



## Election 2022: Candidate Biographies

The candidates listed below have declared their intentions to run for either MNEA- Retired office or delegate in the 2022 MNEA-Retired Election. The candidates are listed by position in the order which they declared their candidacy.

### Open Positions

- **Secretary** (1 position)  
two-year term 2022-23 & 2023-24
- **Executive Council Member At Large** (4 positions)  
two-year term 2022-23 & 2023-24
- **PAC Delegate** (1 position)  
four-year term 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26
- **Delegate to NEA-R and NEA RA** (5 positions)  
one-year term, 2022-23  
*The MNEA-Retired president will serve automatically. Those running for NEA RA delegates that are not elected will serve as alternates.*
- **Delegate to MNEA Representative Assembly** (12 positions)  
two-year term, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024  
*The MNEA-Retired president and vice president will serve automatically. Those running for MNEA RA delegates that do not get elected will serve as alternates.*

## **Candidates for Secretary**

(two-year term 2022-23 & 2023-24) (1 position)



### **Joyce Bluett**

I have a history of advocacy for Voting Rights, GPO-WEP, Social Justice, and issues that affect public education and all members of the education community, I currently serve on the NEA-Retired Legislative Committee, chair the MNEA Women's Issues Committee, and serve as the secretary of MNEA-Retired. I am committed to our Association.. I am willing to always put forth my best effort. As an excellent listener, I will be your voice. I seek and sincerely appreciate your support.

# Candidates for Executive Council Member at Large

(two-year term 2022-23 & 2023-24) (4 positions)



## Tim Ema

Hi I'm Tim Ema. I would like to serve as your delegate this term. I have served a number of years on your board of directors, as a building rep, and now as a retired MNEA member. I have served as a faculty member and instructor/facilitator/presenter at many training sessions with NEA throughout the years and have served on many committees for MNEA both elected and appointed. I thank you for your time and your vote. I am Tim Ema.



## Jim Ward

I've have been a MNEA Active member or Lifetime Retired Member since 1995. I've served on the MNEA Board of Directors and was an employee of MNEA (UniServ Director) for 11 years.

Now that I'm retired I would very much like to renew my participation in MNEA Governance.



## Bill Stewart

As a current member of the Executive Council, I took part in many innovations to help our organization during the pandemic. These efforts included hosting web presentations, online voting, and virtual meetings. Today, I would like to ask for your continued support to serve an additional term. Thank you for your time and consideration.



## Tami Ensor

Tami Ensor has been a member of MNEA since she began her teaching career in 1988. Throughout her career, she has been an elementary teacher, administrator, media specialist, and college professor. Currently, she works as an Assistant Professor of Education at Westminster College. In this position, Tami works with pre-service teachers and sponsors the Education Association. Through this role, Tami helped the EA become a part of MNEA's Aspiring Educators program. She encourages pre-service teachers to be informed and involved in the legislative issues facing our nation's schools. She believes not only in conversations but also in taking action.

## Candidates for Executive Council Member at Large, continued



### **Holly Garrett**

I am a retired Communication Arts teacher who taught middle school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District. I have been the president of my local five times, served on the bargaining team for over 20 years and was the Employee Rights chairperson for many years. I have been privileged to serve on the MNEA Board of Directors for Governance District 7 in the past, to represent my local as a delegate to MNEA and NEA Representative Assemblies, and to be the current Communications Chair for MNEA-Retired.



### **Susan Whitehead-Clark**

I represented the Fort Zumwalt S D on a local, state, and national capacity for approximately 20 years before retirement in 2004. Now that my granddaughter is in school, I have more time to get involved with MNEA-R and other organizations I'm involved with since retirement.

## **Candidates for PAC Delegate**

(four-year term 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26) (1 position)



### **Greg Meyer**

While in the classroom I served as a Building Representative, Local President, on the MNEA Bylaws Committee, PAC Delegate, and as a Delegate to the MNEA Representative Assembly as well as the NEA Representative Assembly. Since retirement I have served as Treasurer for St. Louis Metro MNEA - Retired, At - Large member of the Executive Council and Chair of the Advocacy Committee. In local politics I serve as Treasurer of the 23rd Ward Regular Democratic Organization and Treasurer of the St. Louis City Labor Club.

I appreciate your consideration for my candidacy.

## Candidates for NEA-R and NEA RA Delegate

(one-year term, 2022-23) (5 positions)

*The MNEA-Retired president will serve automatically. Those running for NEA RA delegates that are not elected will serve as alternates.*



### **Tim Ema**

Hi I'm Tim Ema. I would like to serve as your delegate this term. I have served a number of years on your board of directors, as a building rep, and now as a retired MNEA member. I have served as a faculty member and instructor/facilitator/presenter at many training sessions with NEA throughout the years and have served on many committees for MNEA both elected and appointed. I thank you for your time and your vote. I am Tim Ema.



### **Judy Hinsley**

As retired educators, we continue supporting current teachers to strengthen the profession while also looking out for student interests. In NEA representation we advocate for our traditions plus the new educational needs, methods that are keys to student development and growth. I served as a classroom teacher, then substitute from the late 60s to 2017, as president twice of my local association, on the Executive Council and now I'm serving my local Metro-R board. I understand the unique privilege of service along with the same privilege to represent. With that, I ask for your support and for your vote today.



### **Nancy Copenhaver**

During my career as a business teacher at Moberly I became involved in MNEA, serving my local as president and other offices, on the MNEA Board, attending RA's regularly, both state and national. I love the camaraderie and involvement in the action of representing teachers/retirees to effect change in our profession, for educators, students, and retirees. As a retiree I've served on the MNEA-R Board and represented retirees on the MNEA Board. I hope you will send this former Missouri legislator and political junkie to the MNEA and NEA RA's to advocate for YOU and our profession.

## Candidates for NEA-R and NEA RA Delegate, *continued*



### **Martha Karlovetz**

Many of you know that I do my homework and take an active part in whatever capacity I serve. As an MNEA-Retired member I have served as president, on the NEA Board and on the NEA-Retired Executive Council, as a member and then as secretary. Currently I serve as MNEA-Retired's representative to the NEA Committee for the Fund for Children and Public Education. You may also know the active role I have had in advocating for the repeal of the Social Security Offsets (GPO and WEP). I would appreciate your vote and continued support.



### **Jo Wanda Bozeman**

I would like the opportunity to connect with retirees and active members across our NEA family so that I can continue advocating for MNEA-Retired and active members. I currently serve on the MNEA-Retired Executive Council and chair the MNEA Human Rights Committee. Through these positions I want to continue to support others in their personal and professional growth by continuing to sharpen and enhance my leadership skills and knowledge of the Association. Your support would be appreciated to elect me as a delegate to the NEA RA to continue these endeavors. Thank you!



### **Margery Doss**

Actively involved in the work of MNEA for the past ten years as Special District NEA Executive Board member & chaired regional organizing committee; elected annually to attend MNEA RAs; attended national in 2016, 2018, and 2020. Professional credentials include National Board certification & NEA blended learning facilitator. My experience as a group leader discussing race and identity at the local, state & national levels demonstrates, I believe, my commitment to creating safe spaces for difficult conversations in our community of educators. Your vote allows me to lift the voices of educators fighting for social justice across the country.

## Candidates for NEA-R and NEA RA Delegate, *continued*



### **Joyce Bluett**

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### **Frank Green**

Frank has been an active member of MNEA and MNEA-Retired since the day he was eligible over 20 years ago. During that time, he's been a member of the FFNEA Executive Board, serving as PAC Chair, Vice President, and in 2014, President during the time when civil issues made Ferguson the focal point of the world. Frank has served on the PN team. He was a member of several MNEA committees, as well as a member of the MNEA Board of Directors. He has proudly represented MNEA and FFNEA as an ESP at various assemblies and convention events.



### **Lorie Fox**

I have been a member of NEA since I joined as a student at UMC where I served as the Midwest Regional Director. As member in the Washington School District, I served as the Building Rep. and Chair of the Public Relations Committee. My membership in the association in the Parkway school District opened the door for many more diverse experiences: Building Rep., MNEA-RA local delegate multiple years, local By-Laws Chair, NEA-RA local delegate multiple times. Attending the RA's was always such an awesome experience. MNEA was impressive in seeing how hundreds of teachers could be organized to communicate effectively, disagreements and all. But the NEA-RA's were amazing! To get to observe and be a part of the largest democratic deliberative body was a pure privilege.

## Candidates for MNEA RA Delegate

(two-year term, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024)  
(12 positions)

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### Rita Bohlen

Hello, my name is Rita Bohlen and I am retired teacher of the Hazelwood School district. I have served 34 years of educational experience in the field of education. I hold a Master's Degree in Educational Administration, Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and an Associates Degree in Human Service. During my tenure as an elementary teacher, I was voted in as a member of the Executive Board for the Hazelwood National Education Association, and was also voted in as a State Delegate for Missouri National Education Association and also held position as a Hazelwood NEA Elementary Rep.



### Ed Robins

The events of the past two Pandemic years have challenged our association as never before. I have come to appreciate, more than ever, the friendships--the relationships--with my fellow association member friends. I appreciate your support for MNEA-RA delegate so that I may continue to support and work towards achieving our association goals. Like many of you, I have served in many association positions of leadership over the years. I want to continue to use that experience and commitment during the next two years as your elected delegate to the RA. Thank you.



### Tim Ema

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## Candidates for MNEA RA Delegate, *continued*



### **Janet Leachman**

Serving as a MNEA-Retired delegate to the Representative Assemblies would be an honor and a privilege. You may know me in the past as the Historian, CHEER chair, member of the MNEA-Retired Executive Council, Volunteer of the Year and before that the Chairperson of the Greater Kansas City NEA-Retired regional, the President and other offices of the Platte County Education Association. I've had the opportunity to make long-lasting friendships with members from all over our state. I pledge to do my best to fulfill the role of a MNEA-Retired RA delegate and would deeply appreciate your vote for me!



### **Jim Ward**

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### **Mary Ellen Ladd**

I would like to represent MNEA-Retired as a delegate. I've been an active member since 2016, and I'm currently serving as vice-president of our Southeast Regional group. I am committed to the values and beliefs of MNEA's legislative platform, and in protecting the rights of students, teachers, and support staff in our public schools. As an MNEA-Retired delegate, I would vote in accordance with MNEA's stance on issues affecting the protection of Missouri's quality public school retirement system, public education, and on behalf of all students and educators.

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