

1. How long have you been working in education?

I have been teaching for 25 years but have been a member of the Idaho Education Association for 27 years having joined when I was the President of SNEA at Idaho State University. I grew up in Pocatello and was exposed to education and the association my entire life. Both my mother, Sharon Fleischmann and my father, Dick Fleischmann were teachers and members of the Idaho Education Association. I remember when “the strike” occurred in Pocatello. My Mother walked the picket line as an association member and my father was inside the building as an administrator, I learned much at a young age about the power of the association. Becoming a member as I began my career was never a question for me.

2. What positions of leadership have you held (elected, appointed or voluntary) at the local, region, state or national level?

**Local**

- ~ SNEA President – 2 terms @ Idaho State University
- ~ Building Representative – multiple times
- ~ PEA Membership Committee – 6 years
- ~ PEA Membership Chair – 4 years
- ~ Crisis Team Member – Multiple years
- ~ Negotiations Team – 4 years
- ~ Targeted local team member – 3 years
- ~ PEA Executive Board Member – 2 years

**Region**

- ~ Membership Committee – 3 years
- ~ Resolutions Representative – 2 years
- ~ Board Member – 2 years

**State**

- ~ State Membership Committee – 6 years
- ~ Resolutions Committee – 2 years
- ~ DA Delegate – 21 years

**National**

- ~ RA Delegate – 2 years
- ~ NEA Leadership Conference Attendee

3. What do you believe are the three primary responsibilities of this office?

**First** - the resolutions chair must pose a strong understanding and passion for philosophical statements and how these guide our association. As a skilled wordsmith, I believe I am that person.

**Second** - the resolutions chair must be committed to consistently educating all members about NEA and IEA resolutions, including what they are and how we use them to support and improve public education for everyone.

**Third** - The resolutions chair must be a skilled communicator and facilitator. It is the chair's job to participate in all national resolution committee meetings and to ensure that Idaho's resolutions are in alignment with the NEA resolutions.

4. What do you see as the greatest challenge IEA members will face in the next five years? What ideas do you have to address that challenge?

**First** and foremost would be Betsy Devos and the privatization of public education. It will be imperative to have strong leaders within the state and across the nation who are able to speak on behalf of public education.

The **Second** issue is the teacher shortage our school districts are or will be facing. As an association we have to be leaders in insuring that qualified, passionate teachers are in all classrooms. **Third**, how do we as an association continue to battle a negative public perception of education in our state and the nation? We must be leaders in changing the narrative.

5. What is your plan for increasing membership and member engagement?

Member engagement is critical for the survival of our association. I will continue within my local to stay active and push for membership. I believe having every member pledge to enroll two new members is fundamental. I will continue mentoring our new younger teachers and showing them ALL the opportunities the IEA provides for educators at no cost. Membership does not cost it provides.

6. How do you intend to communicate with members in order to keep them informed and to find out their concerns?

I would love to do a monthly "Did you know?" Highlight of both IEA and NEA resolutions for all members. Resolutions should be something all our members are knowledgeable about and engaged with year round, not just when attending DA.

7. Provide other information you would like members to know:

I am a National Board Certified Teacher. I teach AP Government and Politics and have a passion for educating students about the importance of the Constitution. I believe that is why my commitment and passion for Resolutions is so strong, I see them as a natural fit. The NEA and IEA Resolutions are our organizations guiding philosophy. We as an association cannot take action on any issue without first having a resolution statement addressing the issue. These statements MUST be broadly written so as to protect all members regardless of their individual philosophies.