



Polk Education Association Organizational Chart Executive Board 2026-2027

The Executive Board is the steering committee and first stop for business for PEA. All actions of the Executive Board are subject to the review and approval of the Board [PEA Bylaws, Article IV Section C-1].

President (Full-time Release) Stephanie Yocum Teacher, Lake Gibson High Term 7/1/25-6/30/28	Executive Vice President (Full-time Release) Kat Nickell Teacher, Lake Region High Term 7/1/25-6/30/28	Secretary/Treasurer Patrick Bentley Teacher, Haines City High Term 7/1/25-6/30/28	VP of Teachers Robyn Silva Teacher, Lake Gibson High Term 7/1/25-6/30/28	VP of Paraeducators Stephanie Eady Para, Philip O'Brien El Term 7/1/25-6/30/28
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Committee Chairs- Term 9/3/26-9/1/27

- **Budget and Goals**
Chair: Patrick Bentley--Secretary/Treasurer, Teacher, Haines City High
- **Constitution and Bylaws**
Chair: Kat Nickell--Executive Vice President, Teacher Lake Region High
- **Election and Credentials**
Chair: Kaitlyn Gattie--Teacher, Eagle Lake Elementary
- **FYRE**
Chair: Ashley Cruset—Teacher, Summerlin High
- **Government Relations**
Chair: Christy Kirkland-- Teacher, George Jenkins High
- **Community Engagement**
Chair: Sherry Scott—Teacher, George Jenkins High
- **Instructional and Professional Development**
Chair: Kat Nickell-- Executive Vice President, Teacher, Lake Region High
- **Organizing Committee**
Chair: Jean Regan--District-Wide ESE Facilitator

*Appointments approved by Board of Directors on September 3rd, 2026

Elected District Reps to Executive Board- Term 9/5/24-8/20/27

- **District 1:**
Laura Allgood- Teacher, Philip O'Brien Elementary
Maryanne Hyacinthe- Paraeducator, Crystal Lake Elementary
Kaitlin Gattie- Teacher, Eagle Lake Elementary
- **District 2:**
Francoise Carson—Teacher, Haines City High School
Harry Clark—Teacher, Boone Middle
Sandra Miller—Teacher, Ridge Community Senior High
- **District 3:**
Mike Hayde—Teacher, Mulberry High School
Brandon Santiago—Teacher, Bartow High
- **District 4:**
Nicole Hermes—Teacher, Lake Alfred Elementary
James Neal- Teacher, Gause Academy
- **District 5:**
Tanisha McLachlan- Teacher, NE Roberts Elementary
Matthew Crowley—Para, Kathleen Elementary
DeAundrea Moore—Teacher, Kathleen Middle
Carissa Lillie—Literacy Coach, Kathleen Elementary
- **District 6:**
Rebecca Schempp- Teacher, Lewis Anna Woodbury Elementary
Kari Walker- Teacher, Frostproof Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Elementary
Tamara Opalek—Teacher, Lewis Anna Woodbury Elementary
- **District 7:**
Pam Barnes- Media Specialist, Boswell Elementary