



February 21, 2012 Special Election Edition

Officer and Board Candidates

(Names Appear Throughout as Drawn for Position on Ballot)

*Position Statements received in excess of 50 words
were ended at the 50th word to conform to the LEA Policy.*

LEA President

Jenni Absalon (3-year term) LEA

Association Activities: LEA – Current President, Vice President, LEA Board Member, Building Representative, School Board Contact Team, Legislative Contact Team, LEA/PAC Member, LEA Foundation Board, Harvest of Books Board, LPS Foundation Board. Committees: “I Can Do It” Training, Membership, Scholarship, Member Benefits, Discount Card, New Teacher Luncheon, Retirement Dinner, LEA Foundation Fundraising, PROCOM, Negotiations, Safety, Professional, Enhancement Funds, Extra Standard, Insurance. NSEA – Current NSEA Executive Committee, NSEA Board Member, Delegate Assembly (15 years), New Leader Institute Participant, New Leader Institute Presenter, Nebraska Legislative Contact Day, Cyber Lobbyist, Educators Health Alliance (EHA) Board. Committees: Budget, Technology, Personnel, Membership, RA Planning, Scholarships, Product Endorsements, Legal Review, Government Relations. NEA – Current NEA Board of Directors, Delegate to Representative Assembly (10 years), Host for International Education Guest, NEA Local President’s Training, NEA Membership Engagement Training, NEA’s Staff and President’s Training, Western Regional Leadership Conference Participant, Women and Minorities Conferences Participant, National Council of Urban Education Association (NCUEA) Conference Participant, NCUEA Trends in Education Panel Participant, NEA Grant for Public Engagement.

Position Statement: “It has been my honor to be the LEA President for the past three years. I have a commitment and passion for the work of the Association and our members. As a local, state and national leader I strive to make collective decisions based on our members’ needs.”

LEA Vice President

Deb Rasmussen (3-year term) Goodrich

Association Activities: LEA – LEA Middle Level Board Member for the last 4 years, Goodrich Senior Faculty Representative, Co-Chair of the Indoor Air Quality Committee, Current Member of the Extra Standard, Baier School Board Contact, Conrad Legislative Contact, and Personnel Committees, Past member of the Election, Scholarship, and LEAF Fundraising Committees, LEA-PAC Treasurer, Participant at Western Regional and NCUEA (National Council of Urban Education Associations), Cyber Lobbyist. NSEA – NSEA DA participant for last 7 years, Current Capitol District Secretary, Participant at Western Regional and NCUEA conventions, Past member of the NSEA Elections Committee, NSEA Governance Committee member, Cyber Lobbyist for NSEA. NEA – NEA RA participant for last 7 years, NSEA mentor for new RA Delegates, State Contact for NSEA at RA last 7 years, Committee member of New Business, Elections, Hospitality and Communications Committees at RA.

Position Statement: “I have been an active member in LEA, NSEA and NEA for many years. I would welcome a chance to broaden my experiences as Vice-President of LEA. I have a commitment to our members and the desire to go the extra mile to represent all members of LEA. I would . . .”

**Elementary Board Seat
(One to Be Elected)**

Matt Erb (3-year term) Kooser

Association Activities: LEA – Procom/Negotiations Committee - 2010 – Present, Building FR - 2008 - Present School Board/Legislative Contact Team - 2011 – Present. NSEA – NSEA Fall Bargaining Conference – 2010 & 2011, NSEA Delegate Assembly – 2011, Numerous NSEA Legislative Contact Dinners. NEA – NEA Western Regional Conference, Salt Lake City – 2011.

Position Statement: “As many of our most active members begin to retire, I can bring a new and previously unrepresented perspective to the LEA board. I will work hard to increase involvement among other younger LEA members while providing a strong voice for the concerns of new teachers, specialists, and elementary teachers.”

Gloria Latifi (3-year term) Pershing

Association Activities: LEA - I have served as an NSEA and and RA delegate for many years and would like to continue in that capacity. I have also served as a building co-FR for our building.

Position Statement: “I have served the association for many years and would like the opportunity to serve in this area.”

**Senior High Board Seat
(One to Be Elected)**

William West (3-year term)..... Schoo and Lincoln North Star

Association Activities: New teacher and member of LEA, NSEA and NEA. As a student member at the University of Northern Colorado, I served as Vice President of the UNC ColoradoEA Student Program, and also served on the student leadership committee for the ColoradoEA. I participated in a Delegate Assembly, as well as many other exciting "Student Program" opportunities. I represented the State of Colorado several times at the NEA Connections Conference and also at the NEA Summer Leadership Conference.

Position Statement: “On the board, I will work hard to insure that all members in Lincoln are treated fairly and professionally. I will work to keep the relationship between LEA and Lincoln Public Schools secure while we maintain the highest standards of excellence in teaching and educating the young people of Lincoln.”

Julia Doerr (3-year term) Lincoln High

Association Activities: LEA – Senior FR at Lincoln High (FR for 20+ years), two previous 2-term seats on LEA Board, past service on By-Laws and Policy Committee, Extra-Standard Committee and numerous other committees, School Board Contact Team - Baier. NSEA – Several Delegate Assemblies, Legislative Contact Teams for Avery & now Coash. NEA – Several Representative Assemblies.

Position Statement: “I have the experience and the level head to serve you with competence. Teachers must be respected in our community and treated as true professionals on the job. Unions must stand strong. My votes on the Board and in the political arena will always reflect those core beliefs.”

Marge Keep (3-year term) Lincoln East

Association Activities: LEA – Past LEA position on LEA Board: Senior High Representative (2 terms), Harvest of Books. Current LEA Participation: LEA-PAC Republican Chair, Legislative Interview Team for numerous districts, LEAF President, LEAF Fundraisers numerous times, Scholarship Committee Chair, Pro-Com Committee Member, SBCT – Katie Stephenson Team, LCT – Kathy Campbell Team, LEA SR FR at East High for 30 years, LEA member for 40 years, Extra Standard Committee member, Delegate Assembly member, Negotiations Team member.

Position Statement: “I have been a classroom teacher in the LPS system for 40 years. I am totally committed to meeting my responsibilities and serving LEA members at the Senior High Level. I am familiar with the current issues and concerns of teachers and will work toward long term solutions to help”

**At-Large Board Seat
(One to Be Elected)**

Linda Freye (3-year term)..... Maxey

Association Activities: LEA – Current LEA Board member, Senior FR, Negotiations Team, PRO-COM, Keller School Board Contact Team, Campbell Legislative Contact Team, Co-Chair Teacher Appraisal, Harvest of Books, New Teacher Luncheon. NSEA – Current NSEA Capitol District Board member, Student Education Association liaison, BCBS Scholarship committee, RA Planning committee, Ad hoc committee on Alternative Compensation, Nebraska Department of Education Teacher Standards Writing Committee, Advocacy Conference participant, Delegate Assembly. NEA – Representative Assembly, Feb. 2012 NEA Board Meeting, Western Regional Conference participant.

Position Statement: “As a current board member I strive to be an advocate for the needs of all members. I will bring a strong work ethic, commitment, and good communication skills to the board. I would like the opportunity to continue my involvement as a board member and ask for your support.”

NEA Representative Assembly Candidates (Names Appear Throughout as Drawn for Position on Ballot)

*Position Statements received in excess of 50 words
were ended at the 50th word to conform to the LEA Policy.*

(Up to 14 to be Elected)

Jules Spickelmier Everett

Association Activities: LEA – Senior Faculty Representative 2009-present, School Board Contact Team 2009-present. NSEA – Delegate Assembly Delegate 2011, 2010. NEA – Representative Assembly Delegate 2011.

Position Statement: “Last year was my first experience as a representative for representative assembly. It was awesome! I learned so much and had a chance to be a part of such important work. I would like to continue this learning process about our organization and be a representative for our local and . . .”

Tom Meyer Arnold Elementary

Association Activities: LEA – 33rd year being a Member of Lincoln Education Association from 1979 to present. I have served as a Board Member, Calendar Committee Co-Chair, Member Rights Committee, Faculty Representative, Senior Faculty Representative (presently serving in this capacity). NSEA – 33rd year being a Member of Nebraska State Education Association from 1979 to present. I have served numerous times as a delegate to the NSEA Delegate Assembly as well as being a legislative contact team member. I am presently a member of the Government Relations Committee for the 21st Legislative District. NEA – 33rd year being a Member of National Education Association from 1979 to present. RA delegate 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011.

Position Statement: “I have enjoyed the opportunity to be a delegate to RA in the past. It is an opportunity for classroom teachers to have input on the national level and help to mold the future of our organization. I ask for your support to continue again in that position.”

Perry Showers Mickle

Association Activities: LEA – I am a FR at the building level. I have also represented the LEA/NSEA as a delegate at NESDA. NEA – I was an alternate delegate for NEA RA last year.

Position Statement: “I would ask for your support so I could represent you as a delegate to Representative Assembly. The opportunity to serve my state association would further my professional involvement in our great association.”

Rita Bennett Entrepreneur Focus Program

Association Activities: LEA– Faculty Representative--19 years; Extra Standard Committee; School Board Contact Team; Past LEA Vice President/LEA Board Member; have served on ProCom, Negotiations Team, Election Committee, and many other LEA committees. NSEA – Current Treasurer, NSEA Capitol District. Have participated in NSEA Vital Link training; was an NSEA appointed representative to several Women's Leadership Training Conferences; have served on NSEA Delegate Assembly Elections Committee; Legislative Contact Team. Delegate to NSEA Delegate Assembly. NEA – NEA Women's Leadership Training; NEA Representative Assembly Delegate; participated in several Western Regional Conferences; attended Women & Minorities Conferences.

Position Statement: “We're fortunate to have members who consistently give of their time year-round. My active participation allows me to contribute to a mission that is so important to our profession. Based on my solid record of commitment, I would be honored to represent you as a delegate to the Representative Assembly.”

Lesia Christiancy Scott

Association Activities: LEA – Building FR School Board Contact Team Technology Committee. NSEA – Delegate Assembly Leadership Training. NEA - Representative Assembly.

Position Statement: “I have been a teacher with LPS for 26 years and continue to push myself to learn new things. Over the last several years, I have become more involved with LEA and am learning about what goes on behind the scenes. Through my role on the School Board Contact Team. . .”

Shari Anderson Everett

Association Activities: LEA – I am an FR for my building and I am on the School Board Contact Team for Barb Baier. NSEA – I participated in Delegate Assembly for the last three years.

Position Statement: “I want to be a representative at RA because I want the opportunity to stand for our members on a national level. I have been involved in the LEA and with the NSEA since moving to Nebraska from Virginia. My experience with multiple Delegate Assemblies has prepared me for RA.”

Michael Geist Lincoln Southwest

Association Activities: LEA – 3 years negotiations team, 2 years Professional Committee, 2 year legislative contact team, 6 years faculty representative (FR), Professional Enhancement Funds committee. NSEA - 6 years NSEA delegate assembly, New Leader Institute training. NEA – 2 years NEA representative assembly.

Position Statement: “I want to once again have the opportunity to be actively engaged in the national democratic process at the National Education Association Representative Assembly.”

George Sedlacek Lincoln North Star

Association Activities: LEA – I have been a member since joining LPS in 1973. I have been active at the building level at both Lincoln High and at North Star High.

Position Statement: “Approaching my 40th year of teaching, I feel it is an important time to stand up for our profession testify to the importance of professional representation. I am comfortable speaking with elected representatives in a frank and direct manner. I believe this year it is especially important to speak up.”

Jen Yoder Pershing

Association Activities: LEA – LEA Board of Directors, Senior FR, Jr. FR, Harvest of Books, School Board Contact Team, Cyber lobbyist, Senator contact dinner, Delegate Assembly, Representative Assembly. NSEA – Capitol District Executive Committee, Delegate Assembly.

Position Statement: “Delegate Assembly and Representative Assembly is a unique opportunity to not only witness the work of the Association, but be an active participant in the process. I have attended both and have valued the experience each time! I would very much appreciate attending again to continue this very important work.”

John Heineman Lincoln High

Association Activities: LEA – LEA Board Member, DA and RA Delegate. NSEA – NSEA Board of Directors, Resolutions Committee, Personnel Committee. NEA – NEA Board of Directors, Western Region Leadership Conference.

Position Statement: “Although I serve on the NEA Board of Directors, I do not have a vote at RA unless I am elected by my local. I want to continue to bring a strong voice to RA and make sure Nebraska is heard on all the issues. Thank you for your support.”

Julie Colby Everett

Association Activities: LEA – FR representative for last 2 years. Helped distribute Harvest of Books at the building. NSEA – Delegate assembly last 2 years. Helped contact legislators and attended rally at the capital for Retention of the CIR.

Position Statement: “I would like to become more involved with NEA activities. I feel public employees are being taken advantage of and not respected as a professional. I feel I can make a difference with my vote and represent Nebraska educators.”

Julia Doerr..... Lincoln High

Association Activities: LEA – Senior FR at Lincoln High (FR for 20+ years), two previous 2-term seats on LEA Board, past service on By-Laws and Policy Committee, Extra-Standard Committee and numerous other committees, School Board Contact Team - Baier. NSEA – Several Delegate Assemblies, Legislative Contact Teams for Avery & now Coash. NEA – Several Representative Assemblies.

Position Statement: “I will take the same core beliefs and experience (31 years of teaching) to NEA Representative Assembly with which I have always served the members of the LEA.”

Gloria Best Park

Association Activities:

Position Statement: “Nebraska teachers need their voices heard. I have served teachers for many years by being elected to NEA Representative Assembly. I prepare and attend all sessions to vote on all issues affecting educators. It would be my honor to serve you again this year. Please vote for me this election.”

Bobbi Rezac Calvert

Association Activities: LEA –FR, SBCT, Harvest of Books, Elections Committee. NSEA – DA/RA. NEA – RA.

Position Statement: “I would be honored to represent the LEA and the NSEA at the annual NEA representative assembly. I am proud to be a member of our association and have learned so much from our leaders. I will listen to and advocate for you, the professional educators of Lincoln Public Schools.”

William West Schoo and Lincoln North Star

Association Activities: New teacher and member of LEA, NSEA and NEA. As a student member at the University of Northern Colorado, I served as Vice President of the UNC ColoradoEA Student Program, and also served on the student leadership committee for the ColoradoEA. I participated in a Delegate Assembly, as well as many other exciting "Student Program" opportunities. I represented the State of Colorado several times at the NEA Connections Conference and also at the NEA Summer Leadership Conference.

Position Statement: “As a delegate to Representative Assembly, I would work hard to represent the views, concerns and the ideals of the members of LEA and of the state of Nebraska. I would love to have the opportunity to express my view and to be a part of one of the largest”

Ashley Peterson ECSE Homebase

Association Activities: LEA – Help deliver books to schools for the Harvest of Books. NSEA- Blue Cross/Blue Shield Scholarship.

Position Statement: “I am passionate about early childhood education and meeting the needs of children with disabilities. I would like to learn more about the decision-making process that NEA uses as well as have a voice to help determine the future of education.”

Susan Townsend Lefler

Association Activities: LEA – Senior Building FR. NSEA – Delegate Assembly, Elections Committee. NEA – Midwest Regional Conference, Minority Leadership Training, American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus.

Position Statement: “The NEA RA is an integral piece of the process in improving public schools for all staff, parents, students and community members. It is indeed an honor to responsibility represent my colleagues. I enjoy serving as an active participant in all business of the RA.”

Deb Rasmussen Goodrich

Association Activities: : LEA –LEA Middle Level Board Member for the last 4 years, Goodrich Senior Faculty Representative, Co-Chair of the Indoor Air Quality Committee, current Member of the Extra Standard, Baier School Board Contact, Conrad Legislative Contact, and Personnel Committees, past member of the Election, Scholarship, and LEAF Fundraising Committees, LEA-PAC Treasurer, participant at Western Regional and NCUEA (National Council of Urban Education Associations), Cyber Lobbyist. NSEA –NSEA DA participant for last 7 years, current Capitol District Secretary, Participant at Western Regional and NCUEA conventions, past member of the NSEA Elections Committee, NSEA Governance Committee member, Cyber Lobbyist for NSEA. NEA –NEA RA participant for last 7 years, NSEA mentor for new RA Delegates, State Contact for NSEA at RA last 7 years, Committee member of New Business Elections, Hospitality and Communications Committees at RA.

Position Statement: “I have been an active participant at NEA RA for the last 7 years. I would welcome the opportunity to represent LEA members again this year. Thank you for all the support you have shown me over the years!”

Resa Wiltse Meadow Lane

Association Activities: LEA –Board of Directors, ProCom, PEF Fund, Member Benefits Committee, Extra Standard Committee, Elections Committee, School Board Contact Team, School Board Interview Committee, Calendar Committee, Retirement Dinner, New Teacher Lunch. NSEA – Delegate Assembly, New Leader Institute, Ad Hoc Committee – New Teacher, Interview Committee. NEA –Representative Assembly, Gender Bias Training, Western Regional Conference, NCUEA, Resolution Committee.

Position Statement: “Attending the Representative Assembly will allow me to bring members’ voices and concerns to the important issues facing education today. I would appreciate your vote to represent you.”

Gloria Latifi Pershing

Association Activities: LEA - I have served as an NSEA and and RA delegate for many years and would like to continue in that capacity. I have also served as a building co-FR for our building.

Position Statement: “I have had the wonderful opportunity to be able to serve as a RA delegate for the association for a couple of years. Would like to continue working for the members in this aspect.”

Shelley Clayburn Rousseau

Association Activities: LEA – School Board Contact Team, Senior Faculty Representative, LEA/LPS Joint Calendar Committee, Harvest of Books Volunteer, LEA Rep. for NSEA Delegate Assembly, LEA Scholarship Committee. NSEA – Cyber-Lobbyist, NSEA Delegate Assembly, NSEA Summer Leadership Conference, New Leader Workshop, Legislative Contact Team, NSEA Election Committee. NEA – NEA Representative Assembly, NEA Congressional Contact Team.

Position Statement: “Every day someone, somewhere, makes decisions that impact our classrooms. Educators should be involved in these decisions. Attending the largest democratic assembly in the world is an opportunity to have a positive influence on those professional decisions. I would like to put the voice of educators in the national conversation.”

Mandy Peterson Lincoln High

Association Activities: LEA – LEA Board of Directors, NSEA Delegate Assembly, NEA Representative Assembly, LPS/LEA Appraisal Committee, LEA Bylaws Committee, numerous other committees in past years. NSEA- NSEA Delegate Assembly - numerous years. NEA - NEA Representative Assembly - numerous years.

Position Statement: “I look forward to serving at RA again. I bring experience from all grade levels and as a former counselor and a current teacher. I work hard to view important issues through the eyes of members in a variety of work environments and levels.”

Willie Banks Clinton

Association Activities: LEA – Legislative Contact Team, LEA Interview Team, Multicultural Team, New Teacher’s Team. NSEA – Multicultural Board Member.

Position Statement: “I have a strong desire to attend Representative Assembly. It will provide me with an opportunity to keep abreast on what’s happening locally and nationally with professional colleagues. It will also allow me a voice in the decision making process as it pertains to professional educators.”

NSEA Delegate Assembly Candidates
(Names Appear Throughout as Drawn for Position on Ballot)

(44 to Be Elected)

Julia DoerrLincoln High
P.J. Nelsen Meadow Lane
Troy Krien..... Clinton
April Jorgensen.....Mickle
Susan Townsend Lefler
William West.....Schoo & Lincoln North Star
Perry Showers.....Mickle
Jules Spickelmier Everett
Allegra Penington Meadow Lane
Tom MeyerArnold
Gloria Latifi Pershing
Bobbi Rezac..... Calvert
Doreen AinslieMickle
Michael Geist Southwest
Jan Krien Irving
Dave Hellerich.....Lincoln North Star
George Sedlacek.....Lincoln North Star
Jen Yoder Pershing

Julie Colby..... Everett
Scott Buckner Irving
Rita Bennett Entrepreneur Focus Program
Constance LacyLincoln High
Deb Rasmussen Goodrich
Paula BucknerScott
Jeanene Cordes Kahoa
Shelley Clayburn.....Rousseau
Lesa ChristiancyScott
Willie Banks Clinton
Shari Anderson Everett
Kim Clabaugh Meadow Lane
Matt Erb Kooser
Resa Wiltse Meadow Lane
Becky Hoefling Meadow Lane
Gloria Best.....Park
Catherine SphonLincoln East