

Right around Super Bowl Sunday, NEA-Alaska holds its largest meeting of the year. Delegates from across Alaska come to Anchorage to help chart the future for educators in Alaska.

More than perhaps any other union, NEA-Alaska is a member-driven organization, but in the course of day-to-day operations, like any organization, it may seem to depend heavily on its officers, staff, and board members to make decisions.

Delegate Assembly, however, is an opportunity for general members to come together and shape the policy that guides those decisions. Members write and vote upon new business items that direct the association to accomplish a wide variety of tasks, such as the statewide advertising campaign that is just getting under way. Members also write and vote upon resolutions about what teachers in Alaska support, and set the priorities for legislation that NEA-AK will seek in Juneau.

If you've served as a delegate before, perhaps it's time to come back and participate again. If you've never been a delegate, perhaps it time for you to consider running. For many members it's a first look at how broad and diverse educators across Alaska can be.

Elections for Anchorage delegates were recently completed. But there is always an opportunity for you to nominate yourself or be nominated next year. AEA qualifies for approximately 130 delegates, and AEA needs to send the entire number it qualifies for so it is well represented at Delegate Assembly. DA historically takes place on a Friday and a Saturday, usually the weekend in January. It is a great opportunity to meet people from all over the state. And you're done in time for the Super Bowl.