2020 Virtual TEA RA and Elections by Mail

Local Delegate Selection for TEA RA
Delegate selection for the TEA Representative Assembly is governed by local association bylaws and processes. Some have already been completed. Delegate selection activities typically done in person meetings can no longer safely occur under CDC guidelines and the governor's emergency proclamation. TEA is creating a toolkit with ways to make the delegate selection process electronic. UniServ Directors will assist any local that needs assistance in its delegate selection process. Delegate lists should be submitted no later than Wednesday, May 6, to jposs@tnea.org.

Virtual TEA Representative Assembly
The 2020 TEA Representative Assembly will be a tele-town hall, a format that lends itself to the standing rules. Unlike conference calls and other virtual meeting platforms, a tele-town hall provides opportunity for individual participation without background noise and other distractions. Login to the virtual TEA RA will require the delegate's member number (in the address block on the cover of this issue of Teach). The focus of the virtual TEA RA is to have a budget hearing and to accept nominations for TEA offices and board seats (see page 4).

TEA offices and board nominations
For those interested but who did not file a petition, nominations for offices and board seats may be made with a local nomination letter up to May 15. For more information see page 4.

Budget Documents
The Tennessee Education Association 2020-2021 budget is published in this issue of Teach and will be sent to delegates electronically prior to the RA.

Elections and Budget Vote by Mail
After the RA and as quickly as possible, every participating delegate will be mailed a ballot for TEA elections and a question on the TEA 2020-2021 budget. Using U.S. Department of Labor standards for association voting by mail, each ballot envelope will have an instruction letter and the items at right.

Once filled out, the ballot is placed into the secret ballot envelope and sealed. The ballot envelope is then placed into the pre-addressed postage-paid return envelope and sent to a TEA post office box designated solely for the election. All ballots will be held by the USPS until the voting period ends. Return ballot envelopes with member numbers are used to check delegate rolls and to ensure one vote per delegate.

SECRET BALLOT ENVELOPE
NO NAME OR OTHER IDENTIFICATION ON THIS ENVELOPE

RETURN BALLOT ENVELOPE
RETURN ADDRESS
SPECIAL P.O. BOX ELECTION ADDRESS
MEMBER #

Return ballot envelopes are then opened and secret ballot envelopes are compiled separately to ensure voting anonymity. Checks of delegate rolls and tallies of ballots will be under the direction of the TEA elections committee.