

WHERE DO YOUR UNION DUES GO?

A LOOK AT NEA SPENDING, 2020-2021



AMERICANS FOR
FAIR TREATMENT

The National Education Association's (NEA) political and charitable spending in 2020-2021 makes the NEA look more like a political organization than a membership organization. The union spent \$2 on politics for every \$1 it spent on representing its members.

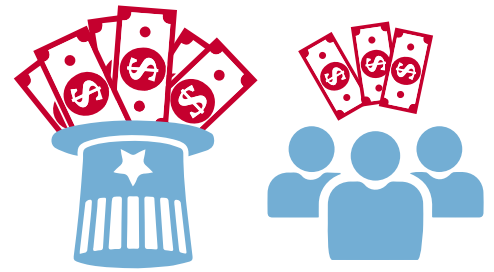
Last year, the NEA spent \$374 million overall, 18% of which went to political activities, while another 32% went to "contributions, gifts, and grants," spending that is also largely political in nature. Only 9% of the union's spending was on "representational activities," or money that is spent directly to assist its members.

The NEA donates members' dues to a long list of progressive political organizations that support Democratic candidates and causes. The NEA's political spending increased by 32% from the year before, from \$51 million up to \$66 million, which does not include the money the union collected for its political action committee (PAC) or the political spending listed in other categories.

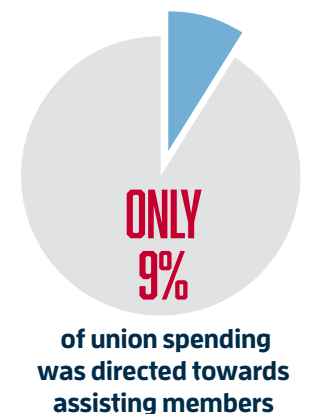
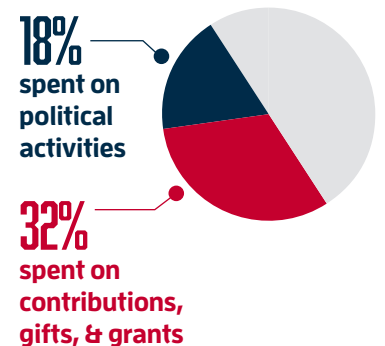
For example, the NEA gave \$1 million last year to Future Forward USA Action, a liberal super PAC that supported Joe Biden's presidential campaign. The NEA did not list this donation under political spending, but rather under "contributions, gifts, and grants."

During the 2020-2021 school year, the NEA collected \$377 million in dues from school employees, about \$2 million higher than last year, despite having 65,416 fewer members. This is due in part to higher dues.

The NEA has 510 employees who earned an average salary of \$134,000. Of those employees, 50 received salaries over \$200,000, including NEA President Becky Pringle, who earned \$431,317, and Executive Director Kimberly Anderson who earned \$406,951.

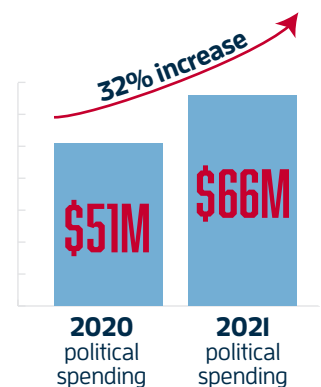


NEA spend \$2 on politics
for every \$1 spent
representing members



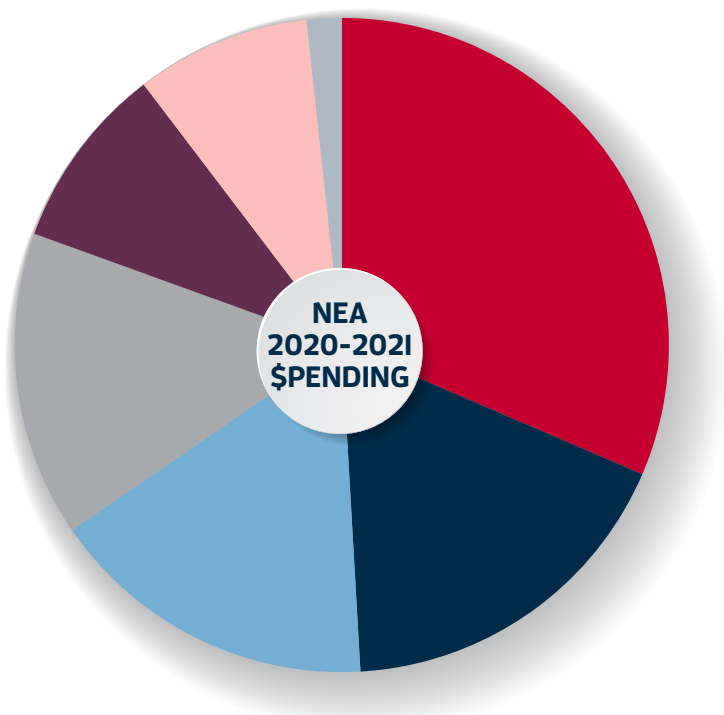
WHO IS GETTING YOUR NEA DUES MONEY?

NEA charges its members \$200 a year on top of local and state charges – often adding up to close to \$1,000 a year in total cost. Members' dues fund a web of political and ideological advocacy groups and causes around the country. This is money collected as regular dues, not as PAC contributions. According to the NEA's financial report, the union contributed \$66 million in 2020-2021 to political organizations, a \$16 million increase from the year before. Another \$117 million in spending was logged as "contributions, gifts and grants," a significant portion of which also went to political organizations.



50 SALARIES
\$200K+

NEA SPENDING 2020-2021



- 31.5% CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS, & GRANTS
- 17.6% POLITICAL ACTIVITIES & LOBBYING
- 16.3% GENERAL OVERHEAD
- 15.1% EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
- 9.1% UNION ADMINISTRATION
- 8.6% REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES
- 1.7% DIRECT TAXES

Here are just a few big-ticket examples of the web of progressive and Democratic Party causes your NEA dues funded from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021:



RECENT POLITICAL DONATIONS

\$15.7M

NEA Advocacy Fund, a super PAC started and run by the NEA.

\$6.7M

State Engagement Fund, a progressive advocacy organization that is part of a larger network called "Democracy Alliance" (see below) that funds left-wing candidates and issues.

\$1.85M

Strategic Victory Fund, a super PAC that funnels money from donors to Democratic Party candidates and causes.

\$1M

Future Forward USA Action, a liberal super PAC funded by Democratic tech titans and labor unions to support President Biden's campaign.

\$786K

The Good Land Committee, the fundraising arm of the Democratic National Convention.

\$425K

Democracy Alliance, an invitation-only network of progressive donors who pay annual dues and agree to give a set amount of money each year to endorsed organizations.

\$350K

Sixteen Thirty Fund, a progressive organization that spends untraceable money to boost Democratic candidates and causes, is part of the larger "Arabella" network, which channels hundreds of millions of dollars to progressive causes.

\$260K

America Votes, a coordination hub of the progressive community that mobilizes activists and voters to win elections and change election law.

\$250K

Priorities USA, the largest Democratic Party super PAC that funds candidates and progressive causes.

\$200K

Committee on States, a group that coordinates donations to state-based progressive groups to advance a liberal agenda.

\$150K

Progressive Caucus Action Fund, the advocacy arm of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, which is chaired by Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA).

\$125K

Emerging American Majorities, a group that provides support to state Democratic Party organizations and advocacy groups for state legislative campaigns.

\$125K

Progressive State Leaders Committee, a group that advocates for progressive causes with a focus on state attorneys general.

\$125K

Project 2043, an organization that offers Critical Race Theory-based courses to educators.

\$100K

Center for American Progress and the Center for American Progress Action Fund, national progressive advocacy organizations established by Clinton family associate John Podesta.

\$75K

State Innovation Exchange, an organization that creates and advocates for progressive, state-level legislation.



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\$66M

spent on **political activities & lobbying** in 2021