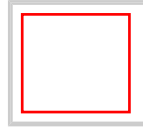


President's Monthly Message (archived)

July 2001



< **Learn more** about the
CCA Past President, Dián
Dolores Hasson, [here](#).

NEA Representative Assembly, 2001



From left to right: Kathy Sproles, Sophia Monroy, Darlene Fishman, Dián Dolores Hasson, Leo Kirchhoff, Alice Loh, Bonnie Blustein, John Long, Susan Meisenhelder, Rita Takahashi, Mary Ann Pacheco, Gus Lease, Sherry Miller-White, Ann Shadwick, and Rachel Maldonado Aziminia.

There were several controversial issues:

1. NEAFT partnership (passed)
2. New B Resolution to develop material supporting the struggle of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students and staff (withdrawn)
3. NEA Portal [distance education] (Task Force created.)

1. The NEAFT Partnership passed. President Bob Chase appointed Ann Shadwick, CTA Higher Education Director, to the joint council, which will determine the projects engaged in by the partnership. The following is the NEAFT Partnership document followed by the Jurisdictional Agreement.

[NEAFT Partnership](#)

[Jurisdictional Agreement](#)

2. The NEA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender caucus withdrew their resolution once President Bob Chase created a task force to consider the issues raised by the resolution. President's Chase's press statement follows :

Press Release

Statement of Bob Chase, President of the National Education Association, On the Designation of a Task Force for Resolution New B

There has been a great deal of discussion and debate both inside and outside the Representative Assembly about proposed Resolution New B dealing with sexual orientation. Within our Association, many people have been collaborating and working together to find a way to address the needs of and the problems confronting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students and educational employees.

The Resolutions Committee has withdrawn Resolution New B and instead is calling for the establishment of a task force to look at the issues relating to sexual orientation in a thorough and meaningful way.

Let me be clear: In no way is NEA backing away from dealing with the important issues raised by the proposed Resolution. Those who are attempting to interpret the creation of a task force in this manner could not be any further from the truth. We will not allow our policy or our discussions to be dictated by any outside group, particularly those that wish to demagogue on the issue instead of focusing on the needs and problems of these students and educational employees.

Far from backing away from these issues, this task force will expand the scope of the inquiry. NEA has a responsibility to our members and to our students to ensure that they teach and learn in a safe, supportive environment, and we fully intend to live up that responsibility.



NEA Representative Assembly, 2001 Proposed New Resolutions

First New B. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Education

The National Education Association recognizes that the complex and diverse needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender families and their children require the development of programs that promote a safe and inclusive environment.

The Association believes in efforts that provide for—

- a.** Development of curriculum and instructional materials and programs designed to meet the needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students.
- b.** Involvement of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender educators in developing educational materials used in classroom instruction.
- c.** Dissemination of programs that support gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students and address the high dropout rate, suicide rate, and health risk behaviors
- d.** Recognition of the importance of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender education employees as role models
- e.** Accurate portrayal of the roles and contributions of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people throughout history
- f.** Dissemination of programs and information that include the contributions, heritage, culture

and history of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people

g. Coordination with gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender organizations and concerned agencies that promote the contributions, heritage, culture, history, health, and care of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people. (2001)

h. The NEA Portal, providing courses for our members on the internet at the NEA site, will have NEA members as teachers. President Chase appointed a task force. Past President of the National Council of Higher Education Roger Knudsen to the task force.

i. There were several other matters of interest to the California Delegation.



CTA Director David Hernandez is speaking before the Representative Assembly (RA) . In the foreground on left, Director Deborah Harrison and right, Denice Rockwell Woods (candidate for the NEA President in 2002).

Although California overwhelmingly supported two civil rights NBIs, the RA defeated one and voted not to consider the other one. The first one condemned the Taliban for its violation of the human rights of women and children in Afghanistan. The other endorsed a study of reparations for African Americans. Although the NEA will not take a position on reparations, those interested in this issue may choose to support the bill in Congress.

The Representative Assembly will be in Dallas, Texas next year. Plan to run to be a statewide delegate or plan to run as a local delegate!

Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.

