



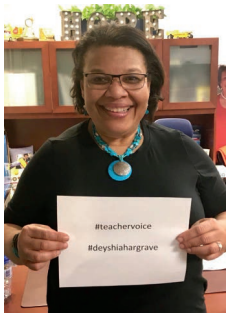
# THE LAE VOICE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS

Great Public Schools for Every Louisiana Child

Volume 14, No. 2 February 2017

## LOUISIANA TEACHER SPARKS WORLDWIDE CONVERSATION ABOUT EDUCATORS' FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS



Vermilion Parish teacher Deyshia Hargrave didn't think something as simple as attending a school board meeting could change her life. It was something she had done many times before, but the evening of January 8, 2018 was different.

Deyshia planned to attend the meeting to weigh in on the board's approval of the superintendent's contract which included an almost \$40-thousand pay raise. During the portion of the meeting devoted to public comment, Deyshia was acknowledged by the board, given the floor, and began to state her opinion about the proposal.

"We're doing the work. The students are doing the work. At the top? That's not where kids learn. It's in the classroom. And those teachers, like myself, are not getting a dime," she told the board.



Deyshia went on to point out that Vermilion teachers and education support professionals (ESPs) hadn't had a raise in more than 10 years, but before she could finish, the school board president stopped her mid-sentence. Shortly after, a security guard approached her asking her to leave the meeting. She followed his instruction, but when she stepped into the hall, Deyshia quickly found herself being handcuffed. LAE leaders were informed of the incident minutes after it occurred and immediately called the LAE legal team to action.



"As an organization that advocates for the dedicated school employees of Louisiana, we firmly denounce the mistreatment of Ms. Hargrave, as it is every citizen's right to speak

up for their beliefs," said LAE President Debbie Meaux. "We will continue to support the right of every single school employee to take an interest in, and ultimately stand up for, the best interests of their schools and their students."



The incident was captured on tape by local news outlets and much to Deyshia's surprise, the video went viral. Over the course of just 24 hours, more than a million people across the world viewed the incident. The response? Overwhelming support. Words of encouragement and messages of hope came pouring in, but most significant (and not surprising) were the stories of shared experiences. One comment on facebook read:

"Too many of us have been reprimanded verbally or simply in the way we are treated to shape our minds, if you will, as to not stand up for ourselves. After seeing her courage and resilience, I am empowered to take a stand, along with fellow educators, against simply taking whatever crumbs we can get, and instead, fight for what we are worth; what we deserve."

Days after the worldwide outcry, leaders of Deyshia's local union, the Vermilion Association of Educators, organized a rally to shed light on the issue. Hundreds gathered in the rain to show their support, not just for Deyshia, but for citizens' rights to free speech. During her statements to the crowd, Deyshia reiterated her decision to stand up to the board with tough questions.

"I chose to speak out. I hope you choose to speak out, too," she said. "Don't let what happened to me intimidate to you. Instead, let it become your strength, because it's slowly becoming mine."

Deyshia's treatment, while unwelcomed, sparked a welcomed conversation. It's time our leaders start listening to the voices of the professionals in the field fighting for the best interests of children. LAE will continue to champion Deyshia and the important conversation she started. To join us in this effort, sign our petition at [lae.org/standbydeyshia](http://lae.org/standbydeyshia).





# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Debbie Meaux, President

The Charles Dickens novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*, begins with the phrase, "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times..." Those of us who work in education can certainly relate to these words. Each day our jobs are stressful and often exhausting, but what we do is meaningful and truly valuable to Louisiana's children.

As educators, our students are at the center of everything we do. Our voices are essential to ensuring a great education for every child. Recently, our school communities were rocked by the situation involving Deyshia Hargrave, a teacher who was arrested after speaking during the public comment portion of a school board meeting. When I first saw the video (now seen around the world) of a law enforcement officer forcing her to the ground in handcuffs, my mouth dropped. We've been in Deyshia's corner since the incident occurred. In addition to providing her with legal services and other supports, LAE has worked diligently to raise awareness about the chilling infringement upon Deyshia's First Amendment Rights. Every educator must be able to speak out on the issues that matter to their colleagues, their students, and their communities, without fear of retaliation. If you agree, sign our petition at [lae.org/standbydeyshia](http://lae.org/standbydeyshia) and make a commitment to stand with us on this matter.

They tried to silence Deyshia, but they will not silence us as we continue to work with the leaders of the Vermilion Association of Educators on other actions to ensure no employee in the system is treated in such an unlawful manner again.

The incident brings up an important reminder: that no educator should enter

a school building, classroom, or school-related job (or meeting) without the protection of a union. Though no one ever goes to work with the intended purpose of getting into trouble, things happen – often by no fault of our own. LAE is here to support and protect members from any wrongdoing or unfair treatment at work or in your job capacity. As a member of this association, I hope you will emphasize the importance of membership to your non-union colleagues. What is impossible for the individual becomes possible through the collective voice of many.

In addition to its service to protecting and maintaining educators' professional rights, always remember the LAE's position on fostering professional growth. Our Teaching and Learning Center continues to break ground on providing the most relevant trainings led **by** Louisiana educators **for** Louisiana educators. Be sure to visit [lae.org/teachingandlearning](http://lae.org/teachingandlearning) often for upcoming opportunities.

If you're interested in having a say on association policy decisions and initiatives, consider attending the 2018 LAE Representative Assembly in Baton Rouge April 14 and 15. Local association leaders hold elections for delegates to the LAE-RA. Be sure to contact your local association president *TODAY* to let him/her know you're interested in having your name added to the ballot. The deadline for local presidents to submit their delegates to LAE is Thursday, March 15.

Also, don't forget, LAE Elections are right around the corner. As you know, LAE members across the state drive state-level, association-wide decisions. The strength of the whole is determined by those who lead. Soon, you will have an

opportunity to vote for your colleagues running for leadership positions. Please vote for the candidates you feel are most qualified to lead the association – biographies are included in this newsletter. Please be sure to review all information carefully and be prepared to vote beginning March 10.

Another important association initiative to consider is nominating for the LAE Image Awards. Every year, we honor a teacher, ESP, administrator, ancillary professional, Friend of Education, and Human and Civil Rights Trailblazer. Find applications and instructions for the nominating process at [lae.org/imageawards](http://lae.org/imageawards). The deadline to apply to be considered for this prestigious association honor is February 16th.

Whether advocating for members or providing quality professional development and leadership opportunities, the association's members are at the center of everything we do. I am proud to be a member and I hope you are, too.

As we prepare for testing season, I hope you will remember to take some time to reflect on all the great things you do for your students every day. Know that your hard work is admired and appreciated. On behalf of the leaders and staff of this great association, I want to say thank you for your service to our schools and children. Always remember, your professional association supports you and stands by you.

In Solidarity,  
Debbie Meaux  
LAE President



# THE NEA FOUNDATION NAMES LAE MEMBER AS FINALIST FOR PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD

EAST BATON ROUGE ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS MEMBER TIA MILLS TO BE HONORED AT AWARDS GALA IN WASHINGTON, D.C.



LAE member Tia Mills, an exceptional student services teacher in Baton Rouge, will be recognized as one of the nation's top educators at the NEA Foundation's Salute to Excellence in Education Awards Gala this month. LAE President Debbie Meaux said the association is honored to have Tia represent our state at the national gala.

"Tia is a tremendous advocate for her colleagues and her students," Meaux said. "She's worked hard and it shows.

We are all very proud of her for being recognized with this prestigious honor."

The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence promote excellence in teaching and advocacy for the profession. The awards are presented annually at a gala in Washington, D.C.,

which attracts more than 800 national leaders from the public education, philanthropic, and business sectors.

"Tia has been selected for this award by her peers because she has attained the highest teaching standards, as shown by her exemplary instruction, advocacy for the profession, attention to diversity, leadership in professional development, and engagement of parents and community," said Harriet Sanford, president and CEO of the NEA Foundation. "Honoring her is our way of thanking her and all the public school educators she represents."

Mills was nominated for the award by the LAE after winning the association's annual Teacher Image Award in 2017.

The NEA Foundation will live stream video of the event on its website [neafoundation.org](http://neafoundation.org), so that Tia's students, peers, and family can join in the celebration. The event will be broadcast live on February 9, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

## LAE IMAGE AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 16



The LAE Image Awards are presented annually to recognize members whose leadership and actions in their professions have advanced public education in Louisiana. Every year, the LAE chooses one outstanding teacher, ESP, administrator, ancillary personnel, Friend of Education, and Human and Civil Rights

Trailblazer to honor. The LAE is now accepting applications for the 2018 Image Awards. The deadline to submit nomination packets is February 16, 2018. You can download the applications at [lae.org/imageawards](http://lae.org/imageawards).

## THIS IS YOUR OFFICIAL NOTICE REGARDING VOTING IN LAE'S ELECTIONS

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ONLINE VOTING PROCEDURES AND REQUESTS FOR PAPER BALLOTS

Please let the candidate information provided within this newsletter serve as reference when voting in LAE's 2018 elections. Our neutral, Election-America, will send elections notifications to those LAE members who've provided a valid email address to the LAE. To update this information, contact the LAE Membership Department at 1-800-256-4523, ext. 101.

The elections portal will be open from March 10 through March 31, 2018. During that period, online voting will be available 24-7. You can expect to receive an email to your personal email address notifying you when elections begin. This email will provide you with a link to the elections website, along with your LAE member ID that you need to access your online ballot. To avoid any confusion, you may want to make sure you're able to accept

emails from [Election-America.com](http://Election-America.com). If you do not receive this email, please be sure to visit [lae.org](http://lae.org) between March 10 and 31 and look for the LAE Elections link in the *LAE Today* section on the home page. Simply click the link to be taken directly to the elections portal. You'll need your LAE member ID number on hand in order log in to access your ballot -- this number can be found on your LAE Membership Card or above your name in the mailing address section of this newsletter. In addition to your member number, you will also need to enter the last four digits of your social security number.



**Election-America**  
In the business of perfection

# PROCESS FOR COLLECTING A PAPER BALLOT

Voting will be by online ballot method. For any member who would prefer to receive a paper ballot, you can request that one be mailed to you by contacting the neutral via [help+LAE@election-america.com](mailto:help+LAE@election-america.com) or 1-866-384-9978. You will

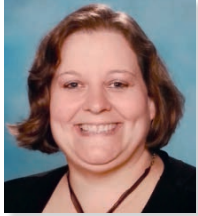
need to have your LAE member number on hand for voter verification purposes. Again, this number can be found on your membership card or in the address section of this newsletter. All ballots must be received by the neutral by no later than March 31, 2018.

## CANDIDATES FOR 2018 LAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please note: The biographies contained were not edited for content nor grammatical/spelling corrections. LAE reserves the right to alter the format of the submissions. If the candidate submitted a biography longer than 50 words, it is indicated with "..."

### FIRST ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT C – ELECTION – VOTE FOR ONE

#### 1. Rachel Gifford



I am seeking your support and vote for reelection to the LAE Board of Directors. As an active LAE member my entire career I have served in numerous roles and committees including Budget, Constitution, and Resolutions. I will continue to be an advocate for all educational employees and public schools.

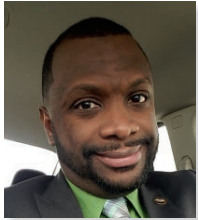
#### 2. Fredrick Pinkney



**VOICE. VALUE. AND VISION.** are attributes I want to bring to the LAE Board of Directors. I will continue to improve, defend, and protect our noble profession through transparency and integrity. It will be an honor to represent the educators of the **First Associational District**. Please support with your vote.

### THIRD ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT B

#### 1. Johnell Celestine



My name is Johnell Celestine. I am running for a seat on the LAE Board of Directors. I currently serve on the Board and have been for the past few years. I am also the local president of the Evangeline Association of Educators. I love what LAE stands for and..

#### 2. Shelly Byron



I am a first grade teacher in Vermilion Parish. I am currently Vice-President of my local, on LAE's Legislative Committee and have been a dedicated LAE member for 7 years. Fighting for public education, our students, and educators (teachers and support professionals) is a true passion of mine.

## CANDIDATES FOR 2018 NEA DELEGATE/SUCCESSOR DELEGATE

Please note: The biographies contained were not edited for content nor grammatical/spelling corrections. LAE reserves the right to alter the format of the submissions. If the candidate submitted a biography longer than 50 words, it is indicated with "..."

### NEA ADMINISTRATOR DELEGATE – ELECTION – VOTE FOR 1

#### 1. Candace Stanberry Robertson



- Member for 15 years – St. Landry, St. John and St. Helena
- Building Representative
- Served on LAE Board of Directors
- Local delegate in 2007
- State delegate 2009–2014
- Committed to Public Education

#### 2. Lysonia Robertson



No  
Photo  
Available

#### 3. Cynthia Henderson



I am an Assistant Principal at Herndon Magnet School. Thanks to your vote I attended the 2017 NEA Representative Assembly. It was a privilege to work with other Administrators to pass New Business Item

131. Vote Cynthia your State Delegate 2018 NEA Representative Assembly. Thank you for your continuous support.

### CANDIDATES FOR 2018 NEA DELEGATE/SUCCESSOR DELEGATES – ELECTION – VOTE FOR 10

#### 1. Emily Broussard



I have been a member of VAE for over 15 years and have held various positions of leadership. I am currently the representative for LAE on the state College and Career Readiness Commission. I would be honored to represent LAE at the 2018 NEA Representative Assembly.

#### 2. Nancy Gingras



I am a Library Media Specialist at Alexandria Senior High. Since 1976 I have served the members of LAE in many roles including: Building Representative, Local President, LAE Board of Directors, LAE Executive Committee, NEA Board of Directors Alternate, and numerous local, state and national committees. Please vote for me.

*continued on next page*



## CANDIDATES FOR 2018 NEA DELEGATE/SUCCESSOR DELEGATES – ELECTION – (CONTINUED)

### 3. Christina Badeaux



I am currently Math Coach at Herod Elementary. This past year I earned a Master of Education in Leadership. It was upon recent of my masters that I became extremely interested in pursuing an active role in the association. I would be honored to be a state delegate in Minneapolis.

### 4. Fredrick Pinkney



As a 23 year educator and currently Vice-President for the Caddo Association of Educators, I have always championed education by being a voice for the voiceless. I value your work ethic and unselfish dedication as public servants and will represent you with integrity. Please support with your vote.

### 5. Jennifer Mathiew



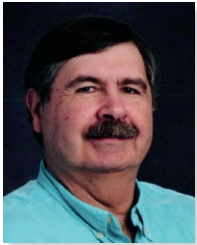
I'm Jennifer Mathiew and I have been teaching for nineteen years in Vermilion Parish. Last year I was honored by being voted as a state delegate and hope to be able to do that again this year. I have attended our conference for the past two years.

### 6. Wanda Milliman



I love the teaching profession and believe in fighting for the rights of children to have a free and appropriate public education. I am a fun loving and positive individual who is present and active in our association. I am excited for the opportunity to be Louisiana's RA delegate.

### 7. Donald Fontenot



I am a teacher working as an Educational Diagnostician in Calcasieu Parish and have been an LAE member for over 38 years. I have represented Louisiana before at the NEA. I have been active and vocal at LAE and NEA. Please allow me to represent you this summer.

### 8. Peronica Riley



I am Peronica Riley, a paraprofessional at Delmont Pre-K Center. I am the school representative for LAE. I desire to attend the NEA convention in 2018. I am actively involved in recruiting LAE members at my school and in education classes at Southern University. Please vote for me.

### 9. D'Shay Oaks

No  
Photo  
Available

My name is D'Shay Rushing-Oaks. I am asking you to elect me to represent LAE at the NEA Representative Assembly. I am the librarian and enrichment teacher at Vidalia Junior High. Thanks for your support!

### 10. Sarah Scott



I am Sarah Scott, a kindergarten teacher at Denham Springs Elementary. I am membership Chairperson for my local and a strong advocate for educators throughout our state and nation. When the urgent calls for action come, I respond. Please vote for me to attend the 2018 NEA Convention.

### 11. Carol McLaughlin

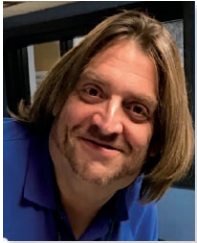
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### 12. Lisa Hayes



My name is Lisa Hayes. I have been an educator in Livingston Parish for 21 years. By attending the NEA Representative Assembly, I will bring back new and innovative ideas to assist my colleagues. Not only will my fellow teachers benefit, but paraprofessionals, parents, and service providers.

### 13. Mark Hayes



I have been a teacher in the Louisiana Public School System for over 30 years. I have always worked hard to advocate for the education profession. I would appreciate your support.

### 14. Alishia Vallien



I ask for your support as I am interested in being a state delegate to the National Representative Assembly. I have served and represented in the past, and it is important to me to continue to be in attendance. Thank you for your support.

*continued on next page*

## NEA DELEGATE/SUCCESSOR DELEGATES – ELECTION (CONTINUED)

### 15. Gwendolyn Hill



My name is Gwendolyn Hill. I have been a member for many years. I serve as secretary for my local union. I also serve as ESP on the LAE Board. By attending the conference, I will be learning new and innovative ideas to share with my colleagues upon my return.

### 16. Vicky Johnston

No  
Photo  
Available

I enjoy taking part in the NEA convention. It is exciting to be part of the decision making for such a great organization. Meeting other educators from different states and US territories, makes me realize we are all striving for excellence in public education not matter what size our school...

### 17. Cyndy Rutherford

No  
Photo  
Available

It would be my honor and pleasure to serve as a state delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly and I'm asking for your consideration. I've had the pleasure of serving in this capacity before. I am very invested in our profession and ask for your vote. I thank you in...

### 18. Garrett Trosclair



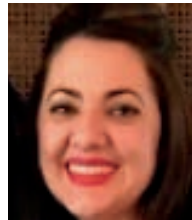
St. John Association of Educators  
Support Professional

### 19. Shelly Byron



I am a first grade teacher in Vermilion Parish. I am currently Vice-President of my local, on LAE's Legislative Committee and have been a dedicated LAE member for 7 years. I've attended the last state Representative Assembly for my local and would be honored to represent our district at next...

### 20. Suzanne Breaux



As an active leader in the association I am once again asking for your vote as a state delegate to the NEA RA. I have attended the NEA RA as a local delegate and a state delegate and I would be honored to be a state delegate in Minneapolis.

### 21. Melissa Brown



My name is Melissa Brown, a Jobs for America's Graduate Specialist (JAG) at Arthur F. Smith Middle. I am currently president of Rapides Parish Association of Educators. I am asking for your support to become a NEA State Delegate. I am committed to serve and work with all active members.

### 22. Ruthie Wright

No  
Photo  
Available

I am an educator in Webster Parish for many years. Served as President, Vice Pres, Secretary and Membership chair for my local. I have served on many committees for LAE and as NEA-ESP Board of Director. I am currently an LAE-ESP Director. Strong Representation is my name vote for me!!

### 23. Matthew Boudreaux



I am a reading intervention teacher at J.H. Williams Middle in Abbeville. I am currently on the Board of Directors and the Contract Negotiation Team for my local. I would be honored to represent our state this summer at the 2018 NEA Annual Assembly in Minneapolis.

### 24. Katina Thompson-Givens



My name is Katina Thompson-Givens. I have been employed with the East Baton Rouge Parish School System for over 13 years. I serve as the Treasurer for EBRPAE. I have been a member of our union for several years. In 2015, I was awarded with LAE Ancillary Image Award.

## WELCOME TO LAE'S NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS!

**THE CANDIDATES LISTED BELOW RAN UNOPPOSED AND WERE ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION.  
CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE LAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**

#### **FIRST ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT B**

Dawn Jordan (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **SECOND ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT A**

Ron Carr (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **SECOND ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT B**

D'Shay Oaks (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **SECOND ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT C**

Jane Green (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **THIRD ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT A**

Alishia Vallien (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **FOURTH ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT A**

Cyndy Rutherford (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **FOURTH ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT B**

Tia Mills (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **FIFTH ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT B**

Vicki Guillbeau (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **FIFTH ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT C**

Wanda Milliman (Elected, Unopposed)

#### **SIXTH ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT A**

Janice Perea (Elected, Unopposed)

# 2018 PROPOSED LAE CONSTITUTION & BYLAW CHANGES

## DELEGATES WILL VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AT THE LAE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 15TH

Strike through = Deletions

**Bold and underlined** = New language

### Bylaw 2.1

- e. Retired membership shall be open to any person who has retired from educational employment. Retired members shall have the right to vote ~~for the LAE Executive Officers~~, to hold elective or appointive **positions at the state level** and be counted toward representation entitlement for the Board of Directors and to the Representative Assembly in proportion to the membership. Retired members shall be eligible to receive benefits and services of the Association authorized by the Board of Directors. An LAE member who retired may choose to join an LAE Lifetime Retired Program. Dues for the LAE Lifetime Program will be \$100.00

**Rationale: The retired members are already represented on the board, and the current language allows double representation.**

### Bylaw 2.1

- g. Associate membership shall be open to any person who is interested in advancing the cause of public education but who is not eligible for any other class of membership in the Association. Associate member rights shall be limited to receiving reports and publications of the Association.

### Bylaw 2.3

- f. State dues for LAE -Retired, Student, Associate, and Substitute members shall be set by the Board of Directors annually.

**Rationale: LAE and NEA does not have this category of membership**

### Bylaw 5.5

#### 5-5. Meetings

- a. One meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Representative Assembly.

**Rationale: Gives the President more flexibility. There may not be a need for the meeting during this time.**

### Bylaw 6.1

#### b. First Primary – Election

Ballots shall be prepared by the Executive Director or the designee, with the approval of the chair of the LAE Elections Committee, and shall be distributed to each member of record as of January 15. Candidate positions on the ballots shall be determined by a drawing conducted by the Elections Committee. Ballots shall be distributed by March 10. The neutral party shall receive and tabulate the votes and submit in writing to the Elections Committee the results no later than April 15. All candidates who receive a majority **plurality** of the votes cast shall be certified as elected by the Elections Committee. Should no candidate receive a majority of the votes cast, a runoff will be held between the top two candidates. Positions on the ballot shall remain the same as in the regular election. The neutral party as stated within this Article shall be chosen by the Board of Directors with recommendations from the Executive Director and Associate Executive Director.

#### c. Runoff Election

Should no candidate receive a majority of the votes cast, a runoff will be held between the top two candidates. Positions on the ballot shall remain the same as in the regular election. The neutral party as stated within this Article shall be chosen by the Board of Directors with recommendations from the Executive Director and Associate Executive Director. Ballots shall be prepared by the executive Director or his designee, with the approval of the Chair of the Elections Committee, and shall be distributed to each member of record as of January 15. Ballots shall be distributed to members no later than May 1. The neutral party shall tabulate the votes received by May 31 and shall submit the results in writing to the Elections Committee no later than June 15. The announcement should be made in the next official journal. Candidates for runoff election may withdraw from the election by notification to the Executive Director or his/her designee, by certified/return receipt, no later than April 22. Upon receipt of such notice, the runoff election shall be canceled.

**Rationale: If we move to "plurality," it eliminates the need for a runoff election.**

### Article V. Board of Directors

#### Section 6. Ethnic Minority Diversity Guarantee.

The Elections Committee shall recommend a plan to the Representative Assembly that shall assure an ethnic minority/**majority** representation on the Board of Directors at least in proportion to their membership in each particular job category.

### Article IV Executive Officers

#### Section 5. Ethnic Minority Guarantee.

- a) The office of the President will alternate between an ethnic minority and a White member of the Association.  
b) If after a period of six (6) consecutive membership years, a member of an ethnic minority group has not served as President, the Association shall take steps as may be legally permissible to elect a member of an ethnic minority group.

**Rationale: (a) is unconstitutional and (b) states the intent**

### ADDITIONAL ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED AT 2018 LAE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

**The following is not a constitutional amendment, but will be voted on by the Representative Assembly:**

As directed by the LAE Representative Assembly, the LAE President assigned the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee the task of formulating a proposed Constitutional Amendment to reduce the size of the LAE Board of Directors. The composition of the current Board is outlined in Article V Board of Directors Section 2 Composition. The current Board is comprised of three teacher representatives elected by each of six districts (18) and several at-large positions representing other membership categories. The categories of at-large positions and the methods for selection will remain the same.

The Committee seeks the advice of the delegates on the elements the Assembly wishes to see in any proposed amendment. You will express your wishes through secret ballot.

Elements you wish to see included in the proposed Amendment to the Constitution:

- Number of districts and active teacher member to be elected from each (choose one).
  - Six districts with two representatives from each (12)
  - Nine districts with one representative from each (9)
  - Ten districts with one representative from each (10)
  - Other—should be proposed in an NBI
- Method of transition to new Board (will become policy to be applied in the year of transition). Vote yes or no. If "No", an alternative method should be proposed in an NBI.

Vacate all current Board seats in the year of implementation, and hold a new election for all seats using the methods stated within the current Constitution.
- Currently, Board members serve three-year staggered terms. Should the length of term be changed? Vote yes or no.  
Should terms be staggered? Vote yes or no.



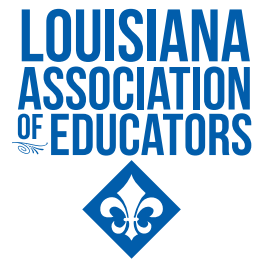
# THE LAE VOICE

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Kenton Cooper, Executive Director

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 12 - 13:  
Mardi Gras  
Holiday\*

March 2:  
Read Across America Day

March 7-10:  
LAE Executive Committee

March 12:  
Louisiana Regular Legislative  
Session begins

March 30 - April 2:  
Easter Holiday\*

April 13:  
LAE Board meeting

\*LAE Headquarters CLOSED

April 14 - 15:  
LAE Representative Assembly