

The Facts: NEA Presidential Recommendation Process

How many candidates are running, or are considering running, for president?

- To date, there are 25 viable or announced candidates from both parties in the race, including 5 Democrats, 19 Republicans, and 1 Green Party candidate.

What communication has NEA had with presidential candidates to date?

- NEA has been proactive in engaging candidates on supporting strong public schools via social media, patch through phone calls, or at town halls. This outreach is conducted whether candidates have chosen to participate in our recommendation process or not.
- As of the end of June, NEA delivered candidate questionnaires via registered mail to all announced and potential candidates. To date, 25 questionnaires in total to candidates from both major parties, and one third party candidate.

Vice President Joe Biden* Sent 3/23/2015	Secretary Hillary Clinton* Sent 3/23/2015 ✓	Governor Martin O'Malley* Sent 3/23/2015 ✓	Senator Bernie Sanders* Sent 3/23/2015 ✓	Senator Jim Webb* Sent 3/23/2015
Lincoln Chafee* Sent 6/12/2015	Jill Stein Sent 6/23/2015	Governor Jeb Bush* Sent 3/23/2015	Governor Mike Huckabee* Sent 3/23/2015	Senator Rick Santorum Sent 3/23/2015
Governor Chris Christie* Sent 3/23/2015	Senator Ted Cruz* Sent 3/23/2015	Senator Lindsey Graham* Sent 3/23/2015	Ambassador John Bolton* Sent 3/23/2015	Governor Scott Walker* Sent 3/23/2015
Carly Fiorina* Sent 3/23/2015	Governor John Kasich* Sent 3/23/2015	Senator Rand Paul* Sent 3/23/2015	Governor Rick Perry* Sent 3/23/2015	Dr. Ben Carson* Sent 3/23/2015
Senator Marco Rubio Sent 3/23/2015	Governor Bobby Jindal* Sent 3/23/2015	Governor George Pataki Sent 6/12/2015	Donald Trump Sent 6/18/2015	

✓ Indicates a Questionnaire has been returned | * Indicates a return receipt has been received.

How does the NEA recommendation process begin?

- A candidate initially indicates interest in NEA's recommendation process by returning a completed questionnaire, and subsequently schedules a video interview with NEA President Eskelsen-Garcia where all candidates are asked the same questions regarding the NEA's priority issues.
- To date, President Eskelsen-Garcia has met with Senator Bernie Sanders, Governor Martin O'Malley and Secretary Hillary Clinton for these interviews. While these videos are not for public consumption, leaders, Delegates and members will all have an opportunity to view these interviews after the RA through an online portal.

What is the NEA process for a primary recommendation?

- The NEA PAC Council – comprised of representatives from every state and NEA caucus – has the authority to put forward a presidential primary recommendation to the NEA Board of Directors. The Board then must concur with the PAC Council by 58% or more of those voting.

What is the NEA process for the general recommendation process?

- The Fund Council has the authority to put forward a presidential general recommendation to the Representative Assembly delegates. The delegates then must concur with the Fund Council by 58% or more of those voting if the ballot contains two options (e.g. a "yes" or "no" choice), and by a majority if the ballot contains three options (e.g., two candidates and "no recommendation"). The Council shall decide whether the official ballot contains two or three options.

What's the timeline of any presidential recommendation?

- We are in the very early stages of an NEA recommendation process. In the coming months, NEA will continue to reach out to candidates from both parties to participate in the recommendation process, and continue its conversation with its leaders and members throughout the country.



What is the Strong Public Schools Campaign?

A nation-wide issue campaign focused on raising public education in the 2016 presidential campaigns.

What is the Strong Public Schools Message?

STRONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS – GIVE OPPORTUNITY TO ALL STUDENTS - All students deserve an excellent education regardless of income or zip code. That means a quality education, with great teachers, smaller class sizes, new technologies and textbooks, and a more affordable college education. To achieve this, we must ensure parents and educators – not politicians - have a voice in what’s best for our schools. Giving all children a fair opportunity creates stronger public schools, and a stronger America. The Strong Public Schools message has been developed from public opinion polling conducted by the NEA in January 2015.

What candidate does Strong Public Schools Support?

None! Our campaign is focused on holding ALL candidates accountable to supporting public education, and elevating strong public schools as a top tier issue in the presidential conversation. Once the NEA has made a formal recommendation, a candidate - focused component will be added to the Strong Public Schools Campaign while maintaining its original goal of raising public education as a top tier issue.

Why was the Strong Public Schools Campaign created?

Candidates are using this time to consider the issues that they will be focusing on in their campaign. We are front-loading our efforts by creating a campaign focused on our issues, rather than a candidate. Taking advantage of the early part of the campaign gives us the ability to raise public education as a major issue early in the election, while candidates are listening.

When will the Strong Public Schools Campaign run?

Right now! Strong Public Schools launched in March with a tele-town hall and continues to grow.

How can I get involved?

StrongPublicSchools.org – sign up as an activist to get 2016 Presidential email updates, and to take action in your state as the campaign builds.

5for45 – Launching this summer, 5 for 45 will be the member-engagement component of the Strong Public Schools Campaign, where members will be asked to take five actions to assist in electing the 45th President of the United States. The actions of 5 for 45, like knocking on doors, hosting house parties and organizing colleagues, will connect to the NEA Activist Continuum, to continue data-oriented tracking of member engagement. In line with the seven Activist Continuum levels, member activists will have numerous opportunities to participate in an extensive incentive program that they will work through the November 2016 election.