

Press Release

For Immediate Release

September 10, 2015

Kansas NEA names new Executive Director

Topeka: Kansas NEA (KNEA), the state's leading professional association for educators, has named Kevin Riemann its next Executive Director, effective January 1, 2016. Mr. Riemann will replace Claudette Johns, who is retiring after successfully serving in the position since 2009 and working as a KNEA staff member for the past 25 years. Currently, Mr. Riemann holds the position of Associate Executive Director with KNEA.

Mark Farr, KNEA President, offered the following remarks regarding Mr. Riemann's new role: "At a time when public education has faced numerous challenges, I believe that Kevin Riemann has the vision and experience needed to guide our association forward as Executive Director. Kevin has proven himself as an educator, an advocate for public education, and a capable executive. On behalf of KNEA members and the Board of Directors, we look forward to the next era in KNEA's history, which will be a period of growth and positive advocacy for our association, our members, and, most importantly, Kansas students."

Current Executive Director Claudette Johns commented on her replacement, noting his strengths and acknowledging an uncertain educational climate. Ms. Johns stated, "Kevin is specifically well suited to lead KNEA as we move into the next few years. Public education has been short-changed, student achievement has been slowed by less funding, and teachers in K-12 and higher education are frustrated by attack after attack. Kevin is an outstanding educator, a tireless advocate, and a powerful voice for Kansas students and our members. I have enjoyed my work with our members and the students they serve, and I look forward to new challenges that will help me continue my public service. I wish Kevin well as he and our KNEA President Mark Farr look toward the future with optimism and resolve."

In addition to serving KNEA as Associate Executive Director, Mr. Riemann previously held the position of UniServ Director and Director of Organizational Development. Mr. Riemann is a native Kansan and a product of Kansas





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public schools. He received a bachelor's degree in History from Fort Hays State University and a master's degree in Education Administration from the University of Kansas. He taught secondary social studies for 20 years, most of which were at Lansing High School in Lansing, Kansas. During that time, Kevin was a proud member and leader of the Lansing Education Association.

Founded more than 150 years ago, KNEA and its members represent every corner of the state and come from every culture, faith, and political persuasion with the common goal of strengthening public schools. KNEA is an association of professionals, including teachers, education support professionals, pre-service educators, higher education professionals, and retired educators, who drive policy through a representative democracy. KNEA's core values include equal opportunity, a just society, democracy, professionalism, partnership and collective action.

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