

Candidate Profiles

Des Moines Education Association

2026 Election of Officers and Delegates

DMEA President

1. Anne Cross (Central Academy - DMEA)

DMEA members, I am running to serve as the President of the DMEA. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this role the last year and a half. It is my honor to represent and advocate for you as the members of this association. I have been with DMPS for eighteen years, have three children attending DMPS schools, and live in the District. Previously I have served as the ISEA Executive Board Member representing DMEA, the chair of the Government and Community Relations Committee, and a building rep for Central Academy. I have been your voice on many District committees. I have built relationships with school board members, District administrators, community organizations, and local and state lawmakers. With a seat at the table and a voice in the conversation, I am sure that we can continue to work towards making the best decisions for all students and staff of DMPS. I look forward to continuing to hear from you and pushing forward your thoughts and ideas on how to make DMPS the best District in which to work.

This organization takes all of us working together to advocate and fight for what we know is best for our members and our students. I am excited to work with you, our amazing educators, in this new role.

Thank you for your vote!

Middle School Representative

1. Jennifer Davis (Callanan).

I have spent 19 of my 22 years in education as a middle school teacher, giving me a strong understanding of the daily realities educators face. I believe in a union that listens to its members, advocates clearly, and follows through with action.

Elementary School Representative

1. Elizabeth Stalter (King).

I have a deep interest in advocating for the interests of teachers and students. After living overseas for 15 years, my passion for getting involved in my community was reignited. When you live outside of your home country, it is only possible to be an observer of our democratic process. Now that I'm home I want to be a part of the solution!

Multicultural Minority Representative

1. Zipporah Smith (Merrill / Future Pathways).

I have been a dedicated DMEA member since I began working with the District 22 years ago. Throughout my career I have increasingly become a more active member of the association and engaged in various opportunities to interrupt systemic harm and support multiethnic and multicultural staff. If reelected, I will remain committed to bringing the lived realities of our multiethnic and multicultural staff and students into all spaces I navigate and advocate for policies and workplaces that actively value everyone.