

**NEA-New Mexico 3-1(g) Plan  
2016-2017**

A plan for minority representation and involvement in NEA activities

**NEA Bylaw 3-1(g)**

*It is the policy of the Association to achieve ethnic-minority delegate representation at least equal to the proportion of identified ethnic-minority populations within the state. Prior to December 1 of each fiscal year, each affiliate shall submit to the NEA Executive Committee for its approval a legally permissible plan which is designed to achieve a total state and local delegation to the Representative Assembly held that fiscal year which reflects these ethnic-minority proportions. If a state affiliate fails to submit such a plan, the NEA Executive Committee fails to approve a plan which is submitted, or a state affiliate fails to comply with an approved plan, the Representative Assembly may deny to the delegates from the state affiliate any right to participate in the NEA Representative Assembly at the Annual Meeting other than to (i) participate in elections for Association officers, and (ii) vote on increases in Association membership dues. Local affiliates shall comply with the approved plan of the state affiliate and if a local affiliate fails to do so, the right of its delegates to participate in the NEA Representative Assembly at the Annual Meeting may be limited as indicated above. The failure of a state or local affiliate to comply with the provisions of this Bylaw shall, in addition, be grounds for censure, suspension, or expulsion pursuant to Bylaw 6-5.*

**NEA-New Mexico's  
Minority Involvement Program**

NEA-New Mexico's Minority Involvement Program goal is to enhance the Association's visibility as the recognized, active advocate for ethnic-minority school employees, students, and issues. NEA-NM recognizes the role that Institutional racism plays in our schools, and we also want to spotlight systemic patterns of racism and educational injustice that impact students, staff, and communities. NEA-NM will take action to enhance access and opportunity by demanding changes to policies, programs and practices that condone or ignore unequal treatment and hinder student success.

The Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (EMAC) and NEA-New Mexico Executive Committee are charged with the responsibility to develop and monitor a plan to achieve this goal with assistance from the Minority Caucus.

As part of this responsibility, the EMAC monitors the Essential Leaders Cadre program when and if there is a program. This "emerging leader" program identifies potential Association leaders and provides a two-year member development opportunity. The EMAC reviews the entire program with special emphasis on ethnic-minority attendance, ethnic-minority recruitment, EMAC correspondence to ethnic-minority participants, and ethnic-minority graduate's active participation in Association activities. The NEA-NM Board of Directors will be charged with finding funds to reinstate the Essential Leaders Cadre. The majority of participants are ethnic minority.

In addition, NEA-New Mexico's Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws specify the organization's commitment to minority members' participation in all Association programs and to minority representation in local affiliate leadership, as Council delegates, on the Board of Directors and on NEA-New Mexico committees.

The NEA-New Mexico Membership, Ethnic Minority Affairs, and ESP Committees all received committee charges requiring them to collaborate on strategies to increase ethnic-minority membership and participation in NEA-New Mexico.

NEA-New Mexico continues to identify, recruit, and activate ethnic-minority members in an effort to involve them in our Association each day of the year and not just for a numerical count on one day at the Representative Assembly.

**Purpose**

The purpose of NEA-New Mexico's 3-1(g) Plan is to make the Association stronger by ensuring that all members have the opportunity for active participation. This plan is one component of NEA-New Mexico's commitment to involving minority members in all of the organization's programs.

The 3-1(g) Plan publicizes the NEA Representative Assembly, and commits NEA-New Mexico and local Associations to recruiting members as RA delegate candidates, especially encouraging ethnic minorities.

The NEA 3-1(g) bylaw establishes the goal that each state's delegation to the Representative Assembly should be at least equal to the proportion of identified ethnic-minority populations within the state. Bylaw 3-

1(g) emphasizes the important process of including members in NEA and state affiliate programs.

### **Publicity**

NEA-New Mexico will publicize the 3-1(g) Plan with:

a) A feature article in *The Advocate's Voice* and/or on the NEA-New Mexico website with ongoing articles on major activities and events involving Association leaders and members.

b) An article to locals and regions to feature in newsletters.

c) A letter in February from the NEA-New Mexico president and EMAC chair to local Association presidents and the New Mexico NEA-Retired president detailing the timelines and requirements of the local delegate election process.

d) Presentations can be made to the Presidents' Council, Region Councils, Board of Directors, and other state-wide meetings.

e) A PowerPoint production has been developed by the EMAC for presentation. This production can be shown at leadership events and will be made available to local associations on the NEA-New Mexico website.

f) An electronic presentation about the RA and how to become a Local Delegate will be made available on the NEA-New Mexico website.

### **Increasing Members' Self-Identification**

NEA-New Mexico met its 3-1(g) numerical goal for 1987, 88, 89, 1991, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 2000, 01, 02, 2008, 2014, and 2016. New Mexico's ethnic-minority population is 59%. That census change raised the bar for NEA-New Mexico to send a delegation to the NEA Representative Assembly which meets or exceeds that percentage of minority population.

Twenty-two (23%) percent of our members do not choose to self-identify ethnicity. Of those members who choose to self-identify, 52% identify themselves as ethnic minorities. However, when compared to the total membership, only 41% are identified as ethnic minorities, restricting the pool of potential ethnic-minority delegates, therefore:

a) NEA-NM and the NEA-EMAC will encourage members to self-identify using the on-line registration site linked at <http://www.formdesk.com/NEA-NM/Ethnicity>

These members will be asked to self-identify by describing their ethnicity in a few words on an intake form provided by NEA-NM

b) NEA-New Mexico will then enter this data into the membership system using NEA's seven ethnic categories.

c) The NEA-New Mexico president and the NEA-New Mexico EMAC chair will write a letter to presidents of local Associations that did not elect Local Delegates in any one of the last three years. The letter will describe the Local Delegate election process, discuss the importance of representation at the national level, and discuss NEA-New Mexico's 3-1(g) goals.

### **Local Associations**

NEA-New Mexico exceeds its ethnic minority delegate goals year after year in the election of State and Cluster Delegates. However, many local Associations do not choose to elect RA delegates or those who elect delegates, do not choose to fund and encourage their attendance at the RA. The failure of Local Delegates to come close to meeting our census generated goal has been the major reason for NEA-New Mexico's failure to meet our 3-1(g) goals in the past. Therefore, a major emphasis of this plan will be to again meet 3-1(g) goals with locally elected delegates.

Presidents will continue to be strongly urged to explain the 3-1(g) Plan at a meeting of Association Representatives before delegate candidates are nominated. They will be reminded to make use of the PowerPoint, audio presentations, and other resources on the NEA-New Mexico website.

Presidents and Association representatives will be encouraged to recruit ethnic-minority candidates to attend the NEA Representative Assembly. Those elected may participate in the NEA Joint Conference on Concerns of Minorities and Women.

Presidents in locals with more than one delegate candidate will be encouraged to meet the 3-1(g) numerical goals.

Self-identified ethnic-minority members in local Associations entitled to elect RA delegates will receive a letter from the NEA-New Mexico president and the NEA-New Mexico EMAC chair describing the delegate election process. They will be encouraged to contact local presidents and advocate that the local elect and fund local delegates to the RA.

Local Associations must report delegate election results to the NEA-New Mexico president no later than April 8, 2017. Presidents will also be asked to submit a report to the NEA-New Mexico president

concerning delegate nominations and elections pursuant to the 3-1(g) implementation.

The NEA-New Mexico president will communicate to local Associations the need to plan and budget funding for locally elected delegates. Presidents' Council meetings include discussions about the fiscal responsibilities of local presidents. During these discussions, the need for local delegate funding will be emphasized.

### **Delegate Categories**

All state-wide delegate nominations open in early September and close October 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Local Delegates:**

Local Associations elect delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly for each 150 Active members or major fraction thereof. A local with 76 members or more will elect one delegate for each 150 active members or major fraction thereof.

Active members who want to be a candidate for delegate should notify the local Association president in writing.

#### **State Delegates:**

NEA-New Mexico Active and Retired members vote for State Delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly in their membership category.

Active or Retired members are eligible to run for a delegate position in their membership category.

#### **Cluster Delegates:**

Local Associations with fewer than 76 Active members will form a cluster to elect delegates. Only Active members in these clustered locals vote for Cluster Delegates.

### **Delegate Statements**

All Candidates for State Delegate (State, Cluster, and Retired) may submit a statement (up to 25 words) for inclusion on the NEA-New Mexico Representative Assembly delegate election information on the electronic ballot. Local Association presidents will be

encouraged to also allow prepared statements to accompany ballots.

### **Delegate Recruitment**

NEA Representative Assembly delegates are elected by open nomination, secret ballot and related procedures outlined in NEA governance documents and included in NEA's election instructions.

a) The NEA-New Mexico president, Board of Directors, EMAC, Minority Caucus, Region chairs and Local Association presidents will encourage ethnic-minority members to fully participate in the Association, including running as Local, State and Cluster Delegates.

b) NEA-New Mexico will mail candidate fliers and ballots to Active and Retired members for delegate election when requested. Postcards outlining the electronic election procedures will be sent to all Active and Retired members.

c) NEA-New Mexico will again distribute its information brochure on being an RA delegate to members at Council registration, to those nominated for State/Cluster Delegates, and to local presidents prior to their local elections. This brochure will also be available on the NEA-New Mexico website.

### **Funding**

a) NEA-New Mexico will provide a stipend to assist State and Cluster Delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly. NEA-NM will make every effort to increase the stipend.

b) The Minority Caucus, in accordance to their by-laws may provide a stipend to assist ethnic-minority caucus members elected to the NEA Representative Assembly.

c) NEA-New Mexico and the EMAC will encourage regions and locals to provide additional funding for State and Cluster Delegates beyond that provided by NEA-New Mexico.

d) NEA-NM will explore the possibility of providing funding for EMAC members to attend the ELC trainings and graduation.

**NEA-New Mexico, 2007 Botolph Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505**



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*Making Students a Priority ~ Promoting Professional Excellence ~ Improving the Well-Being of School Employees*

*Revised and approved by vote of the NEA-NM Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee on July 23, 2016; by the NEA-NM Board of Directors on Sept 19, 2016, and the NEA Executive Committee on Dec 12, 2016.*