We are SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS...

A Celebration of our Independence—An Affirmation of our Mission

By Eduardo Holguín

Over the last 35 years, I’ve traded sparklers in my yard and charcoaled burgers slow-cooked in two minutes over a raging lighter fluid soaked fire for the chance to be with 10,000 of my closest colleagues in the NEA family at our annual Representative Assembly. The official Fourth celebration is sandwiched in to the other agenda pieces: new business items, resolutions, committee reports and the constant requests for points of order. It has traditionally been the time on the agenda for the Executive Director to address the RA with a celebration of our freedoms, recognition of NEA’s history on human and civil rights and an acknowledgement of the never-ending vigilance we must provide to keep our cherished victories. While I’ve been left dewy-eyed and feeling good by the observance, I’ve usually been moved more by our President’s remarks or the National Teacher of the Year’s speech.

This year our new Executive Director in DC was given the same old time slot with the same old charge in the midst of a business filled agenda. Since this year would be the first such speech delivered by John Stocks, I expected to have the same old reactions, especially given the slight build, bespectacled visage and gentle nature of the man.

“Starting soft and slow, like a small earthquake…”

“We celebrate July 4th by honoring those who thought and fought to establish this country and those who fought wars to keep our democracy intact…patriots who paid the ultimate price so that we can continue to enjoy freedom as individuals and live peacefully together in a democracy…and we still have patriots—our sons and daughters in uniform—who risk their lives day in and day out. And we pray they return home safely to their families…

…Our American DNA is embedded with a profound sense of possibility, an unshakable belief that there are many Americans who are willing to ensure that it is truly accessible for everyone… Too often we overlook the part of our national portrait that celebrates those Americans who are driven by their conscience to make America a more perfect union—those who are constantly urging America to live up to its promise of equal opportunity and justice for all.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said that to be ‘divinely dissatisfied’ with America is to love America. I agree with him. I have a name for people who are divinely dissatisfied with America, yet love America’s promise. I call them SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS.”

By now, I was hanging on his every word and people around the hall were not only listening intently but also putting away their phones and I-pads which in this day and age are simply an added appendage and always at the ready. John was getting into a rhythm and continued getting stronger.

“…I have a deep reverence for NEA members. Not only have educators instructed each generation about the core principles upon which America was founded, but you have, in many instances, acted as the conscience of the nation we love.

It was educators, through this Association, who sought funds for the education of freed slaves and their children after the Civil War…Who spoke out against the treatment of Native American Children in government schools… Who supported a woman’s right to vote. It was educators, through this Association, who spoke out against the internment of Japanese-American children and their families. It was educators, through this Association, who challenged the absurdity that Spanish-speaking children were incapable of learning like other children…”

Applause is now constant and consistent as he builds his resonance and fervor. A staff person comes from behind the stage to gauge the response for himself.

“…We wrestled with these issues as an Association, and we came down on the right side of history. Adrienne Rich, an American poet, said ‘a patriot is one who wrestles for the soul of her country as she wrestles for her own being.’ So in thinking about being a SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOT, we must not only think about challenging our country to be better, but we must also challenge ourselves as individuals to do better…

…What we are experiencing now is the serious erosion of the middle class and worse yet, the war on poverty has turned into a war on poor people! Today, the average CEO of a Fortune 500 Company makes about 600 times more than the average education support professional—back in the 1950s it was only 20 times more.

Friends, time and again I have seen that the only effective answer to organized corporate greed is organized labor…

At this point I find myself standing and cheering as the whole room explodes in thunderous approval. John is on a roll.

“…And when he let’s go, half the valley shakes…”

“…To the one percent, organized labor stands between their ability to have complete control of our political economy…In America today, while the rich grow richer, the number of children in poverty continues to grow. Today in America, almost 16 and a half million children now live in poverty. What’s even more devastating to hear is that one in 45 children in America experiences homelessness each year. That’s 1.6 million children sleeping in cars…under freeway overpasses…living in tents and abandoned buildings…and getting ready for school in public restrooms.”

Continued on page 8
Advocacy and Teacher Evaluation

By Sharon Morgan, NEA-NM President and Charles Bowyer, NEA-NM Executive Director

The NEA-NM and its affiliates will be the recognized advocate for students, public education and public education employees in New Mexico. That is our mission and drives our work. We know that “great public schools begin with us” and we are willing to accept the challenge of making sure every student receives the best possible learning opportunities. As this school year begins, the debate on public education in general and teacher evaluation in particular rages on. This is true across the country as teacher unions, governors, legislators, Congress, the business community and the public work for what they believe will make a difference for our students. This is certainly true in New Mexico, and teacher effectiveness and teacher evaluation have been a big part of the debate.

Teachers want a good evaluation system. They want observations from trained professionals who provide meaningful feedback. While it may be easy to have a principal sign off on an evaluation form without ever setting foot in your classroom, teachers want more. They want to improve their practice through meaningful professional development and mentoring. They want kids to succeed. They want a fair system that recognizes that not all students enter school with the same talents and skills, with the same early learning opportunities. They want a system that recognizes their hard work and the difference they make in students’ lives.

You have been hearing about the Governor’s executive order, the response of the PED in creating an Advisory Council on Teacher Evaluation, and the debate between educators across the state on how to proceed. In the debate on the proposed rules on teacher evaluation, several things are apparent. Everyone involved wants a quality education for our students. Everyone agrees that teachers matter and make a difference to students. Teachers across the state continue to express concerns about the over-reliance on standardized test scores for evaluating teachers and schools. We all have ideas on how we can better meet student needs. So why all the headlines and protests? Where are we, as NEA-NM, in this debate?

You should have received a short summary of the facts around the proposed rules in your email this summer. Those facts are different than some of the rhetoric you may have seen in the media. You have likely also read about our expressed concerns regarding the role of standardized testing and the ambiguity around how the growth of special education students will be measured, or for 14 years!). I also enjoy processing the new books and not only getting a preview of what will be available for checkout, but getting to check it out first!

What is hard about your job?

Teaching lessons to K-6 classes, classroom management and not enough time to get everything done are things that make my job hard. Also, it makes it hard to keep up morale when administration treats ESPs as though they are not important and that anyone can step in and do what I do.

What are the most fun and unusual things that have happened on the job?

The students enjoy playing learning games like Library Lingo and Library Jeopardy. When we have Book Fair (twice a year), I decorate with the theme and wear different costumes each day which the students enjoy. We won a Scholastic Book Fair contest because we put that much effort into the Book Fair and received $2500 worth of books for our library.

How has being an Association member been helpful to you?

It’s been helpful because it allows me to collaborate with my coworkers as we work together to make positive changes. These past few years have been very difficult and some of those positive changes have been few and far between, but I shudder to think where we’d be if it wasn’t for us having a voice through our local, NEA-Los Lunas, and at the state and national through NEA-NM and NEA. I feel more empowered and less vulnerable in job related issues, knowing that I’m not in this alone.

Karen Bonanno
Position: Elementary School Library Assistant
Local Association: NEA-Los Lunas
Years worked in Education: 14

What is a typical school/work day like for you?

I arrive at school by 8:15 and open the library. By 8:30, I have students and teachers coming in to check out books and materials. At 9:10, interventions start and at 9:45, regular classes begin. I see every class for one hour each week. We do the regular check in/check out of books, I present a lesson; sometimes I read a story and then have them work on activities or worksheets. When I don’t have classes, I am pulling materials for teachers, cataloguing/process materials, doing lesson plans and fixing books. I also make bulletin boards, collect money for damaged books and assist students and staff in researching materials, then I do my regularly assigned duty at the end of the student day. Whew!

What do you like about your job?

I enjoy books and reading, so I like helping students find books that spark their interest in reading. When a student tells me how much they enjoyed a particular book, it makes me happy and I try and find another one that they will enjoy. I enjoy the staff camaraderie at my school (I’ve been at the same school for 14 years!). I also enjoy processing the new books and not only getting a preview of what will be available for checkout, but getting to check it out first!
Your whole family is in line for NEA Member Benefits.

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Advocacy and Teacher Evaluation continued

By Sharon Morgan, NEA-NM President and Charles Bowyer, NEA-NM Executive Director

The Albuquerque Journal recently opined, “Meanwhile, Charles Bowyer, the executive director of the state chapter of the National Education Association, has student success in mind when he agrees there is need for reform. His suggestions include giving districts flexibility beyond the Standards-Based Assessment to measure student progress and providing a transparent and detailed method for decoding evaluations. That is constructive input.”

We have conducted numerous surveys of teachers over the past two years on this subject. We have talked with you as I travel around the state visiting schools. Teachers have been clear that they want the focus to be on student growth, not just one standardized test score, and the new rules include data on student growth over a three year period and include multiple measures. Teachers believe they are accountable and that students do learn because of their teaching. A member recently remarked that looking at test data is nothing new. In most school districts, teachers and administrators have been looking at student performance based on test scores for years now. They have examined the data in terms of teachers, grade levels and schools. This data is used to drive instruction for the following school year. This is not new, but it has been different in every district, and sometimes in every school within the district. We believe that districts, working with the local union representatives, should have greater flexibility in determining the data that will be considered to ensure it meets local needs and is fair to all educators.

New protocols for teacher observations are being developed now. They will be piloted in many of our school districts, districts where our locals have strong collective bargaining agreements. The six classroom teachers, along with the administrators and superintendents who serve on the Advisory Council, will be reviewing the data and feedback from the participants to recommend revisions and adjustments. These professionals have been very involved in the discussions - they are not going to rubber stamp anything. We have every confidence that our representatives, Vice-President Betty Patterson and Board member and local president, Mary McGowan, will work to ensure that the result is not a Florida model, but a New Mexico model that uses our three-tiered licensure system as a base and then progresses from that solid start. That has been the direction and the commitment, and that is something we strongly support.

We could refuse to participate in this process and just say no. That is always an option. But We believe our members and the students we serve deserve more. We want to be part of the process. We want to shape the rules and the procedures that are used to evaluate us as professionals. We were involved from the beginning of the Three Tiered process as well as the current teacher evaluation process. NEA-New Mexico was involved in setting the indicators for each of the teaching competencies for each licensure level. We are professionals who stand up and help shape the progress of English Language Learners. We are concerned about transparency - teachers need to know how student growth will be determined, and how poverty and other factors will be accounted for in the growth calculations. There are concerns about parent and student accountability as well - we can’t teach kids if they are not in school. We have raised these concerns and will be monitoring the work to be sure teachers are respected and treated professionally and fairly.

We have been at the forefront of advocating for the preservation of teacher due process rights as this debate has continued from the 2011 legislature to the present. Charles was on the taskforce that met in the summer of 2011 and worked to have our interests included in the work of that group. NEA-NM was involved in all the discussions of evaluation bills in the 2012 legislature and made sure that our major concerns were addressed in the compromise that was passed in the NM House.

The Albuquerque Journal recently opined, “Meanwhile, Charles Bowyer, the executive director of the state chapter of the National Education Association, has student success in mind when he agrees there is need for reform. His suggestions include giving districts flexibility beyond the Standards-Based Assessment to measure student progress and providing a transparent and detailed method for decoding evaluations. That is constructive input.” We have continued to press for additional changes in the evaluation plan and have consistently resisted too much reliance on standardized tests. We successfully moved from 50% of the evaluation based on one test score to 35% based on student growth using three years of data. We pressed for and gained a commitment that no teacher be evaluated on a school’s student achievement, rather than each teacher’s influence on the actual students in each teacher’s classroom. Meanwhile, Vice-President Betty Patterson and Mary McGowan continue to press for compromise from inside the current taskforce, not from the outside looking in!

It’s really easy to just say no, to criticize something because it isn’t everything we want. It’s easy to find fault with the proposed changes to teacher evaluation, and we have pointed out several areas of concern, but we believe it is our obligation to step up and make it better. That takes hard work, thought, time and commitment. Our members have been willing to do that in locals and at the state level as you work on implementing the common core state standards, develop and implement changes in curriculum, and examine various assessments to determine what works. We are committed to continuing that work to influence and improve the process. That’s what we do. Saying no just isn’t enough in this debate. The public demands more. Our members and the students we serve deserve more. We know teaching is much more than a test score. We know good teaching matters. We know we make a positive difference in kids’ lives every single day. We are willing to do the work to make sure we have a system that recognizes that. Who else can do it better? We invite you to be a part of this work- to provide feedback if you are in a pilot district, to talk to your colleagues about how we can continue to improve our profession, and to contact me, your local president, your board member and your representatives on NMTEACH with your thoughts. Advocacy for our profession and our students is our mission and we are committed to success! 🌟

In unity,

Sharon & Charles
Support Your NEA-NM Recommended Candidates

Find your State House and State Senate Friends in Contested* Races and **GO VOTE**!
SD= Senate District  HD= House District

**US SENATE**
Martin Heinrich

**US HOUSE CD 3**
Ben Ray Lujan

**NEW MEXICO COURT OF APPEALS**
Judge Monica Zamora

**NORTH CENTRAL**
HD 43: Stephanie Richard  SD 09: John Sapien

**ABQ / RIO RANCHO / VALENCIA COUNTY**
US HOUSE CD 1
Michelle Lujan-Grisham

HD 07: Andrew Barreras  HD 17: Edward Sandoval  HD 26: Georgene Louis
HD 08: Frank Otero  HD 18: Gail Chasey  HD 29: Lloyd Ginsberg
HD 12: Ernest Chavez  HD 19: Sheryl Stapleton  HD 30: Mary Ellen Brodrick
HD 13: Patricia Caballero  HD 23: Marci Blaze  HD 31: Joanne Allen
HD 14: Miguel Garcia  HD 24: Elizabeth Thompson  HD 57: Donna Tillman
HD 15: Emily Kane  HD 25: Christine Trujillo  HD 68: Eloise Gift
HD 32: Dona Irwin  HD 28: Paula Avelino  HD 70: Rodolfo Martinez
HD 33: Bill McCamley  HD 34: John Arthur Smith  HD 71: Doreen Gallegos
HD 35: Jeff Steinborn  HD 36: Mary Jane Garcia  HD 72: Nate Coté
HD 38: Terry Fortenberry  HD 39: Mary Kay Papen  HD 74: Ellen Wedum
HD 40: Nick Salazar  HD 41: William Soules  HD 75: Stephanie DuBois
HD 42: Joanne Ferrary  HD 43: Reactor Plant  HD 76: Donna Tillman
HD 44: Margot Steinborn  HD 45: Richard Doering  HD 77: Tim Keller
HD 46: John Marquez  HD 47: Richard Doering  HD 78: Bill Tallman
HD 48: John Sapien  HD 49: Daniel Montoya  HD 79: Cornelia Lange
HD 50: Stephen Easley  HD 51: Adrian Great  HD 80: Lisa Curtis
HD 52: George Dodge  HD 53: John Sapien  HD 81: Michael Sanchez
HD 54: George Dodge  HD 55: John Sapien  HD 82: Linda Allison
HD 56: George Dodge  HD 57: John Sapien  SD 17: Tim Keller
SD 18: Bill Tallman  SD 19: Cornelia Lange  SD 20: Lisa Curtis
SD 21: Cornelia Lange  SD 22: Cornelia Lange  SD 23: Cornelia Lange
SD 24: Cornelia Lange  SD 25: Cornelia Lange  SD 26: Cornelia Lange
SD 27: Cornelia Lange  SD 28: Cornelia Lange  SD 29: Cornelia Lange
SD 30: Cornelia Lange  SD 31: Cornelia Lange  SD 32: Cornelia Lange
SD 33: Stephanie DuBois  SD 34: Ellen Wedum
SD 35: John Arthur Smith  SD 36: Mary Jane Garcia  SD 37: William Soules
SD 38: Mary Kay Papen

* NEA-NM EdPAC also recommended candidates who are unopposed in November. For a complete and updated list of EdPAC recommendations visit nea-nm.org. EdPAC meets again 8-25-12 and may make more recommendations.
WHERE THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES STAND

Barack Obama

**Fair Pay for Women**

The President strongly supported and signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. He also supports Paycheck Fairness Act and acknowledges that “gains in education and labor force involvement have not yet translated into wage and income equity.”

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; The Washington Post, 1/29/09)

**Social Security & Retirement Benefits**

President Obama is committed to protecting and strengthening Social Security. He will work to find a bipartisan solution that strengthens Social Security for future generations, without putting current retirees or people with disabilities at risk. The President opposes slashing benefits for future generations or exploiting Americans’ retirement income to the whims of the stock market.

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; Weekly Radio Address, 8/14/10)

**Higher Education**

He has:
- Signed into law $36 billion over 10 years to increase the maximum Pell Grant award and $2 billion for community colleges.
- Led the charge to stop the student loan interest rate hike.
- Signed an executive order protecting men and women who have served or are currently in the military from unscrupulous “diploma mills.”

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov)

**Tax Fairness**

President Obama successfully urged Congress to pass an extension of the Payroll Tax Cut. He challenged Republicans to not “raise taxes on nearly 160 million hardworking Americans because they refused to ask a few hundred thousand millionaires and billionaires to pay their fair share.”

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; CNN, 11/30/11)

Mitt Romney

**Fair Pay for Women**

As Governor of Massachusetts, Romney implemented policies that hurt women. He thinks low-income mothers should be required to work outside the home or lose their benefits, “even if you have a child 2 years of age.”

(On the record: MSNBC, 4/12/12; Boston Globe, 12/8/04; The Huffington Post, 4/15/12)

**Social Security & Retirement Benefits**

Romney would change Social Security as we know it by privatizing it, raising the retirement age, and reducing payments.

(On the record: Florida Republican Debate, 10/27/07; Romney, Mitt. No Apology, 2011, Pg 173)

**Higher Education**

As Governor of Massachusetts, he proposed raising tuition by 15% and reduced higher education funding. As a result, student fees were increased by 63% to offset budget cuts. Romney’s higher education plan calls for cuts in federal funding because he says it ‘helped fuel the problem,’ and will roll back student protection regulations in the for-profit and student loan industries that curb fraud and abuse.

(On the record: Boston Globe, 3/3/03; Boston Globe, 6/29/07; Ames Tribune, 12/29/11; Mitt Romney Education Plan, 5/23/12)

**Tax Fairness**

Romney wants to make sure corporations and the richest Americans continue to benefit from the Bush tax cuts. In fact, the only tax cuts that Romney opposes are the ones that benefit the middle class.

(On the record: Fox News, 2/9/09; The Huffington Post, 11/23/11; Time, 11/7/11)

Vouchers

As a 1994 Senate candidate, Romney pledged to vote for a means-tested school voucher program. As a candidate for President, Romney said states should “make sure [they] have school choice.” He would take tax dollars from public schools to fund private for-profit schools at taxpayers’ expense. Romney’s education plan calls for turning Title I and IDEA funding into vouchers leaving low income students and students with disabilities to beg for necessary services.

(On the record: Statement of Administration Policy, H.R. 471;OMB, 3/29/11;Politico, 1/26/11)

**Workers’ Rights**

Romney has stated he would sign a national “right-to-work” law if president. Romney supported the failed New Hampshire “right-to-work” law and waffled on restricting teachers’ collective bargaining rights in Ohio, ultimately supporting restrictions.

Romney also supported the attack on teachers’ rights in Wisconsin.

(On the record: The Street, 9/28/11; Bloomberg, 11/23/11; Los Angeles Times, 11/30/10; Politico, 10/25/11; Boston Globe, 2/24/11)

(On the record: Presidential Proclamation, Office of the Secretary, The White House, 9/2/11; WTMJ-TV, 2/17/11; Political Punch, ABC, 2/17/11; The Washington Independent, 9/6/11; WSAZ.com, 4/26/11)

(On the record: Gloucester Daily Times, 11/30/06; MA Budget and Policy Center, 3/5/03; The Note, ABC, 3/20/12; Education-Week Blog, 3/22/12)

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; The Washington Post, 1/29/09)

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; CNN, 11/30/11)

(On the record: WhiteHouse.gov; Weekly Radio Address, 8/14/10)
Deliberating in the District

NM Delegates descend on DC for the NEA Representative Assembly

NEA-NM’s delegates to this year’s RA in the nation’s Capital endured endless days of 100+ temperatures with matching humidity and 7 am to 6 pm workdays with a smile on their faces, a song in their hearts and blisters on their feet, yet none was the worse for wear. They feted their own, Rosalinda Carreon-Altamirano, who was honored with the George I. Sanchez award at the Human and Civil Rights Dinner; sang along with Bernagene Shay who proudly represented the delegation in the Fourth of July NEA Choir, and hosted international guest, Denise Mora Sandi, ‘the leader of the Educators’ Union in Costa Rica. Here are a few photos of the fun and frolic. Visit us on nea-nm.org and also friend us on our NEA-New Mexico Facebook page for many, many more pictures from the east side of the Potomac. 

photos by Eduardo Holguin
Summer’s Sizzlin’ Hot Topics

Take a break from the sweltering sun? Walk on the beach? Go up to the mountain cabin? Nope, not these hot button issues—were moving and shaking all through the summer and will continue well into the fall. Here’s the latest on each of them; Hot Off the Grill:

Retirement

July 1, 2012 saw the return of the 1.75% swap to the paychecks of most education employees (those making less than $20K/year did not pay the swaps). Five months of stakeholder meetings and Labor Group meetings came to a consensus agreement in mid-July on a plan for the ERB to consider. This plan will bolster the fund’s coffers and keep it solvent for current and future retirees. NEA-NM members (in an internal e-poll conducted by NEA-NM from 6/25-7/5/12) overwhelmingly supported higher contribution rates instead of benefits or eligibility changes for current retirees and current employees paying into the fund. The consensus plan calls for an increase in employee contributions by 2015, no changes to COLA percentage for current and future retirees, and new eligibility changes for new educational employees hired after 6/30/13. There are still many hurdles to traverse. This plan must be approved by ERB, submitted as legislation in January 2013, pass the Legislature and be signed by the Governor.

Teacher Evaluations

NEA-NM’s two representatives on the NMTEACH task force continued to meet throughout the summer and have signed on for the long haul to go through the anticipated year-long pilot process. The proposed PED rule had a public hearing on 7/18/12 where over 50 people testified on their concerns with the proposed rule. The rule is based on a compromise bill that made it through the NM House last February but did not have time to go through the NM Senate. This is why it is now being considered through PED Rule. View Sharon’s comments to the PED and Charles Bowyer’s newspaper citations at nea-nm.org.

Campaign 2012

Notice any similarity between the two torrid topics above? Well, just like any other educational decision, they are political decisions—made by an elected or appointed body. If we want to get better consequences from our elections then we have to volunteer and help get our recommended candidates for national and legislative offices elected. It won’t happen without us because politics is not a spectator sport. Your career and your livelihood are inextricably connected to politicians—on your school board, in the legislature, the Governor’s office and straight up to the Oval Office. Get on board, contact your local president to volunteer and use your influence in the elections process. Get you, your family, and your colleagues to see why it is so important for your professional and personal life that the right person(s) get elected, because YOU Must be PRESENT to WIN!

*Check out pages 5 and 6 for our recommended candidates.

Save the Date!

10/20/12

Jot it down in your handy-dandy pocket calendar, put a note on the fridge, and cancel your salon appointment for that day so you can be a delegate representing your local in Albuquerque at NEA-NM’s Delegate Council. Join NEA-NM members from across the state to conduct the business of your state organization, receive the latest reports on Insurance, Retirement, Evaluation Procedures and the Political Landscape. This is your time to shape the future of your state organization as you vote on the 2013 Joint Legislative Goals, elect at-large representatives to the NEA-NM Board, nominate members for state and cluster delegates to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly in Atlanta. It promises to be a great time had by all, so drop in on our NEA-NM family reunion.

We are SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS… continued

“The one percent doesn’t see these children every day. They don’t even know their names. But WE do. We know them, we feed them, we teach them, and we comfort them. They’re on our school buses, in our cafeterias, in our classrooms. They come to school hungry. They start first grade a year or two behind their middle class peers... You know better than anyone they need individual attention, high expectations, and a ready reserve of emotional support. They need teachers and ESPs who will lift them up and be the wind at their backs!

But just last week, Mitt Romney said he wants Americans to ‘get as much education as they can afford.’

Well, sisters and brothers—If we can afford wars in faraway places, if we can afford enormous tax breaks for some of our richest corporations, if we can afford to finance the export of American jobs overseas, then we can afford to do whatever it takes and spend whatever it costs to ensure every single one of our students receives a quality education...”

YES! That’s why I became an educator and that’s why I became an NEA member—because when I teach about our great land I want to practice what I teach and lead my students by example. And I see that he has struck those same chords with the thousands in the hall.

“...We are bonded together with a glorious commitment to fight injustice. We have an unbelievable legacy of contribution to this country. And I know that every single one of you is as proud as I am of an organization that strives to make America a more perfect union for every single man, woman, and child.

NEA members,

Keep standing strong!

Keep fighting for justice!

Keep fighting for our students!

We are ALL SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS! And We ARE the NEA!!”

*To read the entire speech go to nea-nm.org, click on SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS.

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*Check out pages 5 and 6 for our recommended candidates.

Assessment Administrators Needed

We are seeking motivated individuals to proctor assessment sessions with 4th-, 8th-, and 12th-grade students in schools for the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

• Must be available January 28 – March 8, 2013.
• Paid training, paid time and mileage reimbursement for local driving, and weekly paychecks.
• This is a part-time, temporary position.

To apply, visit our website at www.westat.com/CAREERS and select “Search Field Data Collection Jobs.” Search for your state, find the NAEP Assessment Administrator position and select the “apply to job” button.

For more information e-mail NAEPrecruit@westat.com or call 1-888-237-8036.

We are SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS… continued

“The one percent doesn’t see these children every day. They don’t even know their names. But WE do. We know them, we feed them, we teach them, and we comfort them. They’re on our school buses, in our cafeterias, in our classrooms. They come to school hungry. They start first grade a year or two behind their middle class peers... You know better than anyone they need individual attention, high expectations, and a ready reserve of emotional support. They need teachers and ESPs who will lift them up and be the wind at their backs!

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“...We are bonded together with a glorious commitment to fight injustice. We have an unbelievable legacy of contribution to this country. And I know that every single one of you is as proud as I am of an organization that strives to make America a more perfect union for every single man, woman, and child.

NEA members,

Keep standing strong!

Keep fighting for justice!

Keep fighting for our students!

We are ALL SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS! And We ARE the NEA!!”

*To read the entire speech go to nea-nm.org, click on SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS.

NEA-NM: Great Public Schools Begin With Us!

• Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees

NAEP

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT
OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

Assessment Administrators Needed

We are seeking motivated individuals to proctor assessment sessions with 4th-, 8th-, and 12th-grade students in schools for the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

• Must be available January 28 – March 8, 2013.
• Paid training, paid time and mileage reimbursement for local driving, and weekly paychecks.
• This is a part-time, temporary position.

To apply, visit our website at www.westat.com/CAREERS and select “Search Field Data Collection Jobs.” Search for your state, find the NAEP Assessment Administrator position and select the “apply to job” button.

For more information e-mail NAEPrecruit@westat.com or call 1-888-237-8036.

We are SOCIAL JUSTICE PATRIOTS… continued

“The one percent doesn’t see these children every day. They don’t even know their names. But WE do. We know them, we feed them, we teach them, and we comfort them. They’re on our school buses, in our cafeterias, in our classrooms. They come to school hungry. They start first grade a year or two behind their middle class peers... You know better than anyone they need individual attention, high expectations, and a ready reserve of emotional support. They need teachers and ESPs who will lift them up and be the wind at their backs!

But just last week, Mitt Romney said he wants Americans to ‘get as much education as they can afford.’

Well, sisters and brothers—if we can afford wars in faraway places, if we can afford enormous tax breaks for some of our richest corporations, if we can afford to finance the export of American jobs overseas, then we can afford to do whatever it takes and spend whatever it costs to ensure every single one of our students receives a quality education...”

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Ann K.
Educator
Protected by California Casualty

NEA-NM: Great Public Schools Begin With Us!
• Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees
nea-nm.org
NEA - New Mexico 2012-2013 Election Calendar

Become Active: Go To nea-nm.org for NEA-NM’s Call for Nominations Information

10/20/12 Deadline for receipt of written notification to the NEA-NM President of intention to run for any office detailed in the call for nominations as approved by the Elections Committee and Board of Directors. Region nominations must be sent to Region Chairs as well as the NEA-NM President. Deadline for receipt of written notification to NEA-NM President of intention to run for State At-Large or Cluster Local Delegate to NEA Representative Assembly.

10/20/12 At-large elections, conducted at Delegate Council and results reported for certification by the Council. Positions elected at Delegate Council will take office immediately upon election for a term to end at the close of the 2013 Delegate Council. Based upon (1) representation rights and guarantees based on the number of members in each category as of 1/15/12, and (2) the outcome of regular elections, at-large vacancies are: 0-administrator, 0-classroom teacher, 0-ethnic minority, 4-ESP, 0-higher education, and 2-retired categories. Specific at-large vacancies, except the retired at-large member, will be declared and filled via nomination and secret ballot election at the Council.

10/26/12 Deadline for receipt of written Declarations for Write-in Candidates at NEA-NM Headquarters by close of business.

10/26/12 Deadline for NEA-NM’s receipt of RA Delegate candidate statements of up to 25 words to be published with ballots. Other candidate statements also due.

11/10/12 Elections Committee finalizes election procedures, instructions and ballots by email or conference call.

12/03/12 Members must be enrolled in NEA membership system for NEA-NM to create voter list for election. Only membership forms received by NEA-NM Headquarters by this date can be enrolled.

Nov/Dec Candidates for President and Vice-President may have a 200 word statement in the Advocate’s Voice. Candidates for President and Vice-President may have that statement along with a picture on the NEA-NM website beginning November 1. Other candidates nominated for NEA-NM office may have a statement on the website of 50 words or less.

01/28/13 Postcards with instructions for electronic voting (and instructions for a request for optional paper ballots) will be distributed via direct mail to eligible member voters, including retired members eligible to vote for delegate and retired member of the Board of Directors. Electronic voting begins.

02/15/13 Electronic voting closes at 5 PM MST. Postmark deadline* for eligible voters to return Optional Paper Ballots to NEA-NM.

02/22/13 Deadline** for receipt of Optional Paper Ballots at NEA-NM Headquarters by 5 PM.

02/23/13 Elections Committee Tally Subcommittee will meet at 10 AM in a place to be determined to tally election results and set procedures for a runoff election, if necessary.

02/25/13 Elections Committee will report election results to NEA-NM Board of Directors for certification by conference call.

03/04/13 If a run-off election is required, Postcards with instructions for electronic voting (and instructions for a request for optional paper ballots) will be distributed via direct mail to eligible member voters.

03/22/13 Electronic voting in run-off elections closes at 5 PM MST. Postmark deadline for eligible member voters to return Optional Paper Run-off Ballots, if any, to NEA-NM.

03/28/13 Deadline for actual receipt of Optional Paper Ballots at NEA-NM Headquarters by 5 PM.

04/06/13 Elections Committee Tally Subcommittee will meet in a place to be determined to tally run-off election results, if any.

04/13/13 Elections Committee will report run-off election results, if any, to NEA-NM Board of Directors for certification. Determination of At-Large elections, if any, required at 2012 Delegate Council.

NEA Representative Assembly Delegate Deadlines

02/15/13 Local Associations of 76 or more members, as of January 15, 2013 receive allocations, instructions, and delegate forms from NEA

03/15/13 State receives Student Delegate Allocation and conducts Student Election with same return deadlines as indicated for the runoff election in the elections calendar if any Student Nominations were received

02/18/13 Local Associations conduct local RA Delegate elections, ensuring open nominations and one-person one-vote secret ballots

04/09/13 Deadline for receipt of local delegate forms by NEA-New Mexico

05/15/13 Deadline for receipt of all local, state, and cluster delegate forms by NEA

Notes: Elections Committee will make an effort to contact all candidates by phone, or candidates may call Elections Committee Chair for results. Board will do a follow-up letter to each candidate.

MEMBER BENEFITS ADDS VALUE TO MEMBERSHIP

As a new school year approaches kids may have mixed emotions about returning to class and as they take it in stride, the preparation begins. Meanwhile, you also begin your own emotional process of planning for the year ahead. And NEA Member Benefits continues working on new ideas to save you money on everyday products and services. Savings on auto & home insurance, life insurance, travel, fitness programs and appliances are just a few of many benefits NEA-NM members have at their disposal. With a wide selection of quality products and discounts available on everyday purchases, members enjoy the savings and value. With this in mind, I invite you to visit our website at NEAMB.com and view the programs and discounts that are available exclusively for NEA-New Mexico members.

NEA Member Benefits leverages the purchasing power of over three million members to offer savings on programs that include Complementary Life Insurance, credit cards, automobile and home insurance, travel and entertainment discounts, weight loss programs, pet insurance for the extended family, floral arrangements and brand-name merchandise from hundreds of top retailer slick Target through the NEA Click & Save program, just to name a few.

So remember to visit us at NEAMB.com and register to keep more money in your pocket and have a great school year.

ABOUT ANTONIO

Affiliate Relations Specialist with NEA Member Benefits servicing Utah, Texas, Arizona and now the great state of New Mexico. Prior to joining NEA Member Benefits family, he worked as an Organizer with the Texas State Teachers Association in Houston & El Paso areas and for California Casualty in Nevada, California and Texas.

A proud graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Go “Running Rebels” and a current resident of Phoenix, Arizona. He resides with his wife and 3 children; currently the four legged kind (yes, puppies). His interests include spending time outdoors with his wonderful family and reading extensively with a particular interest in travel.

Antonio’s professional focus is organizing and building a better Association with an emphasis on helping members find their personal power; allowing NEA Member Benefits to assist members find their voice and become stronger advocates for their colleagues and students.
I nominate the following member for the office as indicated below.

Name of Nominee: __________________________________________

(Type or print clearly exactly as name should appear on ballot)

Nominee's Address: _________________________________________

City, State, Zip Code: _______________________________________

Work Phone: ___________________ Home Phone: ____________________

Local Association: __________________________________________

(Please place a check mark in the appropriate box)

Active Member Nominations

NEA-NM Officers:

❑ NEA-New Mexico President and delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active members eligible)

❑ NEA-New Mexico Vice-President and delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active members eligible)

Region Board of Directors:

❑ Northeast/North Central Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Northeast/North Central Region are eligible)

❑ Southwest Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors-Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces are eligible)

❑ Southwest Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors-Election District representing all locals except Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Southwest Election District representing all locals except Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces are eligible)

❑ Southeast Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors-Election District 1, term beginning upon election and ending July 14, 2016 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Southeast Region, Election District 1—NEA-Lovington, NEA-Portales, NEA-Clovis, HED-ENMU Portales, NEA-Carlsbad, NEA-Eunice, NEA-Hobbs, NEA-Jal, NEA-Loving, NEA-Dora, NEA-Tatum, and NEA-Tezno—are eligible)

❑ Southeast Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, Election District 2, term beginning upon election and ending July 14, 2016 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Southeast Region, Election District 2—NEA-Elida, NEA-Floyd, NEA-Ft. Sumner, NEA-Hondo, HED-ENMU Roswell, HED-NM Military Inst., NEA-Melrose, NEA-Roswell, NEA-Ruidoso, NEA-Artesia, NEA-Dexter, NEA-Lake Arthur, and NEA-Hagerman—are eligible)

Region EdPAC:

❑ Northwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee, for a term beginning at election and continuing until July 14, 2016 (all active members of a local in Northwest Region are eligible)

❑ Southwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee-Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces are eligible)

2013 NEA Representative Assembly Delegates

❑ State Delegate to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly (all active nonsupervisory members are eligible)

❑ State Category Two Delegate to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly (all category two members—NEA members who are active supervisors, NEA retired Life members, or NEA staff Life members—are eligible)

❑ Cluster Delegate to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly (all active nonsupervisory members in locals of 75 or fewer members are eligible)

Retired Member Nominations

NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors:

❑ Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, representing Retired Members, one-year term beginning July 15, 2013 (only retired members eligible to nominate and be nominated)

2013 NEA Representative Assembly Delegate:

❑ Retired Delegate to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly (only retired members eligible to nominate and be nominated)

Student 2013 Representative Assembly Nomination

❑ Student Delegate to the 2013 NEA Representative Assembly (only student members eligible to nominate and be nominated)

Name of Nominator: ________________________________ (Type or print clearly)

Signature: ____________________________________ (Nominee or Nominator, if different) (Date)

(If the nominator is not the nominee: My signature indicates that I have received the express approval of the nominee to place the nominee’s name in nomination)

If this nomination is for a 2013 NEA Representative Assembly Delegate Candidate, is the Candidate Statement attached? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If this nomination is for a Statewide or Region Candidate, is the Candidate Statement for the NEA-NM website attached? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Statement for the NEA-NM website attached? ❑ Yes ❑ No
**Join Us in**

Organizing for **POWER** at the Worksite

*A Workshop by NEA-NM*

**September 15, 2012**

For Details & Registration Visit: [nea-nm.org](http://nea-nm.org)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| **Northwest**| 9 AM - 1 PM | San Juan College  
Zia Conference Room  
4601 College Blvd,  
Farmington, NM |
| **Southwest**| 9 AM - 1 PM | Holy Family Ecumenical  
Catholic Church  
702 Parker Road,  
Las Cruces, NM |
| **NE/NCentral**| 9 AM - 1 PM | NEA-NM HQ Building  
2007 Botulph Road,  
Santa Fe, NM |
| **Southeast**| 10 AM - 2 PM | ENMU-R Campus Union Building (RCUB)  
#149 Conference Facilities  
48 University Blvd,  
Roswell, NM |
| **Central** | 9 AM - 1 PM | Los Lunas Schools  
Teacher Resource Center  
801 Coronado Road,  
Los Lunas, NM |

What are the dimensions of **POWER**? Come and find out.

It could make all the difference!