislation, and get friends of the educational community elected.

Judy Perkins .............................................. President
Joan Wright ............................................. First Vice President
John Carlson ............................................. Second Vice President
Harriet “Kitty” Sausa ................................. Secretary
Dianne Papadinec ...................................... Treasurer
Barbara James ........................................... NJEA DA Representative
Patricia Provnick ....................................... NJEA DA Representative
Joseph Santo ........................................... NJEA DA Representative
Linda Calandra ........................................ DA Alternate Representative
Joan Jensen ........................................... DA Alternate Representative
Joanne Pallandino .................................. DA Alternate Representative

Meet the New Jersey Retirees’ Education Association

NJREA Government Relations Committee

The members of the NJREA Government Relations Committee lobby state legislators and other political leaders, serve on screening committees for state and federal races, and organize members in political activities for endorsed candidates.

Susan Maurer ........................................... Chairperson
Carol Friedrich ....................................... Co-Chairperson

NJREA GR COMMITTEE – NORTH
Susan Vigilante ........................................ Coordinator
Joe Macaluso ......................................... Asst. Coordinator
Paul Daniele, Rita Sellars ................................ Bergen
James Davis, Brenda Hofer-Battle ...................... Essex
Grace Ann Lepore, Donna Mirabelli .................. Hudson
Timothy McGrail, Virginia Osborne ................ Morris
Sophia Jones, David Lowe ................................ Passaic
Pam Raynor ........................................... Sussex
Patricia Kollar, Michael Kruczek .................... Warren

NJREA GR COMMITTEE – CENTRAL
Carol Cousins ......................................... Coordinator
Ron Burd ................................................ Asst. Coordinator
Vicki Fox, Brenda Simpson ........................ Hunterdon
Johanna Capasso, Thomas Harrington ............ Mercer
Karen Rubio, Diane Tighe ............................... Middlesex
Lois Lyons, Len Sobel ................................ Monmouth
Gloria Dix-Adkinson, Walter Preston ............... Ocean
Skip Emanuelli, Robert Kapp ....................... Somerset
Joseph Canarelli, Len Sobel ........................... Union

NJREA GR COMMITTEE – SOUTH
Anne Doyle ........................................... Coordinator
Susan Ronca ........................................ Asst. Coordinator
Natalie Fisher, Mary Zeigenfus ...................... Atlantic
Cheryl Friedman, Toni Guerra ....................... Burlington
Mary Clements, Sue Ronca ............................ Camden
Carol Ann McDonald, Diane Stelacio .......... Cape May
William Hartman, Sandra Zaccaria ............... Cumberland
Roger Baker, Linda Behm ............................ Gloucester
Pamela McNamee, Marilyn Mortimer ........ Salem
Anna Hanzes ........................................... staff contact
New Jersey Legislature

Assembly Speaker
Craig Coughlin (D)
AsmCoughlin@njleg.org

Assembly Majority Leader
Lou Greenwald (D)
AsmGreenwald@njleg.org

Assembly Minority Leader
Jon Bramnick (R)
AsmBramnick@njleg.org

Senate President
Stephen M. Sweeney (D)
SenSweeney@njleg.org

Senate Majority Leader
Loretta Weinberg (D)
SenWeinberg@njleg.org

Senate Minority Leader
Thomas H. Kean, Jr. (R)
SenKean@njleg.org

Congressional/Legislative district index
Your congressional district (C) denotes your representation in Washington, D.C., while the legislative district (L) refers to state lawmakers in Trenton.

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<td>Kinnelon</td>
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<td>Lincoln Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mendham Boro</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
State lawmakers

1st LD Cape May & parts of Atlantic & Cumberland
SENATE: Michael J. Testa, Jr. (R) SenTesta@njleg.org
ASSEMBLY: Antwan McClellan (R) AsmMcClellan@njleg.org
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2nd LD Parts of Atlantic County
SENATE: Chris A. Brown (R) SenChrisABrown@njleg.org
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3rd LD Salem & parts of Cumberland & Gloucester
SENATE: Stephen M. Sweeney (D) SenSweeney@njleg.org
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4th LD Parts of Camden & Gloucester
SENATE: Fred H. Madden, Jr. (D) SenMadden@njleg.org
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5th LD Parts of Camden & Gloucester
SENATE: Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D) SenCruzPerez@njleg.org
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6th LD Parts of Burlington & Camden
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7th LD Parts of Burlington
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10th LD Parts of Ocean County
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14th LD Parts of Mercer & Middlesex
SENATE: Linda R. Greenstein (D) SenGreenstein@njleg.org
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15th LD Parts of Hunterdon & Mercer
SENATE: Shirley K. Turner (D) SenTurner@njleg.org
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16th LD Parts of Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex & Somerset
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17th LD Parts of Middlesex & Somerset
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18th LD Part of Middlesex
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19th LD Part of Middlesex County
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20th LD Part of Union County
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Dates to remember 2020

November School Board, Primary and General Elections
3/30.....Deadline for nomination petitions for primary elections (by 4 p.m.)
5/12.....Voter registration deadline (for June 2 primary elections)
5/26.....Vote my Mail Applications due by mail to county clerk for primary elections
6/1 ......Deadline for in-person Vote by Mail Applications for primary elections (by 3 p.m.)
6/2 ...... Deadline for independent candidate nomination petitions for general election (by 4 p.m.)
6/2 ...... PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
7/27.....Deadline for nomination petitions for school board candidates
10/13...Voter registration deadline (for Nov. 3 general election)
10/27...Vote by Mail Applications due by mail to county clerk for general election
11/2.....Deadline for in-person (by 3 p.m.) Vote by Mail Applications for general election (by 3 p.m.)
11/3..... GENERAL & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION DAY

April School Elections
(Only districts that did not move their election to November)
3/2 ......Deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions (by 4 p.m.)
3/31 .... Last day to register to vote in school elections
4/14 ....Deadline to apply for Vote by Mail Applications due by mail to county clerk
4/20 ....Deadline for in-person Vote by Mail Applications (by 3 p.m.)
4/21 .... SCHOOL ELECTION DAY

Municipal Nonpartisan Elections
3/9 ......Deadline for nomination petitions for municipal nonpartisan elections
4/21 ....Voter registration deadline for municipal nonpartisan elections
5/5 ......Deadline to apply for Vote by Mail Applications due by mail to county clerk
5/11 ....Deadline for in-person Vote by Mail Applications (by 3 p.m.)
5/12 .... MUNICIPAL NONPARTISAN ELECTION DAY

✪ These dates are unofficial until certified by the New Jersey Division of Elections. Check njelections.org regularly for updates.