## **NEA-RA Candidate Statements**

# **Stephen Miller**

As your past BEA President and WEA VP, I understand the importance of representing BEA members. Leadership must be more than speeches. When BEA members asked for help addressing workload issues in September, when WEA members statewide asked for a COVID safety petition in December, and when BEA needed a vaccine first resolution to vote on in January, I stepped up to serve. In my classroom, I encourage students to recognize humans advocating collectively to make life more equitable. I will make a passionate, active commitment to pay, benefits, and working conditions of union members at NEA RA.

## Michelle Mordaunt

I would be honored to represent BEA at the NEA assembly this year. My experience on the BEA executive board has given me insight into the proceedings and issues that impact our Bellevue union and the educators I represent. By attending the NEA assembly, I would be able to gain further insight and bring back a wealth of information to further advocate for our members in a way that will strengthen and advance our union and union leadership. I would appreciate your vote.

## **Amy Stern**

I would be honored to receive your vote to attend the NEA-RA. Having worked in multiple schools and grade levels across the district, I believe that I understand what challenges and successes many of us experience. As an Exec Board member, I also have had the opportunity to learn about the roles of educators that do not serve in classroom positions. I am deeply concerned about moving toward greater racial equity for our students and staff and would have this at the forefront of my decision making on your behalf.

## Santasha Dhoot

As a Punjabi Sikh educator, I am actively working towards dismantling White Supremacy within our education system and rebuilding the system so that all our students and educators thrive, especially our BIPOC students and staff. I am committed to advocating for improved recruitment and retention of educators of color as well as advocating for Ethnic Studies curriculum K – 12. Through BEA I am part of the Racial Equity Leadership Cadre where I have learned how much our union can do to build a just educational system and would love to continue that work through the WEA and NEA.

#### **Scott Norton**

It has been my pleasure serving as a BEA site representative this year and would like to further my involvement as a representative at the national level. I am interested in learning from educators across the country about proactive racial equity policies, dismantling institutionalized racism in schools, and implementing safe Covid-19 protocols. Now that we are at a time when our country's leaders are more open our input, I would be honored to be a voice for our members and fellow Washington State educators.

## Jill Rock

As your NEA-RA representative, I will be a voice for Bellevue School District and speak on behalf of our members' interests. I am responsible for disrupting and dismantling inequitable systems and practices. Through our work at NEA-RA, we can create new procedures to provide better outcomes for our students and members.

## **Allison Snow**

The NEA Rep Assembly is our chance to work with educators around the country to ensure that NEA truly represents the values and needs of union members here in Bellevue. I would love this chance to represent BEA and drive our union action at the national level.

## **Terry Jess**

I'm a 9<sup>th</sup> year History and Ethnic Studies at BHS and have been happy to serve previously at RA, as a building rep, and budget committee member. I also serve on the WEA work group to create the WEA Center for Racial, Social, and Economic Justice and work with the NEA Center for Social Justice to provide antiracism workshops for white educators. I will strongly advocate for our members, with an unapologetic antiracist and social justice lens. There is still a lot of work to do to transform our association into one that truly serves all members and students equitably.

# **Kelye Kneeland**

I am a veteran teacher at the elementary level in the BSD and have taught for 28 years. It has never been more important in our profession that we work as a union to raise the standards of our working conditions to meet the needs of ourselves and our students. This year has taken much out of us and demanded that we work harder than ever. I will do my best to be an advocate for our district's teachers by gathering information and sharing my voice at the NEA assembly.