

Proposed NEA-Retired Rules of Procedure **for the Virtual 2020 Annual Meeting**

FINAL: 05/24/2020

Rationale:

The NEA-Retired Executive Council has acted to convene a limited 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting in a virtual format. The global coronavirus-19 pandemic poses grave health risks to the delegates, their families, and guests who would convene at the convention center and area hotels without the ability to maintain the recommended social distancing.

We cannot replicate a complete Annual Meeting virtually.

- Available technology cannot guarantee that the delegates can conduct the rigorous debate to which they are accustomed and cannot ensure a workable voting system.
- The delegates vary in their access to technology, reliable WIFI, and phone service, which will impact some delegates' ability to participate fully.

The NEA-Retired Executive Council, therefore, has approved limiting the business to be conducted at the virtual 2020 Annual Meeting and requiring most votes to be taken by mail ballots. This action requires a temporary suspension of the standing rules we use at an in-person Annual Meeting so that we may conduct business within the technical restrictions of a virtual convening.

MOTION : That the NEA-Retired Executive Council suspend the NEA-Retired Standing Rules for Meetings of the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting in their entirety for the duration of the 2020 virtual convening of the Annual Meeting and adopt the following temporary Rules of Procedure for the purpose of conducting business at the virtual convening of the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting being held on June 29-30, 2020.

Adopted by the NEA-Retired Executive Council in virtual meeting, May 4, 2020

1. REGISTRATION

Delegates shall receive registration information before the first day of the virtual

Annual Meeting, and must register online no later than June 24, 2020. Only registered delegates shall be permitted to participate in the virtual Annual Meeting and vote in Retired elections.

2. BUSINESS

Items of business for the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting, and the order in which delegates will consider those matters, are:

- i. Adoption of the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting Agenda,
- ii. Approval of the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes,
- iii. Confirmation of the Rules of Procedure for the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting,
- iv. Approval of the Summary of 2019 NBI Actions,
- v. Debate on one proposed amendment to the NEA-Retired Bylaws, Article I, Section 7, relating to the NEA-Retired President serving temporarily as the duly elected alternate for NEA-Retired members of the NEA Board of Directors in the event no alternate is available,
- vi. Election of the NEA-Retired President (three-year term), two (2) members of the NEA-Retired Executive Council (three-year terms), two (2) NEA-Retired Board of Directors members (three-year terms), and one (1) NEA-Retired Alternate to the NEA Board of Directors (one-year term). There are no other open seats at this time.

3. NOMINATIONS & CANDIDATE SPEECHES

Written nominations for all offices to be elected at the Annual Meeting were filed by May 1, 2020. Nominated candidates shall be allowed to speak to the virtual Annual Meeting on June 30, 2020, for the periods set forth below.

- i. Candidates for NEA-Retired President – 3 minutes each
- ii. Candidates for NEA-Retired Executive Council – 3 minutes each
- iii. Candidates for NEA Board of Directors Retired – 3 minutes each
- iv. Candidates for NEA Board of Directors Retired Alternate – 2 minutes each

The position of names on the ballot and speaking order shall be determined by one drawing held by the NEA-Retired Election Chair during the candidates' meeting on June 10. Candidates shall be provided with the log-in information for the lottery by noon on June 8, 2020.

The vote for NEA-Retired candidates and the proposed NEA-Retired Bylaw Amendment will take place by secret ballot mailed directly to delegates' home addresses in the NEA Representative Assembly delegate registration system.

4. MAIL BALLOT

Because of the technical limitations of remote voting and concerns regarding the accuracy and equity of remote voting with such a large number of delegates, all of the action items at the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting shall be decided by mail ballot, except the adoption of the agenda, approval of the 2019 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting minutes, the Summary of 2019 NBI Actions, and the Rules of Procedure for the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting.

5. ELECTIONS PROCEDURE

Elections shall occur by mail ballot and will be mailed to delegates on or before July 9, 2020, to the home address listed in the delegate registration system. Mail ballots will be returned to a designated, secure post box office and must be received by August 6, 2020, the date on which the tabulation of the votes for the 2020 NEA-Retired elections will occur.

The **lottery held on June 10** during the meeting of the candidates will determine the order of the candidates' names on the first mail ballot and speaking order during the virtual meeting. The drawing will be conducted by the NEA-Retired Elections Chair, in alphabet order by state, commencing with "A."

- The candidate with the lowest drawn number will have the first position on the ballot, and will be the first to speak.
- If a runoff election is needed, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes on the previous ballot will be listed first, with other candidates listed in numerical order of votes received.

Runoff elections shall be held as necessary by subsequent mail ballots until there is an election for each position by a majority vote. The vendor selected by the

NEA to oversee the elections process will mail runoff ballots on August 13, 2020, to each delegate's home address in the delegate registration system. Runoff ballots must be received no later than August 31, 2020, for inclusion in the runoff vote tabulation on that date.

Candidates shall be:

- Briefed on the mail ballot procedure;
- Given at least seven (7) days advance notice of the time and place for the counting of the ballots; and
- Given the opportunity to observe the vote tabulation process virtually or in-person as the pandemic situation allows.

The NEA-Retired Elections Committee shall have the authority for ensuring observability, secrecy, election integrity, and to make reasonable adjustments to the election timelines.

Each candidate for President, Executive Council, and NEA-Retired Board of Directors, and Board Alternate, shall file a report of campaign revenue and expenditures with the Elections Committee Chair.

The NEA-Retired Elections Committee shall report to the Annual Meeting whether any candidate has in any manner violated the election rules and regulations. The final report shall be made available for inspection by any member through an appropriate NEA-Retired electronic publication.

The NEA-Retired Elections Committee Chair shall report the results of the election after the counting of the ballots on August 6, 2020. If a runoff election is needed, the Election Committee shall communicate the election results after the ballot tabulation on August 31, 2020.

The prohibition, in NEA Standing Rule 11.B.4.a, against the use of any union or employer money or resources in any campaign, shall remain in effect throughout the virtual Annual Meeting. The representative requirements by job category and ethnic-minority identification in NEA Standing Rule 11.B.7(d-h) shall also remain in effect.

Administration of elections shall be according to the NEA-Retired Election Policies except as specified above.

6. OTHER STANDING RULES SUSPENDED

The NEA-Retired Executive Council suspended all previously adopted Standing Rules during the Virtual 2020 Annual Meeting.