

**NEVADA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**  
**Student Program**  
**to the**  
**2024 Delegate Assembly**

As I am sure most can relate to, the NSEA Student Program felt the repercussions of Covid as many of our local chapters were not able to continue. However, the NSEA SP is now working hard to continue to grow and rebuild the bridges across the state. We have continued to grow by recruiting more student members, and we are now working toward creating a new chapter in Southern Nevada. We currently have an active chapter in Reno, and we have been in communication with the College of Southern Nevada to establish a chapter there.

This school year, the NSEA SP had a great start with the Aspiring Educators Conference in Orlando, FL in the summer of 2023. There were four student members in attendance along with Lisa Romero— NSEA Uniserv Director and Aspiring Educators Liaison — and we learned new strategies and added to our repertoire of tools to improve as future educators. One of the most impactful sessions we attended was with current educator Turquoise Lejeune Parker. She led an informational session on decolonizing curriculum where she talked about the importance of building a community with students with agreed upon norms, cultural core values, and collective ownership. She provided us with a variety of teaching resources such as “rethinking schools” and the Zinn Education Project. The most powerful part of her session was learning about intention versus impact and how they are important variables to consider in classrooms, especially since we are working with diverse families and students. During the conference, we also worked with other aspiring educators from across the country in Union Communities to create posters about a variety of topics that are current and relevant to teaching, such as social emotional learning and creating inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ students in the classroom.

The Reno chapter, UofNEA, has organized many events this year and has been holding general member meetings every month. We had a movie night and field day to recruit more members. We followed that up by working on and installing a Little Free Library at Galena Creek Regional Park. We are most proud of this because we are working with the park services to provide free books to all who visit the park. We did a tie dye event during the university’s 150th Bash, and this was a huge hit. We have been partnering with the College of Education and Human Development on events such as pumpkin painting, celebrating First-Gen week, and a self-care holistic prep for finals. We held a professional development event led by NSEA Member Organizer Kristin Prostinak. She was a part of the NSEA SP for many years and the former NSEA SP president. She gave a presentation about NSEA and the multitude of member benefits. Unfortunately, we only had one student show up, but the student and current chapter officers found this presentation very helpful. We ended the semester with our fall graduation celebration, and a hot cocoa and game night. This Spring Semester we have unfortunately been having low

student attendance for general meetings and events. We started off with a vision board making event, and three new students came. Our most popular event this semester was our flower bouquet making event where we also handed out member benefits pamphlets. We have been holding general member meetings paired with an activity after, but we have had no students show up, which has been very challenging for us. We did cookie decorating as one of our activities. We also did a coin scavenger hunt event, and three students showed up for this. We have been surveying students in our classes to learn more about which days work best for students and what will encourage them to come. We are going to make changes this month and hope for improvements. We have an upcoming general meeting and an ice cream making event. We also have upcoming volunteer events, and we are brainstorming professional development events.

As current NSEA SP president, I have had the honor of meeting Vice-President Kamala Harris during her “Fight for Our Freedoms College Tour”. This event was held at the College of Southern Nevada, and this is where I connected with the member who was then inspired to start a chapter at the college. I was also able to extend invites to other aspiring educators in Las Vegas to attend the VP event, and inspire them to become more active in the NSEA SP. At the beginning of this year, I was given the opportunity to attend NEA’s “Minority Leadership Training (MLT) and Women’s Leadership Training (WLT) Seminars to Advance Racial & Social Justice” with five other educators from Nevada. This event was incredible, and I learned so much about leadership practices, racial literacy circles, and the ethnic minority affairs committee. I was also able to work with the other educators from Nevada (our State Team) to create a final project about the current issues in education and how to address them.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yD\\_5-83-KDR\\_66AUNdTJLqAerIxvKXgt/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yD_5-83-KDR_66AUNdTJLqAerIxvKXgt/view?usp=sharing)

The NSEA Student Program would like to congratulate all students who have graduated in the last year and those who will be graduating in May and throughout the year. At the Reno local chapter, we will be hosting a Spring Graduation Celebration for graduating aspiring educators, and we will be inviting members from the NSEA, WEA, WREA, and NSEA-Retired. We hope to continue to support and engage members that are continuing their education, and to help shape them into the great educators that are needed for our future.

Submitted by  
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