

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO: ESPBC Members**

**FROM: ESPBC Election Committee**

**RE: 2026 ESPBC Delegate Election Information for the MSEA/NEA Representative Assembly**

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Please find the Nomination/Biographical Form, Personal Statement and Letter of Intent for Delegate positions to the MSEA Representative Assembly and the NEA Representative Assembly for this year. See the MSEA Powers of the Representative Assembly and the NEA Constitution, Article III, Representative Assembly. Included is a copy of the Election Guidelines. Listed below is the 2026 Election Schedule for ESPBC Delegate positions.

- MSEA Representative Assembly Delegate
- NEA Representative Assembly Delegate

We must stress that if you wish to be considered for any of the Delegate positions, you should first be nominated. **Deadline for receipt of nominations is Friday, February 13, 2026, 5:00 p.m.** If you wish to enhance your consideration for one of the listed positions, please follow the nominating procedures.

### **2026 ESPBC ELECTION SCHEDULE**

**February 13, 2026, 5:00pm (Friday)**

This is the deadline for receipt of all nominations, i.e., Nominating/Biographical Form, Personal Statement and Letter of Intent, at the ESPBC Office. Along with any campaign related flyer you may wish to have distributed.

**February 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m. (Thursday)**

The ESPBC Election Committee meets to approve and construct the election ballot.

**By February 23, 2026 (Monday)**

Election online voting instructions sent to all members at their respective email via vendor (date to be confirmed).

**February 23, 2026, 5:00 p.m. (Monday)**

Preview of election candidates' biography and any associated flyer presented for placement on ESPBC Website.

**March 2, 2026, 9:00 a.m. (Monday) – March 6, 2026, 5:00 p.m. (Friday)**

Online election open.

**March 9, 2026, 5:00 p.m. (Monday)**

The ESPBC Election Committee will verify the online election results. Emails will be sent to candidates for Board of Directors positions based on the unofficial results by the Elections Committee Chair.

**March 10, 2026, 4:30 p.m. (Tuesday)**

Election results presented to Board of Directors. Emails will be sent to candidates for Delegate and Successor-Delegate positions for the MSEA and NEA Representative Assemblies based on the unofficial results by Ana Negrete-Garcia and John Wilkins as the NEA registration process begins.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ESPBC</b> <b>2026 GUIDELINES FOR DELEGATE NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS</b></p>
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1. It is the sole responsibility of each candidate to ensure receipt of his/her Nomination/Biographical Form, Personal Statement and Letter of Intent to ESPBC by the deadline. The Committee will adhere to the deadline, without exception. The Nomination/Biographical Form and Personal Statement must be submitted through the electronic nomination form <https://forms.gle/AwqATSGanFeappCy5>. The signed Letter of Intent may be printed and emailed or delivered to the ESPBC office by the deadline.
2. Nomination for Delegate positions shall be solicited from the general membership.
3. Candidates for ESPBC Delegate positions must signify their intention to run by submitting the online Nominating/Biographical Form along with the printed and signed Letter of Intent to the Election Committee by the nomination deadline as set by the Committee. A candidate may run for one or both positions for the MSEA Representative Assembly and NEA Representative Assembly.
4. The Nomination/Biographical Form, Personal Statement and Letter of Intent will serve as a biographical sketch of the candidate.
5. In order for the candidate to be placed on the online ballot by the Committee, the Letter of Intent must state the candidate's willingness to abide by the ESPBC, MSEA and NEA Policies and Bylaws.
6. The candidate must be a member in good standing of ESPBC as stated in the Bylaws.
7. All valid candidates will be placed on the online ballot in accordance with any ESPBC Bylaws.
8. Candidate(s) wishing to have a campaign flyer shared on the website for the position they are running for should submit 1 copy of such flyer along with their required nomination forms by the deadline. Candidates may purchase a list of building rep labels for mailing campaign-related information for \$5 from the ESPBC office staff. Candidates may only communicate with members through printed flyers sent through inner office or flyers posted on the ESPBC website. Communications sent through BCPS emails are not sanctioned by ESPBC and may result in disciplinary action from BCPS.
9. Requirements of all candidates for Board of Directors regarding campaign-related information:
  - a. Copies must be provided to ESPBC office for election record
  - b. Materials must reflect accuracy
  - c. Violations of these provisions may result in an election challenge being filed
10. A list of nominees, with biographical data shall be available on the ESPBC website at least one week in advance of the online ballot.
11. Instructions on how to vote will also be provided to members at their respective emails via the election vendor.
12. Delegates shall be elected by a majority of the membership voting.
13. Voting takes place via online ballot.
14. The ballot shall contain at least one nomination for each Representative Assembly.

15. Space shall be provided on the ballot for writing in names up to the allotted number of delegates allowed.
16. Election results shall be reported to the Board of Directors prior to the annual May meeting of the Association.

**MSEA BYLAWS**  
2018 amended 10-23-18

**Article VIII - Representative Assembly**

**Section 1. Powers**

The Representative Assembly shall be the primary policy-making body of the Association. It shall:

- a. adopt the general objectives of the Association in the form of resolutions;
- b. adopt the legislative program;
- c. adopt the agenda and rules governing its meetings;
- d. adopt guidelines for nominations and elections;
- e. adopt guidelines for determining the president's compensation;
- f. adopt a two year budget in the spring of the even numbered years;
- g. act on proposals from the council of the Fund for Children and Public Education for Association recommendations for the offices of U.S. senator, governor, attorney general and comptroller, and enact recommendations for these offices by a fifty-eight (58) percent affirmative vote.
- h. act on proposals from the Board of Directors for Association recommendations with regard to statewide referendum questions, enacting such recommendations by a fifty-eight (58) percent affirmative vote.
- i. amend the bylaws in accordance with Article XXII;
- j. fill vacancies occurring in the office of Vice President, Treasurer and on the Board of Directors; when a vacancy occurs after the fall Representative Assembly, in years when the Representative Assembly is not meeting in the spring, a special election shall be conducted by mail ballot to all Representative Assembly delegates to fill such vacancies for the remainder of the term; and
- k. enact such other measures as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the Association.

**Section 2. Qualifications**

- a. Delegates from local affiliates shall be Active, Emeritus or Retired members of the Association.
- b. The delegate for each affiliated department shall be in Active, Emeritus, Retired or Aspiring Educator member of the Association.
- c. Delegates from the Aspiring Educator chapters must not be eligible for membership in any other membership category.

**Section 3. Allocation of Delegates**

- a. Local affiliates of the Association shall be allotted delegate credentials on the basis of one (1) for each fifty (50) or major fraction thereof of Active, Emeritus or Retired members of MSEA within the affiliate as of January 31 of the preceding membership year.
- b. The president of each local affiliate shall serve as an ex-officio delegate, provided however, if a local affiliate president is an ex officio delegate in another capacity, the vice-president of such local affiliate shall be entitled to serve as a delegate to the Representative Assembly, ex officio.
- c. Retired members of MSEA who are not eligible to serve as delegates to the MSEA Representative Assembly under local affiliate standards shall be clustered and allocated delegate credentials on the basis of one (1) for each one hundred (100) retired members or major fraction thereof.
- d. Each affiliated department hereinafter described in Article XVII shall be allotted one (1) delegate who shall be an Active or Aspiring Educator member of MSEA.
- e. The officers and the other members of the MSEA Board of Directors shall serve as ex-officio delegates.
- f. The MSEA Aspiring Educator chapters shall be allotted one (1) delegate for each one-hundred (100) dues paying members, or major fraction thereof within the combined chapters, as of May 1 of the preceding membership year. Said delegates must be elected in a statewide election by Aspiring Educator members.

**Section 4. Meetings**

- a. There shall be an annual meeting of the Representative Assembly at the time of the annual corporate meeting. Other meetings of the Representative Assembly may be held as determined by the Board of Directors or the Representative Assembly. An emergency meeting of the Representative Assembly may be called by 2/3 of the board of Directors or a majority of the delegates to the Representative Assembly for that year with representation from a minimum of three (3) different counties.
- b. Notice of any meeting of the Representative Assembly and the agenda shall be distributed to the president or designated Representative of each group allocated delegates under these bylaws not less than ten (10) days in advance of the meeting.
- c. The agenda for any meeting of the Representative Assembly shall also include any item recommended to the President of the Association by the presidents of three (3) or more local affiliates.

**Section 5. Quorum**

One or more delegates from fifteen (15) local affiliates shall constitute a quorum, provided there be a minimum of one-third (1/3) of the registered delegates present at the meeting.

## **Constitution of the National Education Association of the United States (2019-20)**

### **Article III. Representative Assembly**

#### **Section 1. Accountability.**

The Representative Assembly, comprising members of the Association, derives its powers from and shall be responsible to the membership.

#### **Section 2. Allocation of Delegates.**

a. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (c) below, allocation of delegate credentials to state affiliates shall be based on the ratio of 1:1,000 Active members of the Association within the state. No state shall receive fewer than fifteen (15) delegate credentials. Other delegate credentials shall be allocated as provided in the Bylaws.

b. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (c) below, allocation of delegate credentials to local affiliates shall be based on the ratio of 1:150 Active members of the Association or major fraction thereof. Local affiliates within a state may similarly join together to form membership units for the purpose of representation. Allocation of delegate credentials for such clustered local affiliates shall be based on the ratio of 1:150 Active members of the Association or major fraction thereof.

c. The ratios to be used for the allocation of delegate credentials to state affiliates, dual-national state affiliates, and dual national local affiliates shall be proportionately adjusted to reflect the reduction in Association dues paid by Active members of such affiliates pursuant to Bylaw 2-7.m., provided that this Article III, Section 2 (c) shall not apply to Active members of a dual national local affiliate (i) in a state that does not have a dual-national state affiliate, and (ii) that became affiliated with the Association as a dual-national local affiliate prior to September 1, 1999.

d. The Bylaws shall define the term ethnic minority and shall seek to achieve ethnic-minority representation in the Representative Assembly.

#### **Section 3. Election of Delegates.**

a. Members of the Representative Assembly shall be elected in accordance with the one-person-one-vote principle. Specific exceptions to the application of this principle may be set forth in this Constitution and/or the Bylaws.

b. Election to the Board of Directors by the Active NEA members within the state shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes. Election to the Board of Directors by the Active NEA members elected to serve as delegates to the state representative body shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers. Election to the Board of Directors as an at-large director or a retired or aspiring educator director shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers. Election to executive office or to the Executive Committee shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers. Election to the presidency of a state affiliate by vote of members in the state who are eligible to vote in such election shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes. Election to the presidency of a state affiliate by the state representative body shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers. Selection as chairperson of the Advisory Committee of Aspiring Educators shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers. Election to the presidency of National Education Association-Retired shall constitute election to the Representative Assembly for all purposes except voting in elections for Association officers.

c. Election of delegates to the Representative Assembly shall be by secret ballot for each individual position. The NEA members within each membership group entitled to delegate allocations as set forth in the Constitution and the Bylaws shall be eligible to vote.

d. If the number of candidates for delegate positions is equal to or less than the number of positions to be filled, elections may be waived, and the candidates declared elected to the delegate positions in question.

#### **Section 4. Seating of Delegates.**

The Representative Assembly shall have jurisdiction over the seating of its delegates.

#### **Section 5. Meetings.**

The Representative Assembly shall meet at least annually. This stipulation shall apply except in cases of emergency.

#### **Section 6. Committees.**

All appointive bodies of the Association except the Review Board shall be designated by the term committee. A Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules shall be established by the Representative Assembly. All other committees shall be established or discontinued as provided in the Bylaws. All committees except the Advisory Committee of Aspiring Educators shall comprise at least one (1) classroom teacher and one (1) education support professional. There shall be a minimum of twenty (20) percent ethnic minority representation on each committee.

#### **Section 7. Functions.**

The Representative Assembly shall:

- a. Establish Association policies and objectives;
- b. Elect the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the at-large members of the Board of Directors, and the members of the Executive Committee as provided in this Constitution and/or the Bylaws;
- c. Adopt the budget;
- d. Establish dues;
- e. Approve or ratify the establishment of subsidiary corporate structures;
- f. Exercise final authority in all matters of the Association;
- g. Amend this Constitution and the Bylaws in accordance with Article IX hereof;
- h. Adopt the rules and agenda governing its meetings; and
- i. Enact such other measures as may be necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the Association which are not in conflict with the Charter, this Constitution, or the Bylaws.

#### **Section 8. Objectives.**

The Representative Assembly may periodically establish specific objectives in the pursuance of the stated goals of the Association.

#### **Section 9. Postponement of Annual Meeting.**

In the event of an emergency, the Board may postpone the Annual Meeting as provided by the Bylaws. In the event of such postponement, all officers and members of boards and committees authorized by this Constitution and by the Bylaws shall remain in office until the Representative Assembly convenes. It shall then provide for their successors.