

# Elizabeth Nahl for NEA Executive Committee

## Knowledgeable / Committed / Courageous

### Experience

- 32 years experience as a School Counselor
- 25 years service on her local Executive Committee (served as release president one year)
- 7 years experience on the NEA Board of Directors
- 6 years experience on the NEA Committee on Constitution, Bylaws (Chair 3 years)

My experience and service has given me a vast wealth of experience as a national leader. I have always kept a direct role in schools and the education community. It has given me deep ties across NEA that I use to knit together our teams and our actions. In each and every role, I have successfully striven to be a productive member and a leader of the best possible team. The work we do is vital to our focus on our union and our cause. As your next Executive Committee Member I will continue to advocate with and for you to ensure every member is part of the best NEA possible.

### Higher Education Priorities

NEA must play a critical role in recruiting and organizing members with the goal of securing the full benefits of collective bargaining: fair wages, tenure, health care, and security in retirement while addressing current pressure from the current administration to attack academic freedom. NEA must include the Higher Education voice.

**Academic Freedom:** Ensure that transparent faculty promotion and tenure decisions, as well as employment more generally, do not hinge on the content of academic research and practice. Protect members from the chilling effect of actions taken by the federal government.

**Funding:** Ensure that funding is sufficient to offer robust and high-quality educational programs at community colleges and universities without excessive tuition rates that limit access to moderate- and low-income students, given the uncertain relationship between the federal government and our institutions.

**Needs-based grants for students:** Ensure that Pell grants and other forms of tuition support are protected from political interference. Tuition must be funded sufficiently to enable students of all income levels to pursue post-secondary education without long timelines for degree completion and excessive debt. The NEA has long-standing connections and relationships with K-12 institutions and can reduce barriers to entry, especially for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, into higher ed. Increased coordination between K-12 and higher ed institutions will assist in facilitating transitions, such as FAFSA support.

**Adjunct Faculty:** Ensure that contingent, part-time, and adjunct faculty are fairly and equitably compensated for their service, that they receive timely notice of class cancellations due to under-enrollment, and that they are able to access health-care and other benefits available to their tenure-track and full-time academic colleagues, commensurate with their service on a pro-rata basis.

**Union Representation:** Ensure that all post-secondary employees, both faculty and classified, have access to representation to enforce their rights as employees and that all institutions honor such representation, bargaining in good faith with the union(s) representing employees.