

# MEA-RETIRED TRIBUNE

July 2018

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## Proposed changes in Social Studies standards

Senator Patrick Colbeck is leading the charge to erase history. Colbeck, and a group of others, recently helped rewrite the proposed social studies standards for public school students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

A few of the egregious proposed changes are:

- References to the Ku Klux Klan are decreased to a single reference in eighth-grade.
- Five existing references to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have been cut.
- The two references to gays and lesbians have been deleted.
- References to Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 Supreme Court case legalizing a women's right to reproductive freedom, are removed.

For the full view of the proposed standards click here: [Check Out The Proposed Standards](#)

**What can you do to have your voice heard? Attend one of five remaining Michigan Department of Education public meetings around the state to speak out against erasing history.** Upcoming meetings are in the following locations:

[Click here](#) to submit concerns.

Click here to read the full article in Bridge. [History gets a conservative twist in Michigan social studies standards.](#)

## NEA-Retired Annual Meeting

The NEA-Retired 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held in St. Paul, MN on June 27 and 28. The meeting was lead by President Sarah Borgman. There were 315 confirmed delegates who elected Michigan's Dan Rudd for Secretary and Jean Dobashi for Vice President. Michigan's Barb Schram was elected to the NEA Board of Directors and Sid Kardon will serve on the NEA Resolutions Committee.

New Business items that passed during the business meeting were:

- NEA-Retired opposed the proposed NEA Constitutional Amendment #5, which makes the RA the only body authorized to make both primary and general presidential recommendations.
- NEA-Retired proposed to the NEA-RA that it study the feasibility of voting for new business items with smart phones or tablets.
- Confine paper copies of campaign literature for NEA-Retired candidates at the NEA-Retired RA to candidates' tables and allow attendees to choose to pick up candidate's materials.
- To be able to access electronically the 'Report on Action', taken on NBI's at the previous year's NEA-Retired Annual Meeting beginning with the 2019 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting with the 2018 NBI's.

There were other New Business items referred.

Delegates enjoyed birthday cake and soft drinks to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> birthday of NEA Retired.

Elected delegates who attended were: Al Beamish, Geoff Blain, Sheila Blain, Connie Boylan, Cathie Frederick, John Frederick, Anne Good, Millie Lambert, Linda Russell, Jack Schneider, Barb Schram, Randy Ston, Kay Walker-Telma, Judy Foster, Roger Foster, Linda Brunson, Pam DeGryse, Leon Scott, Diana Irons, Jeanne Hansen, Elaine Miller, Sue Pagen, Tina Jimenez, Bill Papo, Jim Sparapani, Mary Yedinak, Ken Krause,

Dan Rudd, Elias Chapa, Sid Kardon, Judy Daley, Sally McNamara, Iris Salters, Pam Kellar, Joanne Hoekstra, and Judy Gail Armstrong-Hall.

## THE 2018 NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

The 156<sup>th</sup> Convention is being held from June 30 – July 5, 2018. Caucus meetings will be held each day, usually at 7 a.m. each day, followed by a meeting of all delegates from all over the country until about 6 P.M. Delegates will hear the Higher Ed Educator of the Year, Teacher of the Year, the Educational Support Professional of the Year, and NCHE Higher Educator of the Year. A friend of Education Award will be given to Ted Dintersmith, education philanthropist and author. Members will be voting on new policy statements, proposed amendments, resolutions, and new business items.

The same 36 MEA-Retired delegates will be attending the NEA Representative Assembly.

## Medicare Reminder

Medicare Part B covers emergency ambulance services and, in limited cases, non-emergency ambulance services. Medicare considers an emergency to be any situation when your health is in serious danger and you cannot be transported safely by other means. If your trip is scheduled when your health is not in immediate danger, it is not considered an emergency.

### Eligibility

Part B covers emergency ambulance services if:

- An ambulance is medically necessary, meaning it is the only safe way to transport you
- The reason for your trip is to receive a Medicare-covered service or to return from receiving care
- You are transported to and from certain locations, following Medicare's coverage guidelines
- And, the transportation supplier meets Medicare ambulance requirements

To be eligible for coverage of non-emergency ambulance services, you must:

- Be confined to your bed (unable to get up from bed without help, unable to walk, and unable to sit in a chair or wheelchair)
- Or, need vital medical services during your trip that are only available in an ambulance, such as administration of medications or monitoring of vital functions

Medicare may cover unscheduled or irregular non-emergency trips, but if you live in a skilled nursing facility (SNF), a doctor's written order may be required within 48 hours after the transport. Medicare may also cover scheduled, regular trips if the ambulance supplier receives a written order from your doctor ahead of time stating that transport is medically necessary.

Medicare never covers ambulette services. An ambulette is a wheelchair-accessible van that provides non-emergency transportation. Medicare also does not cover ambulance transportation just because you lack access

to alternative transportation.

Note: If you are receiving SNF care under Part A, most ambulance transportation should be paid for by the SNF. The SNF should not bill Medicare for this service.

## Costs

Part B covers medically necessary emergency and non-emergency ambulance services at 80% of the Medicare-approved amount. In most cases, you pay a 20% coinsurance after you meet your Part B deductible (\$183 in 2018). All ambulance companies that contract with Medicare must be participating providers.

Visit [Medicare Interactive](#) to learn more about Medicare' coverage of ambulance services.

## Respond to Supreme Court's anti-union decision by taking the #RedForEd pledge



On June 27, the last day of the session, the Supreme Court undermined the ability of unions and educators to come together and bargain collectively on students' behalf with its ruling in [Janus v. AFSCME](#). In a 5-to-4 decision that cast aside decades of precedents and laws, the court eliminated public-sector unions' ability to collect "fair share" or "agency" fees from workers who are not union members, but still benefit from union agreements and

representation - for example, during grievance proceedings. "This case was nothing more than a blatant political attack to further rig our economy and democracy against everyday Americans in favor of the wealthy and powerful," said [NEA President Lily Eskelsen García](#). We must respond by coming together to advocate for students like never before. Click on the button and take



**VOTE NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

**NATIONWIDE; 33 SENATE SEATS, 435 HOUSE SEATS, AND 14 GOVERNORSHIPS WILL BE UP FOR ELCTION.**

**vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote**