

2018 AEA BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

NEA State Director

Amber Gould

As a high school English and student council teacher, I have had the incredible honor of serving as your NEA Director for the previous three years. I am excited to be running for a second term and humbly ask for your vote to be re-elected to the NEA Board.

The past few years have not been without their struggles, but despite the attacks on our profession, we have worked together as an association to keep the promise of a quality public education. We have consistently made decisions that grow and strengthen our union, and I look forward to continuing that process at the national level through decisions and actions made on the NEA Board as well as through conversations with our Members of Congress.

I have had the privilege of your support the past few years on the board and then some. You have supported me as a regional director to the AEA board, the president of my local, a vice-chair of the NEA Young Professionals Caucus, an elected member to the NEA Program and Budget committee, your NEA-RA PAC Captain, and of course as your NEA Director. With your continued support and vote, I would love to complete a second term organizing and advocating for our members and students on a national level.

Thank you.

Address: 7278 W. Glenn Drive, Glendale, AZ 85303
Work Phone: 623-915-8557 Home Phone: 602-469-7707
Local Association: Glendale Union EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 7
Total Years of Educational Employment: 7
Total Years as AEA Member: 8 As NEA member: 8
Higher Education Degrees Held: Secondary Education with an emphasis in English

Elective positions held:

NEA Director for Arizona, 2015-present
Glendale Union EA President, 2017-present
AEA Region 5 Director, 2012-2015

Appointive positions held:

NEA Membership Organizing Committee Chair, 2017-present
AEA Social Justice Task Force Chair, 2015-2016
AEA Finance and Revenue Committee, 2012-2015

Non-Education Positions held:

LD29 Precinct Committeeperson, 2017-present

NEA Alternate State Director

Eboney McKinney

Hello Arizona! I am asking for your support to become the next NEA Alternate State Director! I've lived in Southern Arizona since 2004 and started working in our public schools as a Title I para and a high school cheer coach. I am in my 10th year as a proud public school teacher. I have been an AEA/NEA member since 2009 and have been an active at the local and state level. I started my involvement with the association as a local committee member, then became a site rep and then president the next year! I am currently in my fifth and final year as local president of the Sierra Vista Classroom Teachers Association. I was a founding member of the eSWAG and was a board member for four years. I am finishing up my first term as Region 12 Board member and am running for a second term. I would proudly represent our students, our teachers and our state at the national level, when needed!

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Address: 4192-A Calle Ladero, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Work Phone: 520-515-2987 Home Phone: 520-227-2517
Local Association: Sierra Vista CTA
Education Position: Student Achievement Teacher Years Employed: 10
Total Years of Educational Employment: 10
Total Years as AEA Member: 9 As NEA member: 9
Higher Education Degrees Held: B.A. Elementary Education

Elective positions held:

Local President of Sierra Vista CTA, 2013-2018
Region 12 Director, 2015-2018
eSWAG Board and Founding Member, 2012-2017

AEA ESP At-Large Director - *open position*

AEA ESP Alternate At-Large Director

Cesar Cota

My name is Cesar Cota. I have been an employee of the Cartwright Elementary School District for 3 years. I would like to represent you at the AEA board of directors as an ESP Alternate at Large Director. I currently work at Pena elementary school as a school crossing guard I have also worked as a school monitor at Pena. I have been an active member of the Cartwright Education Association for the past two years. I was an ESP Organizing Task Force Committee Member, in addition I was nominated and selected by my coworkers to serve as an AEA Assembly Delegate. I am also involved in the Advocacy Cohort Training. I had the opportunity to speak with your elected officials at the state capitol on behalf of you and the students of Arizona of K-12 Public Education on spring break . My goal is have strong voices for the education support professional community. Diversity is very important because, we can learn from each other.

Address: 7546 W. Montecito Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85033
Work Phone: Home Phone: 623-999-2316
Local Association: Cartwright EA
Education Position: Years Employed:
Total Years of Educational Employment:
Total Years as AEA Member: As NEA member:
Higher Education Degrees Held:

Region 1 Alternate Director

Beth Slaine

Address: 5915 E Sun Country Blvd., Tucson AZ 85712
Work Phone: Home Phone: 520-820-2577
Local Association: Tucson EA
Education Position: PD Academic Trainer Years Employed: 11
Total Years of Educational Employment: 17
Total Years as AEA Member: 17 As NEA member: 17
Higher Education Degrees Held: MA Linguistics, MAT Secondary Education/Curriculum

Elective positions held:

Region 1 Alternate Director, 2017-present
TEA PAC Chair
TEA Area Representative

Appointive positions held:

Teacher Leadership Institute State Coach

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Region 2 Director

Joshua Buckley

Address: 994 S. Deerfield Lane, Gilbert, AZ 85296
Work Phone: Home Phone: 480-751-7098
Local Association: Mesa EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 8
Total Years of Educational Employment: 12
Total Years as AEA Member: 8 As NEA member: 8
Higher Education Degrees Held: BA Secondary Education, MA in Education

Elective positions held:

President of Mesa Education Association, 2017-present
Vice President of Mesa Education Association, 2015-2017
Region 10 Executive Board member, Mesa EA, 2012-2015

Appointive positions held:

Mesa EA Bargaining Committee, 2007-2008 and 2014-2017
Mesa EA PAC Chair, 2015-2017
AEA Organizing Institute Committee, 2015-present

Region 3 Director

April Coleman

It has been my honor to serve as your Region 3 Director for the past 3 years. During that time, I have worked to increase the presence of the Phoenix Union High School District at both the state and national levels in educational policy making and in developing quality professional development opportunities for our current and emerging leaders. I am running for a second term to continue the valuable work that has been started and to provide additional opportunities for members of Region 3 to lead, to drive change and to grow. Thank you for your continued support in this endeavor.

Address: 950 N Bradley Drive, Chandler, AZ 85226
Work Phone: 480-332-0540 Home Phone: 480-332-0540
Local Association: Phoenix Union HSD CTA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed:
Total Years of Educational Employment:
Total Years as AEA Member: As NEA member:
Higher Education Degrees Held:

Region 3 Director

Resha Gentry-Ballance

I have been on the AEA Board of Directors since last May when I was elected at the Delegate assembly. I expected to be able to connect my local more firmly to AEA as a result of being on the Board, but I didn't expect to be able to do my job as Phoenix Union CTA President better as a result. I would like to continue in my role as Director for Region C to serve AEA and my local. I have just begun my work in both capacities and look forward to learning and growing in both roles. I appreciate your support.

Address: 3210 W Frankfurt Drive, Chandler, AZ 85226
Work Phone: Home Phone: 480-274-9390
Local Association: Phoenix Union HSD CTA
Education Position: TOA / CTA President Years Employed: 32
Total Years of Educational Employment: 32
Total Years as AEA Member: 31 As NEA member: 31
Higher Education Degrees Held: MA in Arts and Performance

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Elective positions held:

President of Phoenix Union CTA, 2017-present
Vice President of Phoenix Union CTA, 2014-2017
Unit Chair, Phoenix Union CTA, 5½ years

Region 3 Alternate Director

Lorelei Andersen

Address: 1004 E. Wesleyan Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282
Work Phone: 602-764-9000 Home Phone: 602-909-8253
Local Association: Phoenix Union High School District CTA
Education Position: Business Teacher Years Employed: 20
Total Years of Educational Employment: 20
Total Years as AEA Member: 20 As NEA member: 21
Higher Education Degrees Held: Master in Secondary Education

Elective positions held:

Treasurer of Phoenix Union CTA, 2 years
Unit Chair, Phoenix Union CTA, 5 years
Campus Rep, Phoenix Union CTA, 10 years

Region 5 Director

Michael McGowan

When I graduated from college, I had never heard of the AEA, NEA, and certainly not of my local association, GUEA. In the positions I hold now (NEA RA delegate, local site leader, math department chair), I have the opportunity to interact with my high school and college students who are much farther along in their union journey than I was at that time. After I was hired at the high school that I previously attended, I was offered the opportunity to join the association. I still didn't fully understand what it was or what they did, but I joined regardless because everyone else was doing it. Since then, I have continuously been looking for opportunities to help move our association forward. Whether I'm empowering teachers at my school to seek out leadership opportunities within the association or volunteering on campaigns and events put on by my local or state association, I'm always actively looking for ways to be involved in my association. Becoming an AEA Board Member is the next step for me to help move AEA forward. I have a great vision for our students' education in Arizona, and as an AEA Board Member I will have a greater impact on policies and endorsements that directly affect us everyday.

Address: 16601 N. 4th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85023
Work Phone: Home Phone: 602-558-0961
Local Association: Glendale Union EA
Education Position: Math Teacher Years Employed: 5
Total Years of Educational Employment: 5
Total Years as AEA Member: 5 As NEA member: 5
Higher Education Degrees Held: Masters in K-12 Instruction Educational Leadership

Elective positions held:

Glendale Union EA Site Leader, 3 years
NEA-RA Delegate, 2 years

Appointive positions held:

Glendale Union EA Communications Chair, 2 years
AEA Budget Committee at NEA-RA, 1 year
Young Professionals Caucus, Constitution Chair, 1 year

Non-Education positions held:

Board Member for YMCA Camping Services, 1.5 years

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Region 5 Director

Mindy Whalen

When I graduated from college, I had never heard of the AEA, NEA, and certainly not of my local association, GUEA. In the positions I hold now (NEA RA delegate, local site leader, math department chair), I have the opportunity to interact with my high school and college students who are much farther along in their union journey than I was at that time. After I was hired at the high school that I previously attended, I was offered the opportunity to join the association. I still didn't fully understand what it was or what they did, but I joined regardless because everyone else was doing it. Since then, I have continuously been looking for opportunities to help move our association forward. Whether I'm empowering teachers at my school to seek out leadership opportunities within the association or volunteering on campaigns and events put on by my local or state association, I'm always actively looking for ways to be involved in my association. Becoming an AEA Board Member is the next step for me to help move AEA forward. I have a great vision for our students' education in Arizona, and as an AEA Board Member I will have a greater impact on policies and endorsements that directly affect us everyday.

Address: 5301 N 82nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
Work Phone: 602-347-2500 Home Phone: 602-647-9357
Local Association: Washington Elementary District EA
Education Position: Reading Teacher Years Employed: 25
Total Years of Educational Employment: 26
Total Years as AEA Member: 18 As NEA member: 18
Higher Education Degrees Held: Masters in Education

Elective positions held:

AEA Region 5 Director
Local President
Local Treasurer

Appointive positions held:

Political Action Chair
Advocacy Chair

Region 5 Alternate Director – *open position*

Region 6 Director

Nancy Schwartz

Getting involved in politics and "the union" was the farthest thing from my mind when I decided to pursue a career in public education. However, for several years, such involvement has not been an optional activity. Public education, which was created to be one of the great equalizers, continues to be at risk. We cannot sit on the sidelines hoping that things will get better. "Things" will not get better unless we are willing to join together and fight for it. And the best way to join together is through our union, the AEA. (Yes, it's called an association – but we *are* a union.)

Unions have been part of our history since the American Revolutionary War. Unions have fought for safer working conditions, health care, and retirement benefits. Unions bring diverse voices together for a common cause. Unions historically have elevated the standards of living for all workers. Unions are democratic. Everyone has a voice; everyone has a vote.

I seek to continue to represent Region 6 on the AEA Board of Directors because there is more to do. Before we can advance our profession, we must save it. I will endeavor to keep you informed. I will listen to your opinions and concerns and assist you in having a voice. And I will work to protect our profession from those who see dollar signs in privatization – instead of seeing a child who falls in love with reading.

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Address: 4311 W Ceton Drive, Laveen, AZ 85339
Work Phone: Home Phone: 602-828-8565
Local Association: Roosevelt EA
Education Position: Library/Media Specialist Years Employed: 9
Total Years of Educational Employment: 37
Total Years as AEA Member: 14 As NEA member: 37
Higher Education Degrees Held: PhD Instructional Systems Technology

Elective positions held:

AEA Board of Directors, 2 years
Roosevelt EA Local President, 6 years
DoDDs Okinawa Local President, 3 years

Appointive positions held:

Meet & Confer Spokesperson, 6 years

Region 6 Alternate Director

Jennifer Dwosh

Local members of Region 6, My name is Jennifer Dwosh and I want to continue to serve as your alternate regional director. I have been a proud member of the Madison District Classroom Teacher's Association for the past five years and have served as a member of the executive board for the past four, first as the Communications officer and now as a Member-at-Large. I have also served as the 2017-2018 Alternate Director for Region 6, and as a member of the PAC Fund Council from 2014-2015. Based on my breadth of experience, I am ready to continue as your alternate regional director.

Education has always been my passion and I want to support the educators in the state of Arizona and across the nation. Serving as an alternate regional director will allow me to provide you with information and support by reporting back what is going on at AEA and in Arizona, participating in advocacy and outreach to teachers, legislators and the public, and taking your concerns to the Board so that you can be supported in your locals.

I look forward to serving as your alternate regional director.

Address: 2929 N. 70th Street, #2061, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Work Phone: Home Phone: 480-467-7206
Local Association: Madison District CTA
Education Position: Teacher, 5th – 8th grade Social Studies Years Employed: 6
Total Years of Educational Employment: 6
Total Years as AEA Member: 5 As NEA member: 5
Higher Education Degrees Held: BA Elementary Education, Gifted Endorsement

Elective positions held:

AEA Region 6 Alternate Director, 2017-2018
Member-At-Large, MDCTA, 2015-2018
AEA Fund Council Legislative District Representative, 2014-2015

Appointive positions held:

eSWAG Representative for MDCTA, 2014-2017
MDCTA Social Chairperson, 2014-2017

Non-Education Positions held:

ASU Young Alumni Chapter Secretary, 2016-2018

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Region 7 Director

Melanie Cobos

Address: 4115 W Rimrock Drive, Glendale, AZ 85308

Work Phone: 623-691-3524 Home Phone: 602-509-3422

Local Association: Cartwright EA

Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 17

Total Years of Educational Employment: 17.5

Total Years as AEA Member: 18 As NEA member: 18

Higher Education Degrees Held: Master of Education, Educational Leadership-Principalship. Master of Education, Elementary Education Reading, BA Elementary Education.

Elective positions held:

AEA Board of Directors Region 7 Director, 3 years

Delegate to the NEA-RA, 3 years

Cartwright EA Political Action Chair, 5 years

Appointive positions held:

Meet & Confer Committee Member, 2 years

Pay for Performance Committee – Cartwright

AEA Political Action Bootcamp Trainer, 1 year

Region 7 Alternate Director

Sandra Cobos

Address: 10 W. Minnezona Ave, Apt 1126, Phoenix, AZ 85013

Work Phone: 623-691-2444 Home Phone: 602-909-2512

Local Association: Cartwright EA

Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 13

Total Years of Educational Employment: 13

Total Years as AEA Member: 13 As NEA member: 13

Higher Education Degrees Held: Masters in Leadership - Principalship

Elective positions held:

Member-At-Large, Cartwright, 8 years

Site Leader, 2 years

Appointive positions held:

eSWAG Chair, 2 years

eSWAG Public Relations, 2 years

Region 8 Director - *open position*

Region 8 Alternate Director - *open position*

Region 9 Director - *open position*

Region 9 Alternate Director

Kelly Trujillo

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I am the Co-President of Tempe Elementary Education Association. I was one of the founding members of eSWAG and a past co-chair. I am an active member of AEA and would love to represent our region by being the Region 9 Alternate Director.

Address: 1414 E. Tyson Street, Chandler, AZ 85225
Work Phone: 480-784-4484 Home Phone: 480-332-7857
Local Association: Tempe Elementary EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 13
Total Years of Educational Employment: 13
Total Years as AEA Member: 13 As NEA member: 13
Higher Education Degrees Held: BA-Elementary Education

Elective positions held:

Co-President of Tempe Elem EA, 2014-present
AEA eSWAG Co-Chair, 2016-2017
Tempe Elem EA Secretary, 2012-2014

Region 11 Director

Derek Born

Address: 3602 S Pima Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86005
Work Phone: Home Phone: 928-863-5360
Local Association: Flagstaff EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 9
Total Years of Educational Employment: 14
Total Years as AEA Member: 11 As NEA member: 11
Higher Education Degrees Held: MA – Teaching English as a Second Language

Region 11 Alternate Director - *open position*

Region 12 Director

Eboney McKinney

Region 12, it has been a pleasure to represent you all on the board! I have enjoyed working with the locals of Southern AZ and look forward to continuing this work throughout Region 12. Please know that I've had a stellar attendance record and am an active participant in all board and fund council meetings. We are about to embark on an exciting but critical time in AZ with the 2018 election season! I'd like to be able to continue this work and represent our region as we make decisions about the continued growth of our association, our place at the education table and our goal of providing quality public education for all students in AZ. I ask for your support in allowing me to continue this work for another term.

Address: 4192-A Calle Ladero, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Work Phone: 520-515-2987 Home Phone: 520-227-2517
Local Association: Sierra Vista CTA
Education Position: Student Achievement Teacher Years Employed: 10
Total Years of Educational Employment: 10
Total Years as AEA Member: 9 As NEA member: 9
Higher Education Degrees Held: B.A. Elementary Education

Elective positions held:

Local President of Sierra Vista CTA, 2013-2018
Region 12 Director, 2015-2018
eSWAG Board and Founding Member, 2012-2017

2018 AEA BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

Region 12 Alternate Director

Nathaniel Ratey

Address: 5755 E River Road, #3521, Tucson, AZ 85750
Work Phone: 520-625-3502 Home Phone: 520-869-6236
Local Association: Sahuarita EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 6
Total Years of Educational Employment: 6
Total Years as AEA Member: 5 As NEA member: 5
Higher Education Degrees Held: B.A. Education

Elective positions held:

Local President of Sahuarita EA, 2016-2018

Region 13 Director

Nicole Cozad

As Region 13 Director, I strive to not only represent the members of my region on the AEA Board of Directors, but also ensure that members in my region are given accurate information from their association in a timely manner. During my first term on the AEA Board, I took an active role and worked with my colleagues on the board as well as the local leaders in my region to create meaningful solutions to the problems facing our leaders as well as the members of AEA as a whole. I am proud of the work I have done as a member of the AEA Board of Directors, and I ask that I be re-elected to continue to serve as your representative. I would be honored by your vote, and I thank you for your support.

Address: 4405 W. Pyracantha Drive, Tucson, AZ 85741
Work Phone: 520-616-6400 Home Phone: 250-275-4315
Local Association: Marana EA
Education Position: Teacher Years Employed: 21.5
Total Years of Educational Employment: 21.5
Total Years as AEA Member: As NEA member:
Higher Education Degrees Held: B.S. English/Secondary Education; M.Ed. Counseling/Human Relations

Elective positions held:

AEA Region 13 Director, 2015-2018
Marana EA President, 2010-2015
Marana EA Treasurer, 2005-2009

Appointive positions held:

AEA Member Benefits Task Force Chair, 2015-2018
AEA Instruction & Professional Development Task Force, 2013-2015
AEA Government Relations & Legislative Action Task Force, 2012-2013

Non-Education Positions held:

NCATE Board of Appeals, 2010-2013
NCATE Board of Examiners, 2007-2010
AZ Accreditation Committee, 2006-2007

Region 13 Alternate Director - *open position*