



In the Loop

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NEW COMMISSIONER

State senator to be new Commissioner of Education

The Missouri State Board of Education announced the appointment of Karla Eslinger, Ed.D, a state senator from Wasola, as the Missouri Commissioner of Education, effective June 1, 2024.

Click the button below to read the statement issued by MNEA President Phil Murray.

[READ MORE](#)



Milken Educator Award

Congratulations to two MNEA members for each receiving a Milken Educator Award!



Leah Lawrence, member of St. Charles EA at Hardin Middle School, and **Meghan Menchella**, member of Rockwood NEA at Crestwood Middle School were completely surprised with school assemblies and a BIG check. The Milken Educator Award, which some call the "Oscars of Teaching" is an initiative of the Milken Family Foundation and comes with an unrestricted cash prize of \$25,000.

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MNEA STORE
Missouri NEA is UNION PROUD, and proud to say our new online store is a UNION SHOP.

Order Now

mnea.org/store

MNEA Store

Have you seen the new MNEA store? MNEA is excited to offer you a new store with clothing and accessories that show you're proud to work in a public school and be affiliated with your local association and MNEA.

[Browse the store today.](#)

[Take the survey.](#)

[SHOP NOW](#)

JUDGES NEEDED

EDUCATORS RISING Competitions

Educators Rising Missouri State Conference and Competitions

Wed., March 6, 2024

Westminster College, Fulton, MO

Registration Deadline: Jan. 31

Educators Rising encourages **students in grades 7-12** to explore careers in education, which is an important step in preparing quality teachers for tomorrow's schools. PDK International is the national sponsor of Educators Rising and Missouri NEA is the state coordinator.

The state Educators Rising Conference will be at Westminster College on March 6.
[Register now >](#)

Share your knowledge: MNEA is currently accepting session proposals.
[Submit a proposal >](#)

Volunteer to be a judge or timekeeper: MNEA needs judges, room monitors, and timekeepers for the student competitions.
[Volunteer now >](#)

Questions?

Contact the MNEA Teaching & Learning office at (573) 644-9623 or Samantha Hayes, Educators Rising coordinator at samantha.hayes@mnea.org.

LEARN MORE



UNION MATTERS

Are you following @neuro_d_teacher?

Everyone has a reason they become a member and stay a member of Missouri NEA. What's yours?

For MNEA member and social influencer Neuro_d_teacher, his reason involves a big announcement--fatherhood.

If you haven't already, give him a follow.
[TikTok](#) | [Instagram](#)

WATCH NOW



NEA Representative Assembly

NEA RA: Run for state delegate

Deadline: Jan. 15

The NEA Representative Assembly will be in Philadelphia July 3-7, 2024. If you are interested in meeting members from other states, witnessing one of the largest democratic bodies in action, and representing Missouri NEA values, submit your declaration of candidacy for one of the 23 state delegate positions. You will need to complete the declaration form by Jan. 15, which includes a 100-word statement and headshot, school photo, or selfie.

If elected, you will receive a stipend to help pay for your travel expenses.

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Scholarships & GRANTS

Missouri NEA, NEA, and our partners offer a number of grants and scholarships to help students and members further their careers, participate in global studies, and fund their BIG ideas for student-centered learning projects.



Don't miss these deadlines

Through the generosity of past MNEA/NEA leaders and Educators Rising Program, MNEA is able to offer the following scholarship and grant opportunities.

[Download and share the flyer.](#)

Grant Application Deadlines:

- Jan. 31 - Reliant Financial Tuition Grant
- Feb. 1 - CHEER Grant
- Feb. 1 - The NEA Foundation grants
- No deadline - HOPE Grant

Student Scholarship Application Deadlines:

- Jan. 15 - Gilbert Balderrama Minority Scholarship
- Jan. 31 - Cochran Scholarship
- Jan. 31 - Educators Rising Scholarship
- Jan. 31 - Karlovetz-Favero Scholarship
- April 15 - Jack Kinnaman Scholarship

LEARN MORE



UNITE. INSPIRE. LEAD.

Earn up to nine graduate credits for only \$200

For one low annual fee of \$200 (valued at \$750), Missouri NEA members may take one course each term (fall, spring, and summer) to complete up to three graduate courses in 12 months. Or you may take two courses in the summer and skip either the fall or spring semester. Each course is two or three graduate credit hours, so educators can earn six to nine graduate credits.

Choose from 35+ self-paced online courses for professional growth or salary advancement. MNEA partners with Avila University and Virtual Education Software to offer these courses.

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Last chance for *Beginning Teacher Assistance*

Sign up now for the "I Can Do It" Beginning Teacher Assistance Program.

Only one more opportunity to participate in MNEA BTAP this school year. The deadline for the February session is **Jan. 29**.

You must attend all four interactive webinars on the following evenings: **Feb. 1, 8, 15, and 22**.

SIGN UP TODAY

Up to **9 GRAD CREDITS** for only **\$200**

AVILA UNIVERSITY
Online graduate courses anytime!

Missouri NEA
mnea.org/vesi

 Horace Mann



We're grateful for our clients, colleagues, family and friends this holiday season (and all year long).

From all of us at Horace Mann, we wish you peace, connection and joy in the year to come! Longtime corporate supporter, Horace Mann, is here to help and we're always [just a click away](#).

Horace Mann Service Corporation and certain of its affiliates (Horace Mann) enter into agreements with educational associations where Horace Mann pays the association to provide services aimed at familiarizing association members with the Horace Mann brand, products or services. For more information, email your inquiry to association.relations@horacemann.com. EMX-00161 (11-23)

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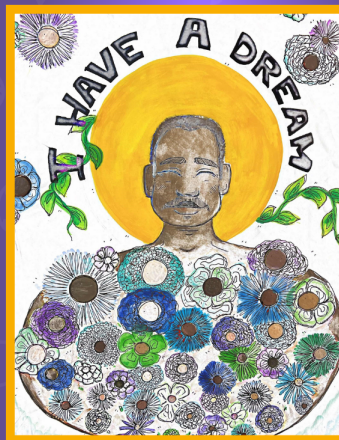
**DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING JR.**

Essay - Visual Art

CONTEST

“Leadership and Service”

Missouri
NEA mnea.org/mlkcontest



*New
Rules*

DEADLINE:
JAN. 15

CLICK
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to
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State Board of Education Report

Top Takeaways from the December
2023 State Board meeting:

- Dr. Karla Eslinger named DESE's next Missouri Commissioner of Education.
- Updated Missouri first-year teacher data.
- Recommendations for Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled.
- Annual report on MOCAP.
- MSIP 6 APR updates and district classification.
- Approval of Believe STL Academy (pt. II).

Learn more by scrolling through the [IG slide deck](#) or read the full report at www.mnea.org/stateboard.



It's time for winter break!!!

The MNEA staff and leaders sincerely hope you have a wonderful winter break. Take time to relax. Enjoy your family. Snuggle up with a good book and some hot chocolate.

**The MNEA offices will be closed Dec.
23-Jan. 1.**

If you need assistance during winter

break, please call 1-800-392-0236, and leave a message. The general voicemail will be checked daily.

[MNEA Staff Directory](#)



MNEA Member Benefits Save You Money.



NEA Wireless partners with Consumer Cellular

You receive exclusive member savings including unlimited talk and text plans that start at just \$20 per month and \$50 off every new line activated by Dec. 31, 2024, by using promo code **NEA50** at checkout.

- No contract.
- No activation fee.
- Add lines for family and friends for just \$15 per month.
- Keep your current device and phone number.

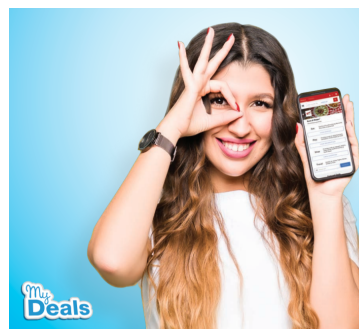
Consumer Cellular offers the same 5G nationwide coverage as the major carriers, for half the cost.



NEA Discount Marketplace Offers up to \$500 CASH BACK

**There's always room for
green this holiday
season!**

The NEA Discount Marketplace, powered by Rakuten, enables members to earn CASH BACK when they shop and save on brand-name merchandise from over 3,500 top retailers and online stores.* Check out the member-exclusive deals.



My Deals App

Access discounts easily on your smartphone with the My Deals mobile app.

Download. Register. Save.

Register using your NEA Member ID:

**Need help with
My Deals?**
Call (800) 331-8867

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Sign In MNEA

NEA Member ID:

Last Name:

Zip Code (5-digits):

[MEMBER SIGN IN](#)

Having trouble logging in? Call (573) 634-3202.



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