

# NEA 2017 Amendments

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## Amendment 1 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### H-2. The Education Employee as a Citizen

Amend by addition on page 68, line 21 of the white book:

The Association believes educators should have the opportunity to actively participate in the American political process. The Association supports districts allowing leaves of absence to both campaign full-time and serve in public office.

(Amendments 2-3 are not published)

## Amendment 4 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### I-12. Human Rights

Amend by addition on page 21, line 53 of the yellow book:

The Association opposes any federal, state, or local law; executive order or presidential signing statement; and/or amendment to the U.S. Constitution that curtails or infringes on basic human rights. The Association also opposes harsh sentencing measures, such as mandatory minimums and other national, state, and local laws which have contributed to mass incarceration.

(Amendment 5 is not published)

# Amendment 6 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED AS MODIFIED

## I-24. Family Planning

Amend by addition on page 72, line 32 of the white book:

In addition, the Association believes that continued funding of those facilities at both the federal and state level is necessary to provide access to care for people who cannot afford, or travel to, private facilities.

# Amendment 7 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

## New I. Racial Justice

Amend by addition on page 24, line 15 of the yellow book:

The National Education Association acknowledges the existence of, and will actively advocate for, the construction of social and educational strategies whose goal is the elimination of institutional racism, white privilege, and white supremacy.

White supremacy is here defined as an institutionally perpetuated system of overt and covert exploitation and oppression of people of color by white people for the purpose of maintaining and defending a system of wealth, power, and privilege.

White privilege is here defined as, “An invisible package of unearned assets,” a set of advantages white people benefit from that are automatically conferred irrespective of wealth, gender, or other factors and that are severely limited or withheld from people of color.

# Amendment 8 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED AS MODIFIED

## New I. Racial Justice

Amend by addition on page 24, line 18 of the yellow book:

The Association encourages its affiliates to educate members about the ways race privileges certain people. The Association also encourages its affiliates to work with family and student partners to develop, initiate, and promote programs that will lead us to repair, heal, organize, and advocate to achieve racial justice so that every student and educator may fulfill their full potential.

# Amendment 9 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

## New Resolution I

Amend by addition:

### **New I. Criminalization of Youth**

The National Education Association believes that the practice of random searches of students contradicts existing best practices like restorative justice and it is ineffective in creating safety, intrusive into instructional time, and excessive in its scope. The Association believes that this policy serves to heighten tensions, damaging school morale when students have done nothing wrong, especially if safety concerns are not imminent. The Association further believes that searching students without reasonable suspicion is an outrageous and direct violation of our students' civil and human rights and as such an obstacle in creating the nurturing learning environments our students deserve.

# Amendment 10 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

## J-3. Membership Participation in the Association

Amend by addition on page 24, line 31 of the yellow book:

Members should also support public education by sending their children to public educational institutions, and to other NEA-affiliated institutions.

# Amendment 11 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

## J-3. Membership Participation in the Association

Amend by addition on page 24, line 25 of the yellow book:

The Association additionally believes that early-career members should be encouraged to participate in and pursue appropriate leadership opportunities at the local, state, and national levels of the union.

## Amendment 12 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### A-4. Shared Responsibility for Support of Public Education

Amend by addition on page 5, line 7 of the yellow book:

The Association further believes that public education should be publicly and democratically controlled, without undue influence in decision-making on the part of any private interests, including, but not limited to, business concerns and philanthropic organizations.

## Amendment 13 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### A-6. Parental Involvement

Amend by addition on page 5, line 19 of the yellow book:

The Association believes that laws which circumvent authentic parental and community involvement are detrimental to the partnership between parents and educators, such as, but not limited to, current so-called “trigger” laws being unethically usurped by entities outside of school districts, to which the Association is strongly opposed.

## Amendment 14 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### A-15. Financial Support of Public Education

Amend by addition of a new letter v. on page 19, line 122 of the white book:

v. Taxation assessed by local and state governments should be allocated for the maximum benefit of the people of the state. The Association opposes tax revenue being spent on banking fees that profit private banking institutions when that revenue could fund education, social services, and environmental protection.

# Amendment 15 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

## B-2. Independent Reading Skills

Amend by addition on page 6, line 35 of the yellow book:

Students at all levels should have access to independent reading choices through school libraries in their buildings that are staffed by certified school library teachers. Teachers at all levels should be encouraged to use certified school library ~~media center~~ teachers' expertise to address the diverse needs of students.

# Amendment 16 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

## B-4. Middle School and Junior High School Programs

Amend by retaining existing language on page 7, line 5 of the yellow book:

The Association encourages development of a curriculum that establishes realistic academic challenges that include character development, career, vocational, and technical exploration, and ~~promotes~~ self-awareness that foster ~~and fosters~~ positive self-esteem.

# Amendment 19 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

## B-55. Science Education

Amend by deletion and addition on page 8, lines 40-43 of the yellow book:

The National Education Association believes that the content in science education must be based on ~~empirical evidence derived from valid scientific experimentation. Science, although inquiry based, is verified through repetitive experimentation using the steps of the scientific process.~~ scientific theory that incorporates empirically collected evidence, scientific methodology, and other accepted scientific processes. This entire process leads towards scientific consensus.

# Amendment 20 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

## B-72. School Library Media Programs

Amend by addition on page 38, lines 75-76 of the white book:

This program should include a full-time certified/licensed school library media specialist and qualified education support professionals in every school;

# Amendment 21 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

## *New Resolution B*

Amend by addition:

### **New B. Critical Thinking**

The National Education Association believes that critical thinking is an essential part of a well-rounded education. The Association also believes that education employees play a vital role of teaching critical thinking skills. Critical thinking includes the ability to:

- a. Analyze, synthesize, and evaluate arguments
- b. Determine the importance and relevance of arguments and ideas
- c. Identify erroneous and fallacious reasoning and logic
- d. Distinguish correlation from causation
- e. Differentiate between beliefs versus knowledge
- f. Reflect upon personal biases.

# Amendment 22 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

## C-11. Safe Schools and Communities

Amend by addition on page 42, line 29 of the white book:

The Association believes that children will be safer in school communities when the provisions of the qualified mental health professionals, law enforcement, and all school personnel are trained in restorative justice practices that are appropriate for a school's student population.

## Amendment 23 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### C-13. Discipline

Amend by addition on page 42, line 88 of the white book:

The Association believes that law enforcement personnel in schools should not have arresting power.

## Amendment 24 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### New Resolution C

Amend by addition:

#### **New C. Marketing of Unhealthy Foods and Beverages**

The National Education Association believes that school environments should promote healthy lifestyles to children. The Association further believes that the marketing of foods and beverages high in fat, sugar, and salt in schools are at odds with healthy guidelines and the creation of healthy school environments. Such marketing activities erode the school food environment by promoting the wrong message about good nutrition to students and should be eliminated. The Association further recognizes that the marketing of unhealthy foods and beverages disproportionately affects the health of low socioeconomic status students and students of color across the country. The Association supports fundraising efforts, sponsorships, and mascots that promote healthy food guidelines.

## Amendment 25 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### New Resolution C

Amend by addition:

#### **New C**

The National Education Association believes that all transgender students should be able to use the bathroom or locker room of their choice.

## Amendment 26 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### D-21. Education Employee Evaluation

Amend by deletion and addition on page 13, line 41 of the yellow book:

Components of effective evaluation must include indicators of teacher practices, teacher contribution and growth, and contribution to student learning ~~and growth~~ and/or development.

## Amendment 27 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### D-21. Education Employee Evaluation

Amend by deletion and addition on page 13, line 43 of the yellow book:

High quality, developmentally appropriate ~~standardized tests~~ teacher selected assessments that provide valid, reliable, timely, and relevant information regarding student learning ~~and growth~~ and/or development may be used as an indicator for quality, formative evaluation.

## Amendment 28 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### D-21. Education Employee Evaluation

Amend by deletion and addition on page 13, line 45 of the yellow book:

However, standardized tests, even if deemed valid and reliable, ~~standardized tests~~ must not be used to support any employment action against a teacher and may not be used to determine any part of an educator's evaluation.

## Amendment 29 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### E-1. Instructional Excellence

Amend by addition after the word “classrooms” on page 52, line 61 of the white book:

The Association believes that teachers’ professional expertise in setting standards for individual students supercedes standards established by the state.

## Amendment 30 (2017)

ACTION:

REFERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

### F-10. Benefits

Amend by addition of new number 5 on page 15, line 9 of the yellow book:

5. Family leave

## Amendment 31 (2017)

ACTION:

ADOPTED

### F-49. Medication and Medical Services in Schools

Amend by addition on page 16, line 31 of the yellow book:

- c. A parent or guardian must provide written permission for the administration of non-emergency medication or medical services