



BCEA

Boone County Education Association
75 Cavalier Boulevard, Suite 324, Florence, KY 41042
(513)300-2232

President's Message

Hello members,

As we begin to think about the start of the 2021-22 school year, we wanted to reach out to you and thank you for your continued membership in BCEA. As you know these past years have been a trying time for educators. The pandemic tested our mettle and as usual we adapted, persevered, and did what we do best: educate our students.

Below are brief bios with contact information for your BCEA executive council. Feel free to reach out to us for any help we can provide. We may not have an immediate answer, but we will find an answer. We are a collective voice made up of individual voices. Your voice is important!

Please let me know how BCEA can advocate for you. You can reach me at president@mybcea.org or 513-300-2232.

Take care and take time for yourself in these last few weeks,

Kelly Read

Upcoming Events

- New teacher orientation 8/5 @ Ignite
 - Board of Ed Meeting – 8/12 @ 7:30 PM
 - Executive Council Meeting – 8/17 @ 4:15 PM
 - Building Rep Meeting – 8/24 @ 4:15 PM
-

Important Announcement

- Building Rep training 9/13, 9/20, 9/27. These will be 3 separate Look for more information in mid August. One session for each level (elementary, middle, high).

BCEA Fall 2021 Scholarship

Contributed by Robin Bisig, BCEA Executive Council

You're invited to apply for the [BCEA Fall 2021 Scholarship Application](#). In order to be qualified, you must:

- Be a BCEA member.
- Provide proof of enrollment in a continuing education program. [Appropriate example of proof would be: copy of a transcript, receipt of tuition payment on institution letterhead (easily obtained online), current course schedule].
- Scholarships will be awarded by random drawing. One Scholarship per school year per person only.

Six (6) \$500 Scholarships for Rank III seeking Rank II, Rank II seeking Rank I or for NBPTS (National Board) Certification.

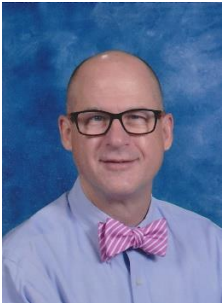
The **Fall 2021** application is due by **4 PM** on **Friday, October 1, 2021 to the BCEA OFFICE, 75 Cavalier Blvd., Suite 324, Florence, KY 41042; no email applications will be accepted..**

Who is BCEA and KEA?

BCEA is comprised of 13 elected members, along with, one Retired Representative. These elected members come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. They also are here to serve you through liaison teams that have been assigned. You will find them located in each bio listed below.

In addition, KEA also provides a UniServ director to service your needs. Mr. Scott LeCates is available to meet with you. He works out of the NKEA office located in the same business park that the BCEA offices are housed.

BCEA Executive Council



Kelly Read, BCEA President

Email: president@mybcea.org

Kelly Read has been an English teacher at Boone County High School and proud member of BCEA since 1998. He has been active within his school and has served on SBDM (3 years) and was part of the principal selection committee during that time.

Within BCEA, Kelly has been a building rep and has been a member of executive council as an at-large member, parliamentarian, and president. Mr. Read has served on the calendar and salary negotiations committees and was the chief negotiator for the current contract. As president, Kelly's goal is to advocate for you everyday and help our membership grow in numbers and voice.

At Boone, Kelly was fortunate to work with the International Leaders in Education Program through the US State Department and host teachers from Africa and Asia and he was an exchange teacher in Bangladesh in April of 2010. Kelly was the boys' cross country coach at Boone and is a cyclist and distance runner.

Kelly has been a lifelong resident of Northern Kentucky and has raised his children in the area. His two youngest are products of the Boone County school system and all 3 of his children are enrolled in Kentucky universities.



Bobbi Grim, BCEA Vice President

Email: bobbi.grim@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Gray MS, Ballyshannon MS, Mann ES, Ryle HS

Currently beginning her 21st year as a 6th grade math teacher at Gray Middle School. Bobbi also serves as the Vice President of BCEA. She has held this position for the past four years.

Bobbi has represented Boone County teachers as a building representative, Executive Council member, contract negotiator (chief negotiator one year), and chair of the calendar committee.

Being a member of the Gray Site-Based, Decision Making Council for ten years has given her many opportunities to understand, participate in, and influence our school's path.

Bobbi also currently serves as the Treasurer of NKEA and member of the NKEA Board. She has attended numerous KEA-DA's and NEA-RA's representing Boone County educators at the state and national levels. These experiences have been both illuminating and instructive, presenting me with wide-ranging insights into our profession



Justin Buckler, BCEA Treasurer

Email: justin.buckler@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Ockerman MS, Camp Ernst MS, New Haven ES, Cooper HS

Justin has been a member of BCEA since he started his career some 17 years ago. He is currently a teacher at Camp Ernst Middle where he will be starting his 16th year. Justin's role in BCEA, as Treasurer, is to create monthly budget reports, pay BCEA bills, and reconcile the bank account every month.

During his time with BCEA, he has been a member of both the Negotiating teaming for salary and contract. Justin is also a committee member on the CEP. At CEMS, he has been involved in athletics, academic team, and has served numerous terms on SBDM.



Sara Fay, BCEA Parliamentarian

Email: sara.fay@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Gray MS, Ballyshannon MS, Mann ES, Ryle HS

Sara is currently the Parliamentarian of BCEA. Being a member of BCEA has always been important to her, and she has been a member since day one of her teaching career.

Some of her other BCEA experiences include being a building representative, a delegate at the KEA Delegate Assembly, as well as having participated in several Days of Learning in Frankfort. If you would like to learn more about what BCEA does, she encourages you to participate in opportunities like these.

This will be her twelfth year of teaching. Currently, she is a 6th grade math teacher at Ballyshannon Middle School but has also taught at Camp Ernst Middle School and Conner Middle School. She serves on Ballyshannon's SBDM Council.

Sara is passionate about serving our community of teachers and looks forward to working with you all this year.



Ryan Dittmer, BCEA Recording Secretary

Email: ryan.dittmer@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Burlington ES, Ockerman ES, North Pointe ES, Thornwilde ES

Ryan has spent the last 16 of his 17 years teaching at Burlington Elementary teaching 3rd, 4th, technology, and performing arts. Mr. Dittmer has been the building rep for BES for over a decade, served on SBDM Council, and have been the STC for BES.

His involvement with the association includes NEA Leadership Summit, KEA Future Leaders Summit, KEA TALK Conferences, KEA Diversity Committee, NKEA Board Member, NEA Representative Assembly

Delegate, KEA Delegate Assembly, Boone County Calendar Committee representative, Northern Kentucky Area Covid Re-Entry Committee, and Boone County Covid Re-entry Committee. He is very proud to represent and work for our profession's association.

Personally, he resides in Florence and enjoy attending and performing in theater and choir productions. Ryan currently serves on the board of Rivertown Players Community Theater and is a member of the Cincinnati Men's Chorus.



Heather Howard, BCEA Corresponding Secretary

Email: heather.howard@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Burlington ES, Ockerman ES, North Pointe ES, Thornwilde ES

Heather is a Special Education teacher at Ockerman Elementary. Ms. Howard has served as a BCEA Building Representative and as the Corresponding Secretary to the BCEA President. She attended the University of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky University and acquired a BA in Psychology, BA in Special Education, and MA in Education.



Debbie Wooton, BCEA Retired Representative

Email: zippy50@fuse.net

Debbie is a 36 year retired teacher and Past President of BCEA and NKEA. She serves on BCEA's Executive Council in an advisory position. Debbie is able to provide a broad history of our association for current members regarding past practices. Ms. Wooton has attended many NEA Representative Assemblies, as well as, a delegate at KEA's DA. She is now an elected Director on KEA-Retired's Board of Directors. Debbie represents 2,000 retired members in Northern Kentucky.

Currently, she serves as Secretary of NKEA-Retired association and maintains an active role in the classroom as a substitute teacher in Boone County.



Mary Birkenhauer, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: mary.birkenhauer@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Yealey ES, Erpenbeck ES, Kelly ES, Boone County HS

As a Special Education teacher for twenty-three years, at Boone County High School, Mary has been an active member in BCEA since her orientation day. Over the past fifteen years, Mary’s advocacy for BCEA has allowed her to serve in many capacities. She has been a building representative and served on executive council with several BCEA Presidents. During her tenure, she has served on both the NKEA and KEA boards.

Presently, Mary is the local chair for the Kentucky Education Political Action Committee, or KEPAC, which is a separate organization from KEA that members may choose to belong. This year proves to be an innovative year for BCEA, and Mary looks forward to working with the BCEA President, Executive Council, and members.



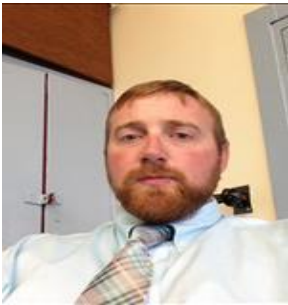
Robin Bisig, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: robin.bisig@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Ockerman MS, Camp Ernst MS, New Haven ES, Cooper HS, Steeplechase

Robin is beginning her third year as an “At-Large” member of the Boone County Education Association. She teaches at Ockerman Middle School where she has served as a Building Representative for over seven years. This year marks her 32nd year in education, 19 of which have been in Boone County.

At the District level, Mrs. Bisig has served as a Teacher Ambassador and a member of the District Facilities Planning Committee. She looks forward to continuing to represent you this year!



Brian Courtney, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: charles.courtney@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Jones MS, Florence ES, Collins ES, Goodridge ES, RISE Academy

Brian is currently a Health and Physical Education teacher at Gray Middle School. He has served as a member at large on executive council, where he previously served as treasurer. He is entering his 26th year in education and have been active in BCEA for 22 of those years.

Brian has served as a building rep (12 years and SBDM member for 10 years). He has served on the appeals committee for 2 years and attended both the state and national delegate assembly numerous times. Mr. Courtney has taught at all grade levels (K-12) and was an administrator in a high poverty, inner city district for 3 years.

He has coached middle and high school basketball for 18 years and currently officiating both basketball and volleyball at all levels. Brian a graduate of Boone County High School and has 3 daughters, who also attended BCHS.



Kim Delaney, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: kim.delaney@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Conner MS, Conner HS, Longbranch ES, Stephens ES

Ms.Delaney currently teaches second grade at Longbranch. She has also taught at Yealey and Erpenbeck. Kim has been a BCEA building representative for eight years. She has also served on the negotiation teams for calendar, salaries, and contracts.

Kim feels strongly about protecting your rights and obtaining the best working conditions, contract and salary possible. She has represented the Boone County Education Association at the KEA and NEA conventions for the last 9 years. Kim has also been active in KEA with NBCT orientations and the WEP/GPO committee. If you ever have concerns, please email me.



Carrie Judd, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: carrie.judd@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Jones MS, Florence ES, Collins ES, Goodridge ES, RISE Academy

Carrie is a lifelong Boone County resident. She attended New Haven Elementary, Ockerman Jr. High, and Boone County High School.

Carrie has been a BCEA Member and a BCS teacher since 1999 at Gray Middle School, Ryle High School, and currently at Ockerman Middle School (since 2008) where she teaches Music Appreciation and Chorus. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Master's Degree in Education Administration.

Carrie is also a member of KMEA, has served as ILP Coordinator, Program Review Lead, and SBDM. She has also been a Building Rep, a delegate to KEA's Delegate Assembly, and a KEPAC member for the past two years. Carrie also sits on the BCEA Grievance Committee. This is her first year as a member of the Executive Council.



David Kohl, BCEA Member At-Large

Email: david.kohl@boone.kyschools.us

Building Liaison Assignments: Yealey ES, Erpenbeck ES, Kelly ES, Boone County HS

David is in his 26th year teaching English, Speech and Yearbook at Boone County High School, and he completed his student teaching at Ryle. He has been a BCEA member his entire career and has been an at-large Executive Council representative for most of that time.

David has previously served as the chief salary and contract negotiator for three contractual cycles, a member of the grievance committee, a member of the previous superintendent's search committee (that recommended Dr. Poe), and a past member of the TPGES 50/50 team responsible for drafting the current evaluation model and documents.



Scott LeCates, KEA UniServ Director

Email: Scott.LeCates@kea.org

Scott is a native of Dayton, Ohio, and is a proud Cincinnati Public Schools parent. He was raised in a General Motors, union member family. He is the father of two 14-year-old boys and an 18-year-old daughter who is beginning her college adventure at the University of Maine this Fall. Scott serves on the Westwood Civic Association Board and the Leadership and Decision Making Committee at Gamble Montessori Elementary School.

Scott has achieved a Master's Degree in Education with 7-12 Social Studies Licensure (Xavier University), a Master's Degree in Political Science (Eastern Kentucky University), and an Undergraduate Degree in Government (Morehead State University). Scott achieved mediator credentials from the NKU Alternative Dispute Resolution Center. Scott was trained at the national academies of both the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the National Education Association (NEA), and has served members of both unions. During the late 1990's Scott was one of the original AFT organizers of what would become the United Faculty of Dade, in the Miami Dade Community College System, in Miami, Florida. Scott is a former member of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers Executive Committee and has worked as a UniServ Director for the Virginia Education Association. Scott was trained as a Lobbyist in Washington, D.C., and has served as a registered lobbyist for AFT and NEA affiliates in Kentucky and Virginia. Currently he serves as the KEA UniServ Director for Boone County Schools and Walton-Verona Independent Schools.

Sign up for Remind!

Remind is a great way for your BCEA president and/or executive council members to be able to reach out to you should the need arise or if there is information that needs to reach you quickly. A prime example of this was last spring during the legislative session.

Get information for Boone County Education Association right on your phone—

To receive text notifications:

To sign up Text: **@bceapr** To: **81010**

To get push notifications: Open a web browser and go to: rmd.at/bceapr and then follow the instructions.