

Missouri NEA Fall Representative Assembly & Conference

Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark

OVERVIEW

Friday, November 17

4:30 p.m.	Credentials Committee Meeting	Gateway 1
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Exhibits	Grand and Arch View Foyer
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Delegate Registration	Grand Suite 1 & 2

Saturday, November 18

7:30 a.m.	Board Breakfast	Gateway 1
8:30 a.m.	Delegate Registration	Grand Suite 1 & 2
9:00 a.m.	Doors to the RA floor open	Arch View Ballroom
9:30 a.m.	Representative Assembly	Arch View Ballroom
12:00 p.m.	Fall Conference Luncheon <i>Guest of Honor: 2023 Missouri Teacher of the Year Christina Melly</i>	Salons DEFG

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.	Workshop Sessions I	
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Workshop Sessions II	
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Wrap Up	Arch View Ballroom

AGENDA
MISSOURI NEA FALL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY



WELCOME AT 9:30 A.M.

INTRODUCTIONS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Faron Haase, Aspiring Educator Council Chair

NATIVE LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Faron Haase, Aspiring Educator Council Chair

ADOPTION OF THE CREDENTIALS REPORT – Donna Rudroff, Credentials Committee Chair

ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF SPRING RA MINUTES, APRIL 22-23, 2023 (pages 10-19)

SPEAKERS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. MNEA President Phil Murray
2. NEA Vice President Princess Moss
3. MNEA Executive Director Dr. Patrick Layden

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2023 Shirley Cromer Leadership Award

ADJOURN

Standards of Conduct Statement

Missouri NEA has adopted a Standards of Conduct policy to ensure that all of our events are welcoming to all and free from discriminatory, harassing, or otherwise unacceptable behavior. Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by law will not be tolerated. If you experience any discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior, please see President Murray or the MNEA executive director to report the incident. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring a positive event for all.



2023

FALL PRE-RA

THURSDAY, NOV. 2

6 PM



This is no ordinary Fall RA!

Participate in the virtual pre-RA discussion and learn about the new format for this year's Fall RA. MNEA Pres. Phil Murray will review the RA packet and highlight exciting new changes to PAC fundraising. During this interactive session, you will have an opportunity to ask clarifying questions about business items and the new format.

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://mnea-org.zoom.us/j/84110864176?pwd=WEs0UDZMc042dDhoSmVSUmZacVBzUT09>

Meeting ID: 841 1086
4176
Passcode: 654275

MNEA Fall Conference

Workshops

NOVEMBER 18, 2023 - 1 PM TO 4 PM

HILTON AT THE BALLPARK VILLAGE

Expand Your Knowledge

- EXPLORING SELF CARE STRATEGIES FOR EDUCATORS • ADVOCATING ANTI-ABLEISM IN OUR SCHOOLS • IDENTIFYING EMERGING LEADERS IN YOUR LOCAL • REPRESENTING MEMBERS IN ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS • EXPLORATORY SESSION FOR BIPOC EDUCATORS AND SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
- PREPARING TO OVERCOME OBJECTIONS TO JOINING • MEMBER BENEFITS 101 • LEGAL ISSUES IN EDUCATIONS • NEA NATIONAL RA AND YOU • SPACE FOR KEY GROUPS TO MEET: ASPIRING EDUCATORS • RETIRED • EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR CAUCUS • MNEA LGBTQ+ CAUCUS

FUNDING THE *Future*



WHAT'S YOUR CONTRIBUTION LEVEL?



Sustainer

PAC Sustainers have committed to contribute continuously through either credit card or bank draft.



Contributor

MNEA Contributors have given at least once in the last year to either the MNEA-PAC Fund, TISPE or ESPE.



Fall RA Donator

Three levels of donation will be awarded at the Fall RA, and you will receive a Contributor ribbon with each.

\$20: Lapel pin.

\$50: Lapel pin and notebook.

\$100: Lapel pin, notebook, and limited edition T-shirt.



Silent Auction Participant

MNEA will host a Silent Auction at the Fall RA with superb prizes such as professional baseball tickets (Cardinals and Royals), tailgating party wagon (complete with libations), Silver Dollar City passes, and more.



*Actual limited edition notebook and T-shirt design may vary from images shown.

CONTRIBUTE NOW



 mnea.org/fundthefuture

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MNEA President Murray's

Welcome Reception

PLEASE JOIN MISSOURI NEA PRESIDENT PHIL MURRAY FOR
A RECEPTION TO KICK OFF THE 2023 FALL RA.

Friday, November 17
7 p.m.
Salons DEFG
Hilton St. Louis
at the Ballpark

Cash bar

One drink ticket per person is
provided.

VOTE

DENAÉ BUSH

FOR
NEA
DIRECTOR

Paid for by the Committee to Elect DeNaé Bush, Lori Fisk- Treasurer

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS,
SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Scan for more about DeNaé



Vote Spring 2024



VOTE



ALICIA KLEOPPEL



**YOUR VOICE FOR A BRIGHT
FUTURE FOR ALL!**

SCAN ME



Learn more about my campaign.



NEA DIRECTOR

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alicia Kleoppel,
Dr. Alexander Tai - Treasurer



**Princess Moss
Vice President
National Education Association**

Princess Moss, an elementary school music teacher from Louisa County, Va., is the vice president of the National Education Association, the nation's largest professional organization.

A champion of children and public education at the local, state, and national levels, Moss served as secretary-treasurer from 2014 through 2020. Prior to this, she distinguished herself with two terms on the NEA Executive Committee, where she served on the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) Advisory Committee, steering the Association's strategy for the law's pending reauthorization, and the Dropout Prevention Advisory Committee, helping develop relevant tools for NEA members. Under her direction as president, the 62,000-member Virginia Education Association increased its membership and advocated successfully for greater investment in public education at the state and local levels. She also served as VEA Vice President and on the Board of Directors for NEA and VEA for over 10 years.

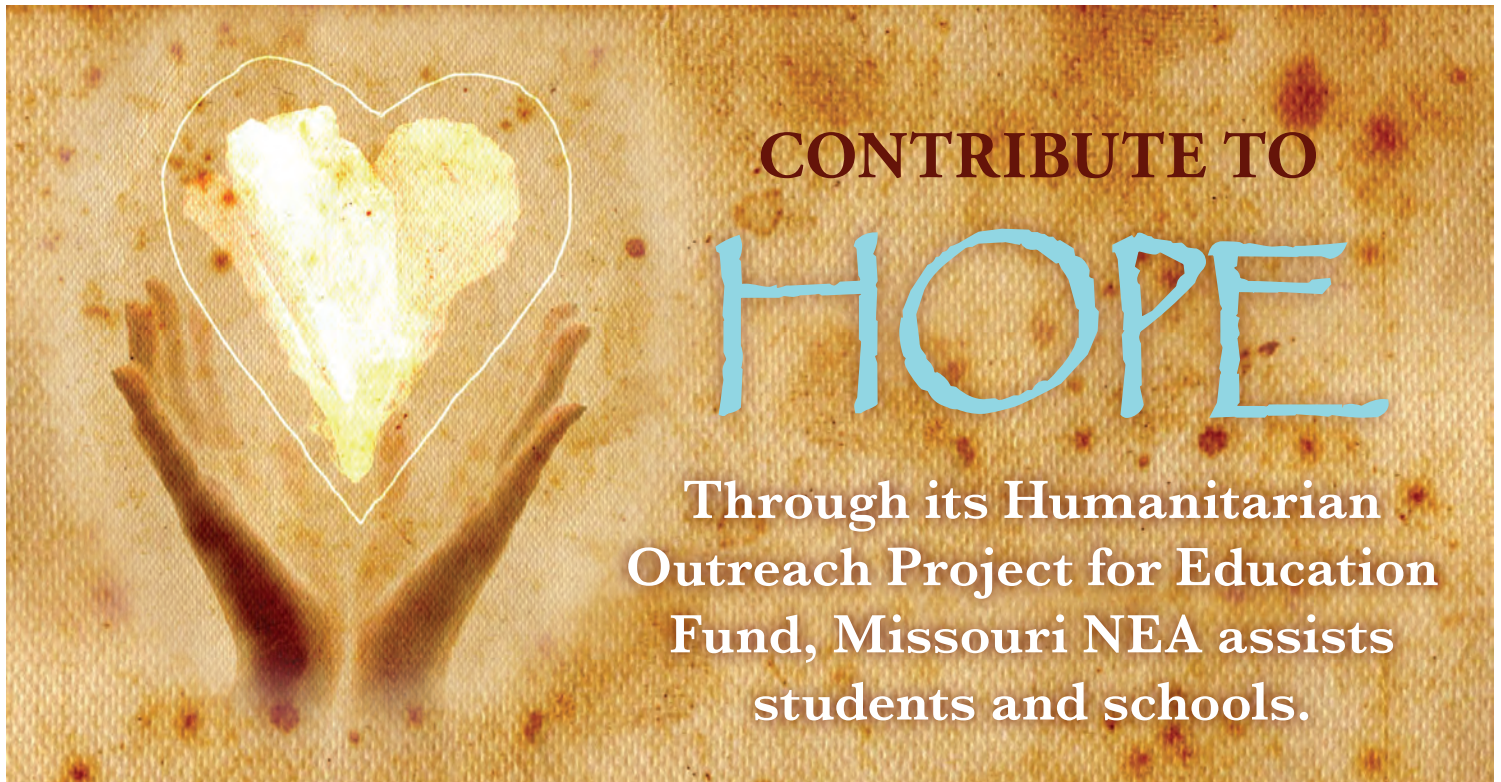
The daughter of two school bus drivers, Moss earned her bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Mary Washington, and received the university's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2006. She also earned a master's degree in elementary and secondary administration and supervision from the University of Virginia.

Rock the Socks

MNEA committee collects socks for Missouri homeless shelters.

The **Missouri NEA Human Rights Committee** invites you to Rock the Socks as part of the committee's annual community service project. During the Fall and Spring Representative Assemblies, the committee will collect new socks and underwear of all colors and sizes to donate to various shelters throughout Missouri. Drop your new socks and underwear in the box provided at the event or send your donation with a delegate to the **Fall and Spring RA**.





CONTRIBUTE TO

HOPE

Through its Humanitarian Outreach Project for Education Fund, Missouri NEA assists students and schools.

Hope is a thing with feathers
that perches in the soul,
and sings the tune without words
and never stops at all.

—Emily Dickinson

Missouri NEA's HOPE Fund provides financial gifts to help children, educators and schools affected by tornados, fire, flood, funeral expenses and medical hardships.

The HOPE Fund aids students who have been affected by a natural disaster, hardship or other special circumstance with school-related expenses such as the purchase of school supplies or clothing. The fund also provides financial assistance for educational-related supplies to schools that have been damaged or destroyed by fire or natural disaster.

Please consider making a one-time or recurring tax-deductible contribution and circulating this flier back home to continue to campaign to rebuild the fund so that it remains a valuable resource for school communities in need.

To make a HOPE Fund contribution, visit <https://www.mnea.org/hope-fund-contribution> or complete the form on the back of this flier. You may designate your tax-deductible contribution for a special cause or in honor/memory of a loved one. Missouri NEA will send a notice of the contribution to the recipient(s).

Please send the form and payment (check or credit card) to Missouri NEA, 1810 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101. Make checks out to MNEA Charitable Fund.

To request assistance complete a request form at <https://www.mnea.org/hope-grant-application>



Missouri National Education Association
www.mnea.org  2017

MISSOURI NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
SPRING SESSION OF THE MISSOURI NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY
The Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO
April 22-23, 2023

MINUTES

Pres. Phil Murray called the Representative Assembly to order at 9:37 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Pres. Murray introduced the individuals seated at the head table: Rebeka McIntosh, MNEA Vice President; Paul Guess, NEA Director; Andy Slaughter, NEA Director; Becky Pringle, NEA President; Daniel Bryar, Parliamentarian; DeeAnn Aull, MNEA Executive Director; and Roxane Bly, Governance Secretary.

NATIVE LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pres. Murray recognized Dr. Alexander Tai (Columbia MNEA), and he delivered the Native Lands Acknowledgement.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Dr. Alexander Tai (Columbia MNEA) reviewed the [NEA Standards of Conduct](#).

NATIONAL ANTHEM – video presentation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pres. Murray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE CREDENTIALS/BYLAW COMPLIANCE REPORT

Credentials Committee Chair Donna Rudroff (MNEA Retired) delivered the following credentials report:

Voting Delegates	216
Non-voting Delegates	0
Visitors	11
Total	227
Voting Strength	216

Credentials Committee Chair Donna Rudroff moved “that this roll of delegates be accepted as the official roll of the members of this Representative Assembly.”

MOTION ----- PASSED

By show of cards

ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES

Pres. Murray stated that being no objection, the rules would not be read. There was no debate and no amendments. The standing rules were adopted unanimously by a show of cards.

COMMON MOTIONS IN MEETINGS

Pres. Murray explained that the Common Motions in Meetings were included in the packet and advised that if delegates had questions, they could visit with the parliamentarian, Daniel Bryar, who is also the MNEA Associate General Counsel.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Pres. Murray stated that the agenda would not be read. There were no corrections or additions to the agenda. The agenda was adopted unanimously by a show of cards.

RECOGNITION

Pres. Murray recognized all building representatives, local executive committee members, local presidents, the members of the MNEA board of directors, NEA ESP At-Large Directors Dennis Tabb and Carmen Hill, all MNEA Retired delegates, Higher Ed delegates, ESP delegates, and the MNEA staff.

IN MEMORIUM

The following individuals were commemorated: Lillian Boly, Riverview Gardens NEA; Cynthia Chapel, Lincoln University MNEA; Ellis Shaw, Ferguson Florissant NEA; Fauntroy Todd, Normandy NEA; and Constance Inman, Park Hill NEA.

REPORTS

President's Report – MNEA President, Phil Murray

Pres. Murray recognized several individuals in the room: Bobbie Bollman, Peggy Cochran, and Rob Meyers, a founding member of MNEA. He described leadership as a journey from the moment his gavel was given to him by former MNEA President Charles Smith. He described the challenges and victories he has experienced during his leadership journey and key moments as a leader: the 2008 financial crisis, Janus v. AFSCME, the 2016 election, No Child Left Behind, and the COVID-19 pandemic. He introduced NEA President Becky Pringle and how it felt when he joined the NEA Board of Directors—the feeling of his voice in room and the stature of Becky listening.

REMARKS

Becky Pringle, NEA President

NEA President Becky Pringle thanked the delegates for their phenomenal work and fearless leadership. She congratulated them on the legacy of work to build the Association and encouraged them to stand proud. She stressed the importance of coming together to share knowledge, experience, and wisdom in this time full of challenges and obstacles. Her passion for the rights of children and educators was palpable when she said, “All these schemes are designed to disrespect those of us who have dedicated our lives to educating the children of this country....the shortage is in professional pay for our educators. The shortage is in the respect for the people who have studied and dedicated their lives to making the best decisions for our children.” She concluded her remarks by pointing out that elections everywhere matter to all of us every day and encouraged delegates to reach out to one another as leaders in this union and this democratic society.

INFORMATION

Pres. Murray recognized Human Rights Committee Chair Jo Wanda Bozeman (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the HOPE Fund and Rock the Socks.

Pres. Murray recognized Women's Issues Committee Chair Joyce Bluett (MNEA Retired) who stressed the implications of "period poverty" and urged delegates to donate personal hygiene products and supplies for distribution to local schools.

Pres. Murray recognized Julia Todd (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the PAC Table. She thanked Mary Varner (MNEA Retired) and Kitty Thiess (MNEA Retired) for helping her with the PAC Table. She also thanked MNEA Political Director Liz Zerr and the MNEA UniServ Directors for their help.

Moira McCracken (Parkway NEA) requested and was granted a point of personal privilege and informed the Assembly that Parkway NEA donated \$1,500 to the HOPE Fund.

Pres. Murray showed the Assembly a copy of the MNEA 50th Anniversary Book. He explained that the 50th anniversary celebration participants would receive their copies first and then copies would be distributed to all delegates.

REPORTS

DeeAnn Aull, Executive Director

MNEA Executive Director, DeeAnn Aull presented the "State of the Association" and highlighted the organization's progress against its strategic priorities:

- Recruiting and retaining members.
- Building strong locals.
- Using effective internal and external communication.
- Increasing influence and advocacy.

She reminded delegates that the decisions they make today regarding the resolutions and budget have occurred each year for 50 years. "Those decisions have driven what we are and what we've become. What you do today determines our future," she said. DeeAnn concluded her remarks by saying, "We need the fighting spirit and will to win. You've demonstrated that over and over, and this year you need to celebrate. We continue to challenge ourselves to do better and to be something better."

INFORMATION

Pres. Murray recognized the efforts of Springfield NEA President Laura Mullins and explained that she is working on nine contracts. He praised the election night efforts of MNEA Political Director Liz Zerr whose hard work paid off with MNEA members winning 83% of elections where a recommendation was made. He highlighted Fort Zumwalt EA and their efforts in St. Charles County which resulted in winning six out of the seven seats.

Pres. Murray introduced Rebecca Stumpf with California Casualty who congratulated the Association on celebrating 50 years of strong advocacy for education professionals across the

state. She noted that California Casualty has been alongside the Association for half that time. Rebecca encouraged delegates to apply for the [Music & Arts grant](#).

Pres. Murray recognized Jo Wanda Bozeman (MNEA Retired) who serves as president of the Heritage House Board of Trustees. Jo Wanda provided a brief overview of the non-profit organization that provides affordable housing for retired teachers.

Pres. Murray advised the assembly that members of MNEA serve on the Heritage House Board of Trustees and an election would be held in the afternoon for three open seats. He added that the Assembly would discuss the MNEA Resolutions and proposed 23-24 budget in the afternoon and make nominations for vacant seats on the MNEA board of directors.

Pres. Murray recessed the Representative Assembly for lunch at 11:29 a.m.

The Representative Assembly resumed at 1:16 p.m.

APPROVAL OF FALL RA MINUTES, November 19, 2022

Pres. Murray presented the November 19, 2022, Fall RA minutes. The MNEA Board of Directors tentatively approved the minutes at the February 2023 board meeting. There were no questions or amendments to the minutes. As there were none, Pres. Murray called for a vote to approve the minutes as printed. The minutes were approved by a show of voting cards.

REPORTS

Pres. Murray introduced Jason Steliga (Park Hill NEA), who serves as chair of the PSRS/PEERS Board of Trustees. He provided an overview of the PSRS/PEERS System of Missouri and explained that it is the 44th largest pension fund in the country and the 96th largest investor in the world. He stated that the pension is funded at 85% and paid out \$3.5 billion in promised benefits to retirees.

Pres. Murray recognized Teaching & Learning Committee Chair Tresina Alvested (Odessa MNEA), who explained that the Missouri DESE Blue Ribbon Commission is trying to obtain input regarding teacher retention and recruitment. She urged delegates to participate in a survey to provide input to the commission.

BUSINESS ITEMS

MNEA Resolutions. Resolutions Committee Board Liaison Andy Slaughter (Meramec Valley NEA) presented the proposed amendments to the MNEA Resolutions:

A-5 Federally and State-Mandated Choice/Parental Options – new language stressing the importance of local control.

A-15 Elected Governing Boards – new language to stress local control.

A-19 Assisting Schools/Districts in Academic Crisis – new language that establishes parameters for assistance and a formal appeal process.

New Resolution A-23 District Consolidation/Deconsolidation – new resolution that establishes parameters for proposals and process for district consolidation/deconsolidation.

B-15 Diversity of Educational Curriculum – added “current” to read, “The teaching of current and historical truths...”

B-31 Library/Media Programs – strike “be empowered to” to read, “...library media centers should include culturally responsive materials...”

C-19 Transportation – new language to read, “Districts should not be required to transport students to other school districts except in the case of special needs or programs.”

E-4 Academic and Professional Freedoms – new language to read, “...present and discuss divergent points of view under conditions permitting independence of thought and expression.”

23-24 Missouri NEA Program Budget. Vice Pres. McIntosh provided an overview of the budget development process and proposed budget.

Pres. Murray recognized Greg Meyer (MNEA Retired) who raised several questions about the proposed 23-24 budget:

- What is the reason for the reduction in compensation for the president and vice president? Vice Pres. McIntosh explained that previously, the president and vice president did not participate in the MNEA retirement system. Subsequently, they were able to participate, and the increased amount in the previous year was to “catch up” their contributions.
- What is the reason for the increase in miscellaneous employee benefit costs from \$5,681 to \$16,500? This is a typo, and the actual 21-22 amount is \$15,681.
- Why did MNEA Organizing increase from \$3,249 to \$50,000? The 21-22 line item included only NEA grant funds, and the proposed 23-24 line item includes MNEA expenditures.

MNEA Board of Directors Elections. Pres. Murray stated that there are four seats open, and each seat is for an unexpired 2-year term.

Governance District 2. Amanda Perschall (Lebanon NEA) nominated herself. Pres. Murray declared Amanda Perschall elected.

Governance District 3. No nominations were made, and Pres. Murray will appoint someone to serve as director.

Governance District 6. Dr. Alexander Tai (Columbia MNEA) nominated Scott Dean (Columbia MNEA). Pres. Murray declared Scott Dean elected.

Governance District 7. Kelli Ward (Ferguson Florissant NEA) nominated Dennis Tabb (Ferguson Florissant NEA). Pres. Murray declared Dennis Tabb elected.

INFORMATION

Pres. Murray recognized MNEA Retired Vice President Georgia Brady who encouraged delegates to join MNEA pre-retired. She explained the benefits of a seamless transition to MNEA Retired with no dues increases.

Pres. Murray recognized Julia Todd (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the PAC Table.

Pres. Murray recognized Human Rights Committee Chair Jo Wanda Bozeman (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the HOPE Fund.

Pres. Murray recognized Women's Issues Committee Chair Joyce Bluett (MNEA Retired) who thanked delegates for their donations of personal hygiene products and supplies.

BUSINESS ITEMS

NEA Director Election. Pres. Murray announced the re-election of Andy Slaughter to a second 3-year term as NEA Director.

MNEA Review Board. The following individuals were nominated and declared elected to the MNEA Review Board:

- GD 1 – James Mueller (Fox NEA)
- GD 2 – Laura Mullins (Springfield NEA)
- GD 3 - VACANT
- GD 4 – Joe O'Neal (Raymore Peculiar NEA)
- GD 5 – Ayanna Anderson (Park Hill NEA)
- GD 6 – Noelle Gilzow (Columbia MNEA)
- GD 7 – Kelli Ward (Ferguson Florissant NEA)
- GD 8 – Eric Hucker (Ritenour NEA)
- GD 9 – Lindsey Weatherby (Special District NEA)
- GD 10 – Nanette Saumier-Trax (Fort Zumwalt EA)
- GD 11 – Maria Flick (Parkway NEA)
- BIPOC member – Dr. Alexander Tai, Columbia MNEA

Pres. Murray explained that if additional members are needed to meet the 3-1(G) goal, an election will be conducted electronically.

Heritage House Board of Trustees. Pres. Murray stated that there are three open seats.

Joyce Bluett (MNEA Retired) nominated Diane Livingston (MNEA Retired).

Phylliss Hayden (Ferguson Florissant NEA) nominated Chuck Howard (Special District NEA).

Diane Livingston (MNEA Retired) nominated Wanda Malin (MNEA Retired).

Pres. Murray declared Diane Livingston, Chuck Howard, and Wanda Malin elected to the Heritage House Board of Trustees.

INFORMATION

Pres. Murray recognized Julia Todd (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the PAC Table.

Dr. Alexander Tai (Columbia MNEA) requested and was granted a point of personal privilege. He encouraged delegates to visit the LGBTQ table.

Judy Hinsley (MNEA Retired) requested and was granted a point of personal privilege. She said that if delegates would donate their unused toiletries from their hotel rooms, she would collect them to donate to [Project Backpack](#) in St. Louis.

Pres. Murray advised that only Governance District 4 would meet in the morning.

Pres. Murray recessed the Representative Assembly at 2:37 p.m.

Sunday, April 23

Pres. Murray called the Representative Assembly to order at 9:46 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE CREDENTIALS/BYLAW COMPLIANCE REPORT

Credentials Committee Chair Donna Rudroff (MNEA Retired) delivered the following credentials report:

Voting Delegates	217
Non-voting Delegates	0
Visitors	11
Total	228
Voting Strength	217

Credentials Committee Chair Donna Rudroff moved “that this amended roll of delegates be accepted as the official roll of the members of this Representative Assembly.”

MOTION ----- PASSED
By show of cards

Donna Rudroff requested and was granted a point of personal privilege and thanked the Credentials Committee for all their hard work and support this year.

BUSINESS ITEMS

23-24 MNEA Program Budget. A motion was made on behalf of the committee to approve the 23-24 MNEA Program Budget. There was no discussion or questions.

MOTION ----- PASSED
By show of cards

Missouri MNEA Resolutions. Todd Geringer (Metropolitan Community College) moved to accept a friendly amendment to A-19 to change “whole child” to whole student.” Pres. Murray explained that there is a motion from the committee to accept the friendly amendment. There was no discussion or debate.

MOTION ----- PASSED
By show of cards

A motion was made on behalf of the committee to approve the amendments to the MNEA Resolutions.

MOTION ----- PASSED
By show of cards

INFORMATION ITEMS

Pres. Murray recognized Julia Todd (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the PAC Table.

Pres. Murray recognized Human Rights Committee Chair Jo Wanda Bozeman (MNEA Retired) who provided a fundraising update.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Pres. Murray presented the Lorna Bottger Award for Individual Excellence in Political Action to Dorothy Walk (MNEA Retired).

Pres. Murray presented the Soar with the Eagles Award to Laura Mullins (Springfield NEA).

Pres. Murray presented the 2023 Horace Mann Friend of Education Award to MNEA Executive Director DeeAnn Aull. When accepting the award, DeeAnn remarked, “No one has successes alone. Together, we have truly changed public education.”

REPORTS

NEA Directors Report – Paul Guess and Andy Slaughter

NEA Directors Paul Guess and Andy Slaughter represent Missouri on the national board of directors. They described the many activities they have participated in and the policy initiatives they are working on:

- Social Security Fairness Act to eliminate the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision that deprives educators and other public retirees of their earned benefits.
- Sub-committee related to student technology and will be share results shortly. Good data to use to eliminate issues related to technology.
- Attended the ESP Conference in Seattle where Kathryn Selby (Special Ed Employees) delivered a presentation on tools and knowledge needed to teach self-advocacy skills to students.
- Superweek visits to the Missouri congressional delegation.

The directors announced that the NEA RA will be held in Kansas City, MO in 2029.

Government Relations Update – MNEA Legislative Director Otto Fajen and MNEA Political Director Liz Zerr

MNEA Legislative Director Otto Fajen provided an overview of the legislative landscape during the current session. Priorities include local control and accountability. Returning issues include parents' rights and CRT bans, open enrollment, tax credit vouchers, charter schools and funding/tax cuts. Otto encouraged delegates to stay involved by participating in Capital Action Days, engaging with legislators to discuss MNEA issues, and following legislative updates.

MNEA Political Director Liz Zerr provided an overview of campaigns and elections stressing the importance of being involved in politics to improve the daily lives of members and students. She explained that through hard work, MNEA can win in hard places and showed how MNEA members won 83% of elections where a recommendation was made. She described how success was due to direct voter contact and an expanded digital program. Liz encouraged delegates to begin planning now for 2024.

Teaching & Learning Update – MNEA Teaching & Learning Director Samantha Hayes

MNEA Teaching & Learning Director Samantha Hayes provided an overview of new initiatives within the Teaching & Learning program including:

- [MNEA Connects](#), a podcast with 12 episodes available. Content includes legislative updates, State Board and MACCE updates, and professional learning opportunities.
- MNEA Learns, a new learning management system that will be accessible to members, non-members, local leaders and staff.
- Summer training opportunities including [Anti-Racist Educational Leadership](#) and a micro-credential PLC, [Developing LGBTQ Anti-Bias Curriculum](#).

She encouraged delegates to participate in new programs and learning opportunities available to them. Members can design courses for MNEA Learns and receive compensation by filling out this [FORM](#).

INFORMATION

Pres. Murray recognized Julia Todd (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the PAC Table.

RECOGNITION

Pres. Murray recognized the outgoing members of the MNEA Board of Directors: Governance District 6 Director Chris Renner (Columbia MNEA), Governance District 2 Director Stephanie Hasty (Lebanon NEA), Governance District 7 Director Connie Steinmetz (Hazelwood NEA).

Pres. Murray announced the retirement of NEA Director Paul Guess (North Kansas City NEA) and thanked him for his extraordinary contributions in developing local leadership and national-level influence.

Dr. Alexander Tai (Columbia MNEA) requested and was granted a point of personal privilege. He provided an update on the LGBTQ fundraising efforts.

Eric Wandzel (Hazelwood NEA) requested and was granted a point of personal privilege. He recognized Connie Steinmetz (Hazelwood NEA) for her fierce and fearless leadership, serving Hazelwood NEA and Missouri NEA for 38 years.

Pres. Murray recognized Carol Weatherford (MNEA Retired) who wished to remind everyone that Mike Cecil (MNEA Retired) presented a new business item years ago regarding Earth Day and thanked the assembly for honoring and caring for the land.

Pres. Murray recognized Human Rights Committee Chair Jo Wanda Bozeman (MNEA Retired) who provided an update on the HOPE Fund.

Pres. Murray recognized MNEA Retired Vice President Georgia Brady who thanked the delegates who joined pre-Retired.

Pres. Murray recognized Women's Issues Committee Chair Joyce Bluett who provided an update on the committee's fundraising efforts. She recognized the committee members and thanked them for their work on behalf of the committee.

Pres. Murray recognized Early Childhood Caucus Chair Jane McPartland who encouraged delegates to join the MNEA Early Childhood Caucus group on Facebook.

Pres. Murray recognized Don Schulte (MNEA Retired) who offered a heartfelt and emotional charge to the new delegates, "At the MNEA 100th anniversary, raise a glass and remember us!"

Pres. Murray adjourned the Representative Assembly at 11:56 a.m.