

Why be a Member?

Rockford Education Association

THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

With union representation, you have a personal advocate and a team behind you fighting for better working conditions, fair compensation, and increased job security.

Some of us remember when certified staff were required to work lunch duty, bus duty, and recess duty, without any personal days and few sick days. Before the union, we did all this for less than \$8000 a year, no benefits, and the very real possibility of being let go for no expressed reason. Additionally, there was little chance that administration was listening when concerns were expressed.

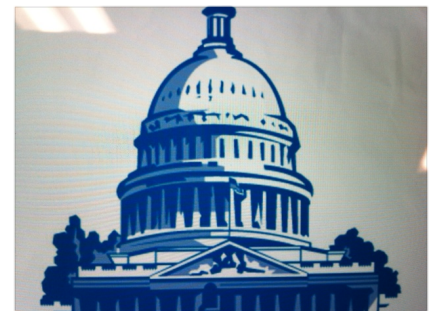
Today the National Education Association has more than 3.2 million members. As a team we :

- fight for **better life, health, and disability insurance**
- **advocate for education** at the national, state, and local level
- develop and implement improved **professional development**
- keep our membership **informed**
- have tough, effective **representation** both at the bargaining table and in job-related disputes

UNIONS CREATED THE MIDDLE CLASS

Employees in
unionized states earn
7.8% more than their
counterparts in right-
to-work states.

(Economic Policy Institute)



WE ARE YOUR VOICE IN
LANSING



YOU GET A TEAM!

It is your president's job to take your concerns, ideas, thoughts, and questions to our administration. When we speak with one voice we are heard more clearly.

Plus, you get a team of building reps keeping you informed, a secretary keeping things organized, a treasurer making sure your money is well-spent, and a vice president putting together a team for you at the bargaining table.

USE YOUR RESOURCES & GET INVOLVED TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR UNION DUES.

- **Region 9** - Set the budget for MEA and vote on dues.
- **KCEA** - approve local contracts and set goals for negotiations.
- **MEA** - offers legal services and support
- **KCEA Advocate, MEA Voice, & NEA Today** - monthly magazines full of tips and information.
- **Discounts & Services** - Membership gives you access to deals on Insurance, Financial & Investment, Shopping, Magazine, Credit Cards, Car Rentals, and more.
- **MEA.org** - use the *members only* link to take full advantage of your membership.
- **REA** -- Your local union meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:15 in the RHS Rams' Den. Join us!