



**NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

## **Health and Safety Program**

**Students' learning conditions are  
educators' working conditions**

# Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety

## Healthy Buildings, Systems, and Schools



Far too many students and educators spend their school days learning, eating, playing, or working in hazardous conditions—due to toxic chemicals, mold, poor indoor air quality, excessive heat, or other hazards.

## Infection Control



The pandemic made the need for sustained planning regarding infectious diseases, cleaning and disinfection protocols, and other infection-control measures clearer than ever.

## Environmental Justice and Health and Safety



To ensure safe, just, and equitable learning and working conditions, we must understand and address how climate change affects health and safety conditions, education outcomes, and injustice in schools.



# Mental Health, Violence Prevention, and Social Media

## Mental Health



Our schools must have the resources, staffing, and programs necessary to effectively address the mental health challenges our students and educators face.

## School Safety and Gun Violence



The NEA remains committed to ending gun violence in our nation's schools and communities. We promote strategies and policies to keep our students and educators safe from all types of violence.

## Social Media



The proliferation of technology and social media platforms has created privacy, mental health, and safety concerns for children and adults alike.





# Our Work

## State and Local Affiliate Support



Helping our state and local affiliates identify and meet their health and safety needs is a core Health and Safety Program goal.

## Strengthening Affiliates



We work with state and local affiliates on initiatives like establishing health and safety committees, conducting building walkthroughs, and incorporating health and safety into organizing and collective bargaining.

## Trainings



We develop and provide training programs to meet member and affiliate needs.



## Federal Agency Engagement



We engage in federal rulemaking and advocacy on health and safety issues of key concern to students and educators.

## Publications



We produce reports, guidance, and tools for students, educators, families, and communities.

## Partnerships



We collaborate with other unions, non-governmental organizations, academics, and professional organizations.

# Our Organization

As the largest labor union in the country, the National Education Association (NEA) represents 3 million educators who believe in the power of public education to transform lives and create a safe, just, and inclusive society. With affiliated associations in every state and more than 14,000 local communities, NEA members are classroom teachers, education support professionals, specialized instructional support personnel, higher education faculty and staff, aspiring educators, retirees, and public service employees.

## NEA Health and Safety Program

When unaddressed, health and safety issues undermine the health of students and educators, weaken student learning outcomes, exacerbate educator shortages, and burden school budgets.

That's why the NEA established the Health and Safety Program—to bring focus, support, energy, and an equity lens to resolving new and long-standing health and safety issues in PreK-12 education settings and institutions of higher education.



## Contact Us

If you'd like to partner with our team, need support for your health and safety work, or just want to explore how we can help, reach out to us at [healthandsafetyprogram@nea.org](mailto:healthandsafetyprogram@nea.org).

