

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

(Applies to candidates running for IEA President, Vice President, NEA Director, IEA Representative on the NEA Resolutions Committee, At Large Member(s) on the IEA Board of Directors – this questionnaire is to appear on the reverse of the “Nomination Form for IEA Office” provided to potential candidates.)

1. How long have you been working in education? I have been working in education for 12 years. I started as a behavior para. I understand the work of our education support professionals, and I support all our educators.
2. What positions of leadership have you held (elected, appointed or voluntary) at the local, region, state or national level? In my district I am a building representative.
3. What do you believe are the three primary responsibilities of this office? Listening, creating a place where the members will share their voices, amplifying their voices.
4. What do you see as the greatest challenge IEA members will face in the next five years? What ideas do you have to address that challenge? Watching the legislative sessions this year, I was impressed with our leadership in IEA and members' actions and their work to fight for what is right for our students and profession. The work of the IEA has not been easy with the outrage and accusations against public education. I believe we will continue to see this, and we need support from our communities and representatives. We need to continue talking and engage in dialogue. After speaking at legislation on behalf of IEA about trauma and adverse childhood experiences, the Idaho Women's Voting League reached out to me and asked me to speak in a virtual panel discussion. These opportunities are valuable in helping educate and bring awareness to the public on these ongoing issues. I plan on continuing to speak up and having conversations about important topics like this, including social-emotional learning and all the great work happening in the classrooms. I also know our educators have been under pressure, stress, and experiencing compassion fatigue. I will continue to find resources and mental health support for our students and educators.
5. What is your plan for increasing membership and member engagement? I plan on partnering with all the regions and locals to support them in having more conversations with their district and educators.

6. How do you intend to communicate with members in order to keep them informed and to find out their concerns? I plan on communicating via email, phone calls, and meetings in person, or virtually. I value connecting with others and having intimate conversations, and I hope to continue doing this across the state of Idaho.

7. Provide other information you would like members to know: I have been working in education for 12 years, I'm a school counselor at a middle school in Twin Falls. I have 14 years of experience in advocacy work.