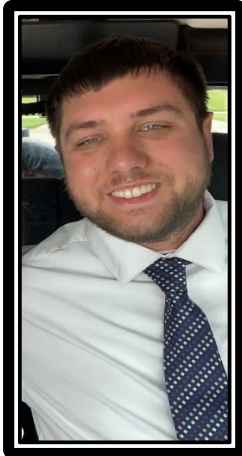


STATE DELEGATE ELECTION 2025

NEA Representative Assembly

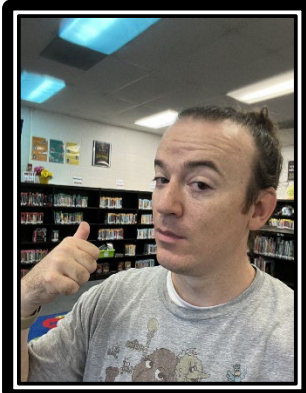
Missouri: Category I State Delegate Candidates

Candidates are listed in order as they appear on the official ballot.



Hunter Wood, FORT ZUMWALT NEA

My name is Hunter Wood and I would like you to please consider me as a state delegate for the NEA Representative Assembly. I am a 7th grade special education teacher in the Fort Zumwalt School district and serve as a building representative for our district. I also serve on many different committees such as bargaining team, board member screening, budget, and more. I want to continue to grow as a local leader and help have a voice for my fellow teachers. This will be my third National RA if elected as a state delegate. Thank you for your consideration.



Justin Smith, NORTH KANSAS CITY NEA

I am a library media specialist in North Kansas City Schools with almost two decades of classroom experience. I have been my building rep for about ten years. I also serve as the Secretary of NKC-NEA and have been elected multiple times to the State RA and twice to the national RA. I love collaborating with colleagues to solve issues at the building and applying what I learn at the RA to our union. I would love the opportunity to help you stand up for your rights and advocate for the freedom to read at the RA. Thanks for voting!



Francine Hill, FRANCIS HOWELL E A

My name is Francine Hill. I am the President of the Francis Howell Education Association. I enjoy being involved in the important business of MNEA. If selected to represent Missouri at the national level, I will work to make decisions beneficial to Missouri. It was my honor to serve on the MNEA Board as one of the Governance 10 directors for 7 years. I will serve as the Chair for the new SOGI committee and work with LGBTQ+ Caucus. I am a director on the MLL Caucus, and being at the RA allows me to attend their meetings. Thank you.



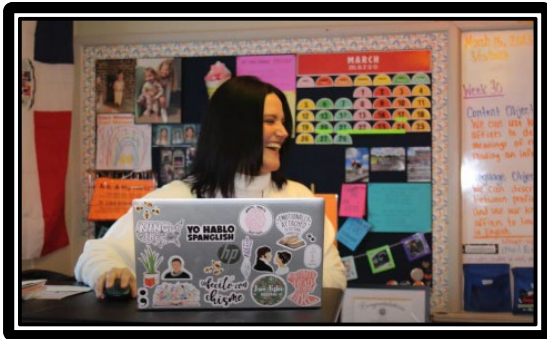
Lisa Baldwin, NORTH KANSAS CITY NEA

I have been an active member of NEA for 27 years. I currently serve as 2nd vice-president of NKC-NEA, am a member of our negotiation team and sit on MACCE. I have also served on the MNEA Board of Directors.



Moira McCracken, PARKWAY NEA

Vote Moira McCracken to represent Missouri at the National RA! Moira is in her third year as President of Parkway NEA, a full time position, released from teaching theater. She has served as building rep and secretary within PNEA. Moira has attended 2 previous RAs, several NEA Leadership Summits, and NCUEA trainings. Within MNEA, she has attended state RAs for over a decade, co-chairs the Women’s Issues Committee, and recently presented at the MNEA Leadership Conference. Moira is a passionate advocate for public schools and is looking to support Missouri’s unique needs at the national level.



Amy Metz, RITENOUR NEA

I am truly looking forward to the opportunity to do the important work of our association on behalf of our great Missouri members. Last summer was my first RA, and although it was short, I found a lot of value in being selected as one of your delegates. As a local vice president and negotiations and grievance chair, I plan to take my experiences with me on the road and work with other delegates for the future of strong public education!



Carmen Hill, NEA ST LOUIS

I am a proud ESP School Nurse asking for your support with your vote to be a state delegate at the NEA RA 2025.

I have served in the capacity of Local president and presently Vice-President. I have served on State and National committees and boards over the 20 plus years that I have been a member. I want to be able to continue to disseminate invaluable information to members and potential members. I am currently training new officers for our Local. I would like to continue to be a shining example of what it means to be a Leader.



Kathryn (Katie) Smith, FORT ZUMWALT EA

I, Katie Smith, would be honored to represent FZEA and MNEA for a 4th time as a state delegate at the National RA this summer. I am a building representative and a part of the negotiations committee for my local. Due to unfortunate circumstances, our time was cut short last year and I’d love for another opportunity to advocate for the rights of my fellow union members. I will continue to use this opportunity to make sure the voices of MNEA are heard and I work to ensure NEA and MNEA are the best and strongest union in the nation.



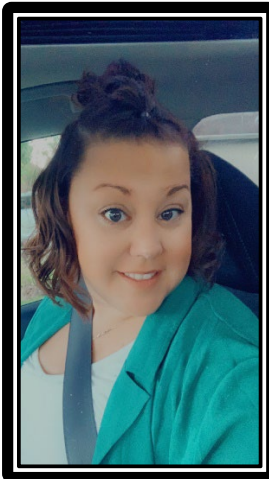
Gabriel Livingston, HICKMAN MILLS NEA

Gabriel Livingston is a second-grade teacher and president of Hickman Mills NEA. As a union leader, Gabriel chairs MNEA’s Communications and Research Advisory Committee and serves as Vice Chair of the West Central Unit Council, focusing on strengthening local efforts and organizing for political power. Gabriel also serves on the Kansas City Lyric Opera’s Educator Advisory Council, contributing to arts education and community engagement initiatives. Dedicated to ensuring educators have a strong voice at the table, Gabriel is passionate about building coalitions that advocate for public education and creating opportunities for students to thrive academically, artistically, and socially.



Michelle Shepard, COLUMBIA MNEA

Hello! My name is Michelle Shepard. I am a special education instructional aide from Columbia. I am asking for your vote to allow me the privilege of representing our fellow members at the NEA RA. Over the years, I have served as a NEA Leader for Tomorrow, MNEA ESP-at-Large, MNEA PAC Committee, MNEA Public Relations Committee Chair, MNEA Convention Committee Chair, CMNEA Vice President, CMNEA Treasurer, CMNEA ESP Chair, and CMNEA Public Relations Chair. I love advocating for and empowering all students and educators. I would be honored to represent MNEA again in Portland. Thank you for your consideration.



Danielle Swallow, RITENOUR NEA

I am excited to run as a first-time state delegate to our association's representative assembly. At the local level, I am involved as a building representative where I have experience organizing events like the American Education Week celebration/recognition and the Martin Luther King Essay/Poster contest. I look forward to working with delegates from across the country for the collective good of public education.



Erin Mareth, NEVADA NEA

As the Governance 3 MNEA Board Director and Nevada MNEA Local President, I am dedicated to advancing equity and the power of public education. I understand the unique challenges faced by rural communities and smaller locals, ensuring their voices are heard. Public education is a vital force for opportunity and growth in both rural and urban areas, and I am committed to advocating for equitable resources and support for all educators and students, regardless of location. My leadership experience and dedication make me a strong advocate for the diverse needs of our members statewide.



Dr. Alexander Tai, COLUMBIA MNEA

I, Dr. Alexander Tai, declare my candidacy as a strong advocate for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ representation at the NEA RA. Nationally, I will serve on the NEA Resolutions Committee in Portland. At the state level, I am your MNEA Board Director for Native People and People of Color. Locally, I hold the position of first vice president of Columbia MNEA. As a lifetime member of the NEA-LGBTQ+ Caucus, I am committed to being your advocate. I would greatly appreciate your vote to represent our association as a state delegate and to bring BIPOC and LGBTQ+ perspectives into our union’s decisions!



Megan Burns, LIBERTY NEA

Megan Burns is a 3rd grade teacher for Liberty Public Schools. Previously, she served on NKC-NEA’s Executive Committee from 2019-2023, was a MNEA RA delegate from 2017-2023, and has attended the national RA from 2020-2022 and in 2024. Serving as a representative for previous national RA’s was an incredible opportunity to unite with others advocating for education and advancing the work of the association. Megan would love the opportunity to continue this as a Missouri delegate to this year’s RA.



Ryan Wampler, KANSAS CITY NEA

Ryan Wampler is a first-year ELA and Social Studies teacher at a Kansas City charter school, empowering 5th and 6th graders through literacy and critical thinking. With a Bachelor’s in Business Administration and dual Master’s Studies in Education and Business Administration, he brings leadership and innovation to the classroom. A strong advocate for equity and professional growth, Ryan is eager to serve as a Missouri NEA State Delegate, advocating for public education policies that support both educators and students.



Paulette Luckett, NEA ST LOUIS

Serving as an RA delegate last year was an incredible opportunity to represent the voices of school nurses and advocate for meaningful change. Building on this experience, I have continued to grow as a leader through local and national training that has equipped me with valuable insights. I remain deeply committed to advancing the critical work of our organization by bringing back actionable strategies to empower, uplift, and strengthen our collective mission. Ensuring that school nurses have a voice at every key decision-making table is my priority, and I would be truly honored to continue contributing to this essential work.



Jacquette Boykin, NORMANDY NEA

With nearly 25 years as a member and building rep, and a MNEA Retired member since 2019, Jacquette Boykin is dedicated to education. She currently serves as Vice President of Normandy NEA, proudly representing all teachers and support staff. Throughout her career, Jacquette has used her communication skills to advocate for fair benefits and build strong partnerships. She has contributed to the IBB negotiations, calendar committee, NNEA, and district collaborative team, working to bridge gaps between both sides of negotiations. Jacquette would be honored to have your support for State Delegate to the NEA RA.



Brendan Kearns, ST CHARLES EA

I am a 17 year secondary ELA educator who has served as President of the St. Charles Education Association for the past four years. During my time, advocacy has improved locally and SCEA members are becoming more engaged at the state level. We have worked with fellow St. Charles locals to get pro public education candidates elected. At the state level, I serve as a member of the MNEA Board of Directors for Governance District 10, and on the Resolutions Committee. I've attended the National RA two previous times, and have been proud to represent us at the National RA.



Maria Bradshaw, PARK HILL NEA

Maria Bradshaw has served as PHNEA delegate and MNEA delegate at NEA RAs since 2012. She has been a member of NEA for 30 years and has been serving as building representative for Hawthorn Elementary for the past 13 years. She also has served on the PHNEA Executive Board as an Elementary Representative for five years. Maria is a member of NEA Retired and knows just how important the union is to supporting teachers and their students.



William Ressler, PARK HILL NEA

Hello! I have been an educator for 7 years and a union member the entire time. I would appreciate your vote in sending me to the National RA. I think this is an incredibly valuable experience to connect with the union work and other members. Thank you for your consideration.



Christina Andrade Melly, RITENOUR NEA

Hola, familia - hello, union family! My name is Christina Andrade Melly, and I hope to represent us as a delegate at the 2025 Representative Assembly. I served as Ritenour NEA President, currently co-chair the MNEA Resolutions Committee, and was re-elected as a delegate to the national Resolutions Committee. This work continually shows me the importance of having educator voices at the table every time we make decisions about schools: we know our communities, our learners, and our needs. I hope to continue advocating for Missouri at the national level this year. Thank you for considering me to share our stories!



Todd Geringer, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEA

As a Local President and Member of MNEA Board of Directors, I consistently work to ensure fiscal responsibility. Every Member pays hefty dues to this organization, and I aim to see that this money is used prudently and for its intended purpose. This would be my second NEA RA and I would be honored to represent Our State as well as Higher ED in 2025.

Thank you for your faith in me. It is well placed, as I have worked hard to earn it. Be well, Todd Geringer



Dennis Tabb, FERGUSON FLORISSANT NEA

My name is DENNIS TABB, I am a proud union dues-paying member. I have demonstrated during my current 3-year term on the NEA Board of Directors that I am a visionary leader with an unwavering dedication for equity, inclusion, and professional excellence where educators are concerned, especially for Education Support Professionals. During my union career, I have served on a number of local, state, and national committees and boards. Recommended to the NEA Resolutions Committee 2024-2025 by President Pringle and appointed to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Advisory Committee by MNEA President Murray and Vice President McIntosh. I will continue to collaborate with peers, discuss best practices, share insights, and implement strategies that enhance our professional standards.



Carrie Begemann, ODESSA MNEA

I'm Carrie Begemann, and I'd be honored to serve as a representative to the NEA Representative Assembly. As a member of a small, rural local near Kansas City, I have gained valuable experience. I'm local President for Odessa MNEA and chairperson for West Central Governance District. I've served on the State Credentials, Membership Advisory Committee, and currently on the MNEA Board of Directors and Women's Issues Committee. These experiences at the local, state, and national levels have been incredibly rewarding. Please consider me to represent our cluster of locals this summer and expand my knowledge as a delegate.



Noelle Gilzow, COLUMBIA MNEA

Noelle Gilzow is the current President for the Columbia-MNEA local and has served in this capacity for the past four years. While she hasn't held an MNEA Board position, she is currently serving on the Budget committee. Additionally, she is one of two active teachers serving on the DESE Master Teacher Certification committee. Previous experience includes service as First Vice-President for CMNEA and PAC committee member. She attended one virtual and one in person NEA RA and would love to represent a large central Missouri local in 2025. Please make sure Missouri is represented by all regions.



Jessica Ross, ST CHARLES EA

My goal as a Missouri NEA representative is to advocate for equity in education, particularly for students with special needs. Every student deserves a challenging and nurturing environment to thrive. With experience as a veteran teacher, I've seen how ego-driven systems can hinder progress. NEA has given me the strength to push for change, and I seek this appointment to strengthen my advocacy through the unified power of NEA, ensuring an equitable educational journey for all students.



Kate Kraybill, BLUE SPRINGS NEA

With 35 years in education and 13 years as an active MNEA member, I am a dedicated candidate for the NEA Representative Assembly. My experience spans all grade levels and includes leadership roles such as building representative, secretary, vice-president, president, and committee chairs. I have served on the MNEA Women's Issues committee, PAC, Resolutions committee, and Education Advocacy. My passion for our union and extensive experience makes me the ideal representative. I hope to earn your vote to represent our members this year.



Tresina Alvested, ODESSA MNEA

My name is Tresina Alvested. I am an educator in Odessa. I am ready to be a voice for Missouri at the Representative Assembly. I am the treasurer of my local. I am currently serving on the Missouri Professional Practice Committee and the MNEA Board of Directors. At the national level, I am a member of the NEA Disability Rights Resource Cadre. I believe that it is imperative that our voices are heard so we can improve the current state of public education. It would be my honor to represent Missouri Educators at the RA.



Elizabeth Beck, PARK HILL NEA

I have spent my 21-year career advocating for public education as a member of NEA. I believe it’s essential to have strong, passionate voices in the decision-making process. I seek out opportunities to use mine by serving as a building representative and PHNEA Secretary, as well as advocating directly with legislators. I understand the challenges we face and the importance of advancing policies that support inclusive education, better working conditions, and fair compensation. If elected, I will work to ensure the voices of Missouri teachers are heard, and our collective power is used to bring about meaningful change.



Monica Miller, COLUMBIA MNEA

Hello! I’m Monica Miller, and I ask for your vote to represent you at The NEA RA. Years as an elementary teacher showed me, we need advocates for public education. Budget cuts, salary freezes, increased class sizes and the allowance of charter schools in my community? Enough! It’s time our “teacher” voices are heard! As the MNEA Bylaws and Constitution chair, I help put your voice into governing action. As CMNEA PAC Chair, I introduce BOE candidates to the body for endorsement. As a delegate, my goal is to support our state’s goal, to provide something better for educators! Thank you.



Jennifer Wofford, NEA ST LOUIS

My name is Jenn Wofford, and I am a school nurse for the Saint Louis Public School district in Missouri. I am seeking to advance my leadership role within the NEA to amplify the voices of school nurses, staff and students. The NEA offers a vital platform to advocate for resources and policies that ensure success for all. I’ve attended local and national NEA conferences, presented at the fall MNEA conference, and will present at the spring ESP conference. Serving as an RA delegate will help me grow as a leader and strengthen my ability to represent and empower our community.



Alysia Lee, KANSAS CITY NEA

Alysia Lee is an experienced educator and advocate with nearly a decade of expertise in curriculum design, educator training, and policy development. As a 2022 Urban Leaders Fellow, she worked to reinstate the Missouri Advantage Program, a teacher loan forgiveness initiative. A 2024 NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grant recipient, she champions ongoing professional growth and believes high-quality education transforms lives, beginning with equipping teachers. From policy advocacy to supporting educators, Alysia brings passion and proven results. As a NEA RA State Delegate, she’ll advocate for equitable teacher compensation and inclusive learning policies.



Mikey Selby, SPECIAL EDUCATION EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

I'm Mikey Selby, I've worked as a Paraprofessional for Special School District of St. Louis County at Marquette High School of the Rockwood School District since 2005. I've served my local, Special Education Employees Association, as an Association Representative for my building, on the Negotiations Committee, as a voting delegate at the MNEA Representative Assembly, the NEA Representative Assembly in Chicago in 2022, and Philadelphia in 2024. I have served my local SEEA as President since 2023. I would be honored to be voted to serve as a Representative for MNEA at the NEA Representative Assembly in Portland Oregon.



Rebekah Messick, WENTZVILLE NEA

I am currently serving as the president of the Wentzville NEA. I am passionate about advocating for educators and the students they serve. We are teaching in a uniquely challenging culture, and I believe it is important that we unite our voices and fight for our educational freedoms. I would be grateful for the opportunity to represent Missouri at the National Representative Assembly and be a part of one of the largest democratic assemblies of our nation.



Jessica Tran, PARKWAY NEA

Jesse has been an elementary teacher in the Parkway School District for 18 years and has been a member of NEA for just as long. She often serves on district committees for piloting new curriculum or as a model classroom. She is also a parent to three school aged children and an engaged member of her community. Education has changed a great deal in the past several years and Jesse is committed to making sure that the voices of the teachers are heard and honored. She looks forward to the opportunity to become a state delegate



Lennelle Gilpin, WENTZVILLE NEA

For over two decades, I have worked towards the National Education Association's vision of providing an excellent public education for all students. Whether in the classroom engaging with my students, or in the community advocating for our schools, I am committed to our cause. I currently serve as the vice president of the Wentzville NEA, providing a support system for our members and giving voice to their experiences. I ask you to please consider me when choosing Missouri representatives for the NEA National Representative Assembly as we work to protect and defend public education.



Max Hull, NORTH KANSAS CITY NEA

I am a first-year teacher and a proud, active member of MNEA since my time in the Aspiring Educators Program. As a student, I served as Vice-Chair for Missouri Aspiring Educators and Vice-President of the Future Educators Club at Park University in Kansas City. Now, as a full-fledged educator, I continue to stay engaged by serving on the Missouri Resolutions Committee and aspire to deepen my involvement at the local level. I kindly ask for your support to help me grow and learn by electing me as a state delegate to the National RA in Portland, Oregon. Thank you!



Alicia Kleoppel, NORTH KANSAS CITY NEA

With 16 years of teaching experience (K-12) and nearly a decade of local leadership, I've served as building representative, executive board member, secretary, and currently as 1st Vice President for NKC-NEA. Passionate about professional growth, I engage in NEA trainings at the state and national levels, both as a presenter and attendee. Serving on Missouri's Resolutions Committee for three years, I've advocated for policies that support educators. I'm eager to represent Missouri educators at the National RA in Portland. Your vote would be an honor as I continue my commitment to amplifying educators' voices while strengthening our union.



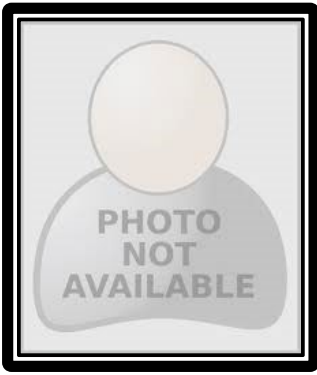
Margaret Govero, HAZELWOOD NEA

Margaret R. Govero received her Master of Science in Education from Rockhurst University in 2004. She has gained experience in Missouri Public Schools (Columbia and Hazelwood), and she taught in a Catholic Elementary School; Co-Ed, All-Girls, and All-Boys Catholic High Schools; and in a Charter Elementary School in St. Louis. Her experience is varied and has allowed her to see first-hand the value of a quality public school education. Her passion is getting rid of vouchers and charter schools, advocating for her LGBTQIA+ students/staff, and creating a positive culture within her current school community.



Velma Glenn, FERGUSON FLOISSANT NEA

Velma Glenn believes that NEA is the guiding light, hope, and protector of public education now and for future learners and leaders. Since joining MNEA in 1990, Ms. Glenn has advocated for others while instilling the principles, perspectives, and protections of "public education". She believes that public education remains a bridge that can connect students to higher education and living wages. As a 28-year veteran teacher in the Ferguson-Florissant School District, she encourages all to join NEA. Ms. Glenn holds a BS, MA, and an Ed.S in Educational Leadership from University Missouri-St. Louis.



Dasha Harrold, HAZELWOOD NEA

Dasha Harrold is currently in her 6th year serving as a building representative, with this being her second year in the Hazelwood School District. Throughout her tenure, Dasha Harrold has been an active and dedicated advocate for educators, always striving to ensure that the voices of MNEA members are heard and their concerns are addressed. With a deep commitment to supporting colleagues in their professional and personal growth, Dasha has worked to foster an environment of collaboration and unity, actively engaging in discussions with district leadership and supporting teachers in navigating workplace challenges.

Chris Renner, INDEPENDENCE NEA

Hello! My name is Chris Renner. I ask for your support in my campaign to serve as a Missouri State Delegate for this year's National RA. I am committed to promoting policies and platforms that improve the learning conditions of all students. I am active in my local union, and I consider myself a voice for hard working educators. I would appreciate your vote to serve as a Missouri state delegate to our 2025 national RA.

Jenny Smith, MERAMEC VALLEY NEA

As a Special Educator, active member of my Local and Missouri NEA, I am ready to serve as a delegate for the NEA Representative Assembly. My leadership roles include Vice President, Chair of Negotiations, and Representative in my Local, as well as a current member of the Missouri NEA Board of Directors. I've completed the Future Leaders Academy and attended the MNEA Representative Assembly for many years, building valuable experience to advocate for educators and students. I would be honored to represent Missouri at the national level. I humbly ask for your vote and support to serve in this role.