

# NEA Leader FAQ Resource

Frequently Asked Questions for the 2020 Virtual RA  
**Our Democracy, Our Responsibility, Our Time**

## WHAT'S THE RA EVENT SCHEDULE? (hours in Eastern time)

### JUNE

1-24	Delegate Registration	29	Summer of Justice Summer Camp
22	RA Virtual Tele-Townhall (8-9:30pm)		(2-8:30pm)
25	Strategic Plan & Budget Open Hearing (8-9:30pm)	30	NCSEA Membership Meeting
28-7/1	Aspiring Educator Conference	JULY	
28&30	NCESP Membership Meeting	1	NCHE (noon-2pm)
29-30	NEA Retired Annual Meeting (3-5pm)		NEA Board of Directors (3-6pm)
		2-3	HCR Awards Program (8-9:30)
		7	<b>Representative Assembly (3-7pm)</b>
		9	NEA Legislative Program - Update
			NEA Resolutions - Update

## HOW ARE WE HANDLING TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGES IN OUR VIRTUAL RA?

We've selected a platform that can connect up to 10,000 participants; not require delegates to have elaborate technology and expensive connection requirements in their homes while still providing reliable access, smooth streaming of video and clear audio. This technology will be secure and not easily "hacked" by non-delegates wishing to disrupt our RA.

Delegates may connect by computer, tablet or cell phone. Delegates will be able to join a cue to speak, but we will not have the capacity to vote via the platform based on LMRDA (federal law) requirements.

Because of these technical limitations, business that requires complex debate (Resolutions, New Business Items, Legislative Program, Policy Statements, Constitution, Bylaw and Standing Rule amendments) is postponed until next summer at the 2021 RA.

## WHAT WILL BE ON THE RA LIMITED AGENDA?

The action of the NEA Board to move the Atlanta RA to a virtual venue included a motion (which passed by more than 2/3 of the Board) to Suspend the Rules of our traditional RA and enact rules to be used solely for this 2020 virtual RA. Those standing rules can be accessed here: <https://ra.nea.org/2020/04/29/what-are-the-temporary-standing-rules/>

The rules allow NEA **candidate speeches**; presentation by the NEA Fund for Children & Public Education of its **recommendation for U.S. president**; and a limited debate on the **Strategic Plan and Budget** with votes on these 3 items taken by secret mail ballot (details below).

Other business of the RA includes receiving reports and presentations of leaders, partners and honorees. This year, those **presentations include Stacey Abrams**, opening invocation address; **National Teacher of the Year; National ESP of the Year; Higher Educator of the Year**; Friend of Education: **Greta Thunberg**, 17-year-old climate activist from Sweden

**WILL DELEGATES ENGAGE IN PAC FUNDRAISING?**

Yes! PAC Captains are hard at work developing creative ideas to lift up our PAC fund raising to ensure pro-education candidates win important federal offices. More information to come soon!

**WILL GUESTS BE ABLE TO REGISTER?**

No. Only delegates and presenters will be allowed on the secure site. But guests and the general public are invited to join us through livestream on NEA.org.

**AFTER THE RA – WHAT’S THE PROCESS FOR DELEGATES TO RECEIVE BALLOTS AND VOTE?**

Delegates will receive a paper ballot in the mail shortly after the RA adjourns. The Department of Labor (DOL) has strict guidelines for elections that we must follow. Below is the timeline to ensure we are in compliance.

**Schedule for the first mail ballot election:**

- July 3 - Ballots mailed to delegates
- July 27 - Delegates should return ballots *on or before this date* to ensure they arrive by the count deadline
- August 4 - Ballots must be received by the NEA Elections Committee’s counters
- August 5 – Tabulation – Winners announced at close of tabulation

**Should there be a runoff:**

- August 6 New ballots printed & envelopes prepared
- August 12 Ballots mailed to delegates
- August 24 Delegates should return ballots *on or before this date* to ensure they arrive by the count deadline by the NEA Elections Committee’s counters
- August 31 Tabulation - Run-off winners announced at close of tabulation

**HOW CAN DELEGATES GET ANSWERS TO OTHER QUESTIONS AND ACCESS RA MATERIALS?**

Go to [nea.org/ra](http://nea.org/ra)

*Thank you for all that you do, we look forward to seeing you at the 2020 Virtual NEA RA!*