

**Dear Members,  
Welcome back from spring break. Along with some timely items listed below, Associations across Alaska are asked to take action this week!**

**Please email and give testimony to raise the BSA and add a Defined Benefit option for Tier III educators.**

**NEA Alaska President Tom Klaameyer shared several opportunities to provide testimony in an email to your home address Saturday. Educators should share their stories about our current staffing crisis, increasing class sizes, lack of behavioral support, and how all these challenges affect student outcomes.**

**It's important** to adhere to the 2-minute time limit provided to each speaker.

- Make clear, concise arguments about why an increase in the BSA is good for students, educators, and our public school system.
- Tell your personal story about how budget shortfalls have impacted your school district.
- Be sure to thank the committee for hearing this important legislation

**To participate**, please call one of the Legislative Teleconference phone numbers:

- In Juneau (907) 586-9085(or State Capitol 106)
- In Anchorage (907) 563-9085
- All other locations (844) 586-9085

These are meaningful opportunities to ensure legislators know how vital this legislation is for Alaska's students and educators.

### **HB 65: INCREASING THE BSA (Base Student Allocation)**

The House Education Committee plans to take public testimony on House Bill 65 to increase the BSA by \$1250. Your brief testimony in support of increased education funding can make a big difference.

**Public testimony will begin @ 5:15 PM on Tuesday, March 21, in the House Education Committee.**

### **SB 88: ADDING A DEFINED BENEFIT OPTION**

The Senate Labor and Commerce Committee will hear public testimony on Senate Bill 88, a return to a defined benefit option for all Alaska public employees.

**Public Testimony will be on Monday, March 21st, and Wednesday, March 23rd, @ 1:30 p.m.**

**REGISTERED VOTERS SHOULD BE RECEIVING THEIR  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION BALLOTS.**

**PLEASE VOTE FOR PRO PUBLIC EDUCATION CANDIDATES.**

**AN EMAIL WILL BE SENT TO YOUR NON-WORK EMAIL IN  
THE NEXT FEW DAYS**

**WITH AEA PACE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**ADDITIONAL AEA TOPICS BELOW**

- **AEA Spring Election Candidate Forum**
- **Bargaining Team Applications Due Friday**
- **AEA Micro-Credential Support PLC**

**AEA Spring Election Candidate Forum**

AEA is hosting a ***Candidate Forum Wednesday, March 22, @ 7:00p via Zoom***. The Zoom link will be shared with all members on Wednesday morning.

- **AEA Vice-President of Communications:** Two-minute speech by each nominee.
- **AEA Secretary:** Two-minute speech by each nominee.
- **AEA At-Large Director:** Two-minute speech by each nominee.
- **Representative Assembly:** One-minute speech by each nominee.
- **Delegate Assembly:** One-minute speech by each nominee.
- **PACE/Political Action Committee for Education:** One-minute speech by each nominee.

**Bargaining Team Applications Due Friday**

Our current contract will expire at the end of the 23.24 school year. Therefore, this spring, AEA will assemble the AEA Bargaining Team for the next round of negotiations beginning in the fall of 2023.

If you are interested, please apply [HERE!](#)

This is an entirely voluntary position, requiring an extreme time commitment. AEA Bargaining Team members will be expected to participate in a three-day training this fall, numerous planning/working meetings, and member information meetings. You must be an AEA member to be considered.

**The deadline to apply is March 24, 2023, @ 5:00 pm.**

### **AEA Micro-Credential Support PLC**

AEA members can earn a free micro-credential good for salary advancement and recertification with the State of Alaska. (Flyer attached)

This professional learning community is designed to support your pursuit of completing a micro-credential from the NEA Micro-Credential Certification Bank from beginning to end. It is an excellent opportunity for you to direct your own learning as there are dozens of different micro-credentials to choose from. The PLC sessions will be a mix of synchronous and asynchronous sessions conducted through Zoom and hosted on a Canvas shell from March 25 through early May. Dates and times TBD.

The PLC will support you through the entire process, from choosing a micro-credential, writing your overview, completing your artifacts, writing your reflection, and submitting your micro-credential for approval.

Micro-credentials can be used for documenting competencies you already have learned on the job or as a means for working on an area of improvement. Participants may complete their micro-credential earlier.

Contact Devon Roberts at [roberts\\_devon@asdk12.org](mailto:roberts_devon@asdk12.org) with questions.

In Solidarity,

Corey



Connecting Educators  
Inspiring Students

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