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TO: State Affiliate Presidents

FROM: Andy Coons, Senior Director
NEA Center for Professional Excellence and Student Learning

DATE: December 5, 2022

RE: 2023 ESPs: Supporting Our Own Through Peer Mentoring Workshop

The National Education Association is happy to announce that we are accepting applications from NEA local and state association teams for the **2023 ESPs: Supporting Our Own Through Peer Mentoring workshop**.

Over one and a half days, teams will work together to build their own unique ESP mentoring pilot programs that empower ESPs in the workplace and Association. Through peer mentoring, ESPs can receive the specialized, targeted preparation and support that empower ESPs in the workplace, advance ESP professional excellence, build ESP leader activists, and create the education systems that all our students and members deserve.

Why start with a pilot? Running a pilot program allows you to test, validate, and learn before you fully launch, with less risk. Starting on a smaller scale will let you discover what works and doesn't and whether your plan on paper works in practice. Running a pilot also allows you to incrementally increase ESP and partner involvement, which is vital to the success of your program.

Interested local or state Associations should form their teams, complete their pre-learning, and apply no later than March 1, 2023. All applicant teams will be informed of their application status no later than March 24, 2023.

All selected teams will convene with other groups around the country to plan their pilot programs on May 27-28, 2023.

Application steps and workshop information

<p>PRE-LEARNING: December 5 – March 1, 2023</p>	<p>Form your team and complete the pre-learning before applying.</p> <p>Pre-learning includes the completion of the ESP mentoring learning path course by each team member and the team completion of the ESP mentoring program checklist.</p>
<p>APPLICATION: December 5 – March 1, 2023</p>	<p>Complete your team application.</p>
<p>REGISTRATION: March 24 - April 10, 2023</p>	<p>If selected to participate, complete your team registration.</p>
<p>WORKSHOP: May 27-28, 2023 Salt Lake City, Utah</p>	<p>Convene with other teams around the country to plan your own unique ESP mentoring pilot program.</p> <p><i>Health and Safety Procedures during the workshop</i> <i>In response to the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, changing public health approaches and public attitudes, and revised guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), NEA has updated its COVID-19 protocols for gatherings at which fifty (50) or more attendees are expected. View the most current NEA COVID-19 protocols at nea.org/espmentoringworkshop.</i></p>

Please share this new learning opportunity with state and local leaders and staff interested in advancing ESP professional excellence through peer mentoring.

For complete details on pre-learning, the application process, and NEA funding, visit nea.org/espmentoringworkshop.

Questions? Contact ESPMentoring@nea.org

Cc:
State Affiliate Executive Directors
ESP State Staff Coordinators
Amber Parker, Director, NEA Education Support Professional Quality