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Missouri  
**NEA**  
Retired

# Focus

MNEA-Retired is an affiliate of the  
Missouri National Education Association

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## Terry's Table Talk

Recently, NEA Retired State Presidents had an opportunity to meet via Zoom with NEA-Retired President Anita Gibson and Greg Amore, the Secretary of State from Rhode Island. NEA-Retired is promoting a **Get Out the Vote** for the November elections. Mr. Amore shared many facts about voting procedures.

Highlights from Anita's article included the following:

*"As retired school employees and NEA-Retired members, we are still actively concerned about the issues that face public education, the economy, taxes, Medicare and of course, Social Security. For our members, these issues are at the forefront of this 2024 election and it's critical that we elect candidates who share our beliefs. That's why on July 23, 2024, NEA endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris.*

*Indeed, this is an important, if not one of the most important elections in our lifetime! It has been made even more so with the introduction of Project 2025 as written by the Heritage Foundation and with many of former President Trump's allies and former members of his administration. (Project 2025 can be found at <https://www.project2025.org>). It's important that our members understand the implications of Project 2025."*

Anita Gibson

## Some of the Project 2025 goals include:

- Dismantling the Department of Education
- Eliminating Title 1
- Eliminating free school meals
- Taking away reproductive rights
- Replacing Medicare with Medicare Advantage plans
- Ending programs that address climate change
- Instituting mass deportations
- Giving unchecked power to a president

Read more at [project2025.org](https://project2025.org).

## Secretary Amore shared information about voting.

“It is almost impossible to have voter fraud.” The majority of states **do** have paper ballots. Most voting machines are **NOT** connected to the Internet. Most voting machines are **only** counting the votes. He explains that if a voter has been inactive for two years, it’s possible for that voter to have been removed from the voter rolls. The upshot is to be sure that you get to the polls for all elections. Or double check your voter registration status. The Missouri Secretary of State has a form online that you can fill out to check your status if you haven’t voted in a while. You don’t want to be turned away at the polls on election day.

93 percent of NEA members voted in the 2020 presidential election. Let’s shoot for 100 percent in the 2024 presidential election. For additional information about voting please see either of these sites: <https://www.nea.org/vote> and <https://educationvotes.nea.org>

## Every vote counts!

Remember that decisions are made by those who show up. **Please vote!**





## Exciting News!

MNEA-Retired is now officially an independent local! We are now the largest local in the state of Missouri. That's something to celebrate. Your Executive Council had its first annual retreat working with MNEA leadership to start our journey in independence. Groups met to explore changes for Communications, CHEER, Budget, and Operations.

## Fall Luncheon

MNEA-Retired will hold its fall luncheon on November 22 in Kansas City. As usual, we will have lots of goodies available for our CHEER silent auction. In addition, this year, we will have special baskets donated by each regional group for auction. Looking forward to seeing everyone.



MNEA is having a variety of workshops for active members over this weekend, too.

## Focus Points . . .

- ❖ MNEA is having just **ONE** Representative Assembly this year. It will be in St. Louis in the spring.
- ❖ The elections committee needs some more members. Volunteers are welcome!

- ❖ Declarations of candidacy for MNEA-R officers, executive council, state and national delegates are open beginning January 14, 2025. **Dates for candidate information and speeches will be announced before the first of the year.**
- ❖ Regional presidents will be receiving highlights of Executive Council meetings shortly after each meeting.



## Contribute to CHEER

Lend a hand to our colleagues working in the classroom and virtually by making a contribution to help fund future grants.

[www.mnea.org/CHEER](http://www.mnea.org/CHEER).



## Retirement PSRS/PEERS Meeting Report

Missouri NEA Legislative Director Otto Fajen represents MNEA and MNEA-Retired members at the meetings of the PSRS/PEERS Board. Read the report of the latest meeting at [www.mnea.org/PSRS](http://www.mnea.org/PSRS).



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