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# Useful Communications and News

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## Visit the NEA Member Benefits Website

To find out more about Insurance Programs, Financial Services, Member Discounts, Tools and Tips, Free Giveaways, and Featured Offers click on the links at the NEA Member Benefits Website:

<http://www.neamb.com/>



**Login and use your NSEA Access membership card for members' only discounts at:**

<http://www.memberweb.com/memberweb/NewLogin.asp>

# ***The Steps to Candidate Endorsements***

The question is not should we participate in the political arena, but how do we do that? Members of NSEA long ago embraced the fact that politics affects every facet of their professional lives, and lobbying and endorsing candidates has become a regular part of our participation in the overall process.

## **Continuing Support Endorsements**

Only previously endorsed incumbents are eligible to be considered for a continuing support endorsement. This type of endorsement can be given to eligible candidates fairly early in the campaign year, which means contributions can be given earlier. This helps our friends who are running for re-election.

### ***How does it work?***

- Early in the campaign year the NSEA Lobby Team reviews the performance of previously endorsed incumbents
- The Lobby Team can:
  - Send candidates a questionnaire
  - Bring candidates in for an interview
  - All of the above
  - None of the above
- Based on all available information, the Lobby Team decides which candidates to recommend for continuing support endorsements.
- Those recommendations are sent to the appropriate locals for their concurrence.
- Local boards concur (or not) with those recommendations.
- Recommendations on which there is concurrence then go to the NSEA Board for final approval.
- Candidates are informed about the endorsement.
- If a candidate who is eligible for a continuing support endorsement does not receive the endorsement, the race is then considered to be an “open seat.”

## **Open Seat Endorsements**

For NSEA, “open seat races” are those in which there is no previously endorsed incumbent, or the previously endorsed incumbent did not receive a continuing support endorsement. The big difference between the two types of endorsements is that, when doing continuing support endorsements, we do not deal with any opponents of our previously endorsed incumbents. In open seat races, we invite *all* candidates who have filed to run to go through our endorsement process.

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***How does it work?***

- At the close of candidate filing in May of each campaign year, we compile the list of all candidates who should be invited to participate in our endorsement process.
- The official NSEA Candidate Questionnaire is mailed to each eligible candidate with a deadline for return of the questionnaire to NSEA.
- NSEA notifies the appropriate local affiliate(s) about which candidates have completed and returned the questionnaire.
- The local affiliate(s) appoint an interview team, and candidate interviews are conducted.
- The interview team makes recommendations about which candidates to endorse to the local board(s).
- The local board(s) acts on those recommendations and sends those they have approved on to the NSEA Board, which finalizes the endorsements.
- The candidates are notified about the endorsements.

**Here is a link to the NSEA Recommended Candidate List:**

**<http://www.nsea-nv.org/recommendedcandidates.htm>**

**Dates to Remember:**

**Early Voting is from October 16-29, 2010**

**Tuesday, November 2, 2010 – Election Day**



## October 2010

### Hot Deals and Discounts from NEA Member Benefits



#### NEA Click & Save "Buy-lights" for October 2010

NEA Click & Save, the online discount buying service for NEA members, highlights select retailers and merchants each month. Check out these featured "Buy-lights" for October!

- Blue Nile:** 10% off site-wide
- PETCO:** Save up to 40% plus \$10 off
- Dell:** Save 30% off or more
- Kodak:** 15% off site-wide
- Sephora:** Save up to 75% plus free shipping
- Home Decorators:** 10% off



Join the 135,000 NEA members already registered for NEA Click & Save. Go to [www.neamb.com/clickandsave](http://www.neamb.com/clickandsave) today!

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#### NEA Magazine Service—Special Offer:

**\$5.00 off 2 Years of People En Espanol!**

Stay up-to-date with your favorite celebrities in film, music, sports, and more with the Spanish language edition of People Magazine. Order your subscription to *People en Espanol* from the NEA Magazine Service before December 31, 2010, and SAVE \$5.00 on 2 full years—that's 22 issues for only \$14.97! Go to [www.neamag.com/espanol](http://www.neamag.com/espanol) and order your subscription today!

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Hot Deals and Discounts continued from page 4

## October 2010

### Hot Deals and Discounts from NEA Member Benefits

#### Take 25% Off Award-Winning Educational Video Games that Make a Difference!



Help teens learn positive social skills and manage the challenges they face every day. WILL Campus games offer a fully interactive, 'learn by doing' environment. Allow teens to 'play out' social situations before they 'live them out' like effective conflict resolution and leadership skills, dealing with drug and alcohol issues, responsible cell phone use, and much more! Take advantage of this special 25% savings offer—available through November 1, 2010! [Learn more.](http://campus.willinteractive.com/landing/video2?refer=nea) [<http://campus.willinteractive.com/landing/video2?refer=nea>]

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#### Travel and Save \$100 with Smithsonian!

Smithsonian Journeys offers one-of-a-kind travel experiences that take you places you couldn't easily visit on your own. Tours provide exclusive access to top cultural treasures, with destinations including Egypt, France, Italy, China, India and more.

NEA members save \$100 on all tours! [>> Learn More](#)

[ <http://www.smithsonianjourneys.org/index.php/?src=NEADISCOUNT> ]

## The NEA Foundation's *Challenge to Innovate*

**Reminder to State Affiliates**—Please share the following information about a great opportunity for members through The NEA Foundation's *Challenge to Innovate* initiative with the Department of Education. Note that members must post their “pressing problems” on the Department of Education’s Open Innovation Portal by October 19, 2010 (other deadlines follow). Members could become eligible to garner a \$1,000 award!

### What Keeps Educators Up At Night? The NEA Foundation Wants to Know and We'll Provide Cash Awards for Your Best Responses

The NEA Foundation believes that as educators grapple with classroom problems, new ideas will be born that could transform public education.

[The Challenge to Innovate \(C2i\)](#) is a powerful new partnership between the NEA Foundation and the US Department of Education. We are inviting all public school educators to identify and solve education’s most pressing classroom problems. Accept our challenge. Post your classroom problem. Become eligible for a \$1,000 award.



#### Here's How it works: Challenge # 1: Post your most pressing classroom problem.

- [Register on the Department of Education's Open Innovation Portal.](#)
- Select the NEA Foundation C2i Challenge
- Post your most pressing classroom-based problem.
- Review, vote for, and comment on ideas posted.
- The five highest ranked will be awarded \$1,000 and posted as the next challenge.

[Learn more about C2i and how to apply](#)

[Click here to register for C2i and post your problem](#)





## NEA Academy Introduces Online Master's Degree Programs!

The NEA Academy excels in providing professional development opportunity, affordability, and convenience—that's why we're so excited to offer a new program of online Master's Degrees exclusively for NEA members!

The Academy has partnered with three leading universities—Walden, Western Governors, and UMass Online (University of Massachusetts)—all of which specialize in preparing busy educators for increased competencies and responsibilities in a wide array of education disciplines.

Why should you consider an online Master's Program through the NEA Academy?

- Learn at your own pace in the comfort of your own home
- Choose from 50 different online Master's Degree options in four main categories: General, Administration, Curriculum and Instruction, and Counseling
- Take advantage of 5% - 20% discounts on course tuition plus waivers of some fees
- Vie for \$136,000 annually in NEA member-only scholarships

If you're contemplating how to move your professional education career to the next level, then an online Master's Degree through the NEA Academy could be the perfect avenue for achieving your goals. Get the details at [www.neaacademy.org](http://www.neaacademy.org) (click on the Master's Degrees tab at the top of the page). While you're there, enjoy the newly redesigned Academy website and view the complete catalog of professional development courses!

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## Weingarten Rights (Right to Representation)

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Association representative be present at the meeting."

If you have any work-related problems, follow these guidelines:

1. Do not resign or abandon your work location.
2. All communication with your Association is strictly confidential.
3. Document, in writing, the incident.
4. Keep any records that relate to the incident.
5. Representation is strongly advised.
6. Timeliness is important—don't delay.
7. Use your contract as your guide.
8. Follow orders unless there is potential for personal injury—you can grieve the orders later.
9. Call your UniServ Director for help.



## Discount Season Passes at Kirkwood

The Ormsby County Education Association and Lyon County Education Association have teamed up again to offer discounted season passes at Kirkwood. We have expanded our team to include members of any local affiliate of the Uniserv Council of Nevada, the Nevada State Education Association or the National Education Association. Kirkwood has expanded the offer to include your family, friends, and even friends of friends. Below are some details on the best deal on an unrestricted Kirkwood 2010-2011 Network pass.

- There are no blackout dates.
- Never miss a powder day.
- Ski or ride any weekend, any holiday and never have to wait in a ticket window line.
- Kirkwood gets the deepest and driest snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

### **The price is only \$359\* per pass!**

(Order early to get next season's pass at a lower price.)

Network Pass Benefits: 2 per day \$10 off buddy tickets on weekends and holidays (\$20 off midweek), 20% off Sun-Friday lodging, 10% off logo items and pass holder pricing at ShopKirkwood.com.

Greetings! As your 10/11 Kirkwood Network Pass Representative, I'm happy to share with you this sale price of just \$329\* - the lowest of the season and the best deal anywhere, anytime on a full, every day, all day, unrestricted winter of Tahoe's best skiing and riding! Take advantage of this early-bird deal and purchase using the login below:

Network Log In: **fargan**

Network Password: **kirkwood68**

Purchase Your Pass Here:

<http://www.kirkwood.com/networkpass>

or

<https://skikirkwood.com/e-commerce/grpLogin2.aspx>

\*Network Pass Rate Increase Dates: April 25, 2010; September 6, 2010; December 20, 2010. Final Network Pass price is \$499.

Contact [Steve Fargan](mailto:lolo@loloville.com) at: [lolo@loloville.com](mailto:lolo@loloville.com) (home e-mail) if you have any questions.