

2020 NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

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1. RESOLVED: that the MEA investigate the feasibility of increasing the number of delegates representing student members at the MEA Representative Assembly and determine what changes to the MEA Constitution and Bylaws would be needed if the investigation results in a recommendation to increase the number of student delegates.
2. RESOLVED: that the MEA investigate the feasibility of adding a “Community Ally” membership category for friends of public education; such membership would not include the right to vote, nor the right to hold office in the Association. The MEA will report its findings and recommendation to next year’s MEA Representative Assembly.
3. RESOLVED: that the MEA purchase and use the Hustle app to communicate with Education Support Professional members across the state.
4. RESOLVED: that the MEA investigate creating a permanent grant fund to financially support local associations sending locally funded delegates to the NEA RA. Such a fund might offer to cover half of the cost of a locally funded delegate for a limited number of local associations per year. Priority could be given to delegates who:
 - Will represent locals that have been eligible to send a locally funded delegate for the previous five years but have not done so
 - Have been an educator for fewer than 10 years
 - Are members of groups underrepresented in the MEA (ESP, race/ethnic/gender/LGBTQ+ minorities, MEA Board districts with low participation rates in MEA activities, etc.)Should a fund be created, a strategic plan to promote the availability of the grant fund should also be developed. Recent delegates to the MEA RA should specifically be encouraged to apply for a grant.
5. RESOLVED: that the MEA will compose and send an official letter to MainePERS Executive Director Sandy Matheson to once again strongly urge that MainePERS divest its pension fund from all fossil fuel companies or subsidiaries.