



You may have heard about...

On September 21, 2017, the National Education Association (NEA) and the Nevada State Education Association (NSEA) filed a lawsuit against the Clark County Education Association (CCEA), President Vikki Courtney, Executive Director John Vellardita, and the Clark County School District (CCSD) to support Clark County teachers. NSEA has heard from thousands of educators in Clark County who are concerned about their benefits and want to know why this is happening. Below are answers to those questions and facts on why the lawsuit was filed, a rebuke of the misinformation being spread by President Courtney and Executive Director Vellardita, and what members can do to help resolve this issue.



DOES THE LOCAL AFFILIATE, CCEA, RECEIVE FUNDING BACK FROM THE STATE AFFILIATE, NSEA?



Over 57% of the dues received by NSEA from CCEA members is either directly returned to CCEA or paid to third-parties on CCEA's behalf. The 43% retained by NSEA is used to fund programs such as political lobbying, donations to CCEA/NSEA endorsed candidates, a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) program for CCEA members, and important member benefits such as member legal defense and liability insurance.

Over the past three years, NSEA has also supplied over \$1 million towards CCEA programs, such as a joint-political action committee, new member recruitment, funding for CCEA's lobbying program, district reorganization research, and media campaigns. NSEA has provided millions of dollars in support to CCEA. Learn more about membership dues and how NSEA supports CCEA and its members at bit.ly/nseadues.



IS NSEA FINANCIALLY TRANSPARENT?



All dues money received by NSEA is fully transparent. Copies of the budget, statement of cash flows, statements of financial position and similar financial records are provided to the CCEA president and the 15 members of CCEA who serve on the NSEA Board. A full report is also provided to all members present at the annual Delegate Assembly. The formal budget of NSEA is also adopted at Delegate Assembly. All financials of NSEA are fully audited by an independent auditor.



HOW ELSE DOES NSEA CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO HELP CCEA?



Over the past three years, NSEA has provided over \$2 million to CCEA for its staff. NSEA has copies of financial records which back up this claim.



SPECIFICALLY, HOW DOES NSEA SUPPORT CCEA AND ITS MEMBERS?



In addition to the \$2 million paid to CCEA for its staff over the last three years, NSEA has provided over \$2 million towards members' legal defense which is fully accessible by CCEA members. NSEA has also provided millions in funding for CCEA-endorsed political candidates and causes at the request of CCEA. NSEA has the largest NBCT program of its kind which is supported by the

Nevada Department of Education and the National Board, and is open to CCEA members. NSEA through NEA provides professional liability coverage to all CCEA members of up to \$1 million if they are sued by a student or a parent.

Q **WHAT IS A “DUES TRANSMITTAL AGREEMENT” AND DOES ONE EXIST BETWEEN CCEA AND NSEA?**

A A dues transmittal agreement is an agreement where the local association, in this case CCEA, agrees to pass through member dues to the state and national organization. There is a dues transmittal agreement between CCEA and NSEA. CCEA has refused to comply with the agreement.

Q **WHAT DIRECT IMPACT WILL REFUSAL TO REMIT DUES TO THE STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATION HAVE ON MEMBERS?**

A If CCEA refuses to remit NSEA and NEA dues, members will no longer be in good standing. If CCEA members are not in good standing they will lose valuable benefits such as liability insurance, member discounts and benefits through NEA Member Benefits, the ability to receive reimbursement through NSEA’s NBCT program, and all the efforts to protect the teaching profession at the state and national level. CCEA may return its members to good standing by remitting the dues owed to NSEA and NEA.

Q **WHY DON’T BOTH UNIONS SIT DOWN AND WORK ALL THIS OUT?**

A CCEA President Vikki Courtney, CCEA Executive Director John Vellardita, and others walked out of a negotiations session **after only eight (8) minutes** and have refused to return to the negotiations. NSEA offered to meet to establish a new affiliation agreement and offered to negotiate minor changes to the existing dues transmittal agreement. NSEA was prepared to seek an agreement. CCEA was belligerent during the eight-minute meeting, refused to make any proposals, and stormed away.

Q **DID NSEA OPPOSE DEDICATED FUNDING FOR TEACHERS DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION?**

A NSEA never opposed dedicated funding for teachers or any educators. NSEA supported dedicated funding for both certified personnel and education support professionals in Carson City. Support for dedicated funding was passed by the members at Delegate Assembly.

Q **IS NSEA WORKING WITH, OR COLLUDING WITH CCSD?**

A NSEA is suing the CCSD as part of its lawsuit regarding dues. No collusion is occurring, rather we are actively opposing one another in court.

Q **WHAT ACTIONS HAS CCEA TAKEN TO DISAFFILIATE FROM NSEA AND NEA?**

A Without prior notice to its members, the CCEA Executive Board considered a motion to disaffiliate. The meeting was presided over by CCEA President Vikki Courtney, also present was CCEA Executive Director John Vellardita. The motion was defeated; however, many believe that the CCEA Executive Board will try again. Please sign the following petition at bit.ly/unitypetition to contact the CCEA Executive Board and ask them to abandon their attempts to cut off dues and distance CCEA from NSEA and NEA.



WHY DID NSEA/NEA FILE A LAWSUIT AGAINST CCEA?



NEA President Lily Eskelsen-Garcia and NSEA President Ruben Murillo released a statement regarding the lawsuit. The statement may be viewed here bit.ly/NEANSEA



WHAT IS THE LAWSUIT ABOUT?



The lawsuit alleges seven different counts. They are listed below:

- Breach of the current dues transmittal agreement;
- Breach of the NSEA bylaws;
- Breach of the NEA bylaws;
- Breach of the CCEA bylaws;
- Unjust Enrichment;
- Conversion (Theft); and,
- Fraud.



WHAT IS NSEA AND NEA SEEKING?



NSEA and NEA want CCEA to meet its obligations to its members and remit their dues to NSEA and NEA. NSEA and NEA do not want any further disruption to its members benefits nor do NSEA and NEA want further harm to come to its members.



WHERE CAN I FIND A COPY OF THE LAWSUIT?



The NSEA/NEA lawsuit is available here: bit.ly/cceaccsdlawsuit



I WANT MY UNION TO BE STRONG! WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION AND WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?



Visit nvunity.com to learn more about what NEA and NSEA are doing to help its members. Find FAQs, updates, and news articles. Join the CCEA members who have already signed the online unity petition at bit.ly/unitypetition and send a message directly to CCEA's board, president, and executive director. Text "unity" to 702.710.0090 for the NSEA SMS/text program.

