

MEMO

TO: NEA Executive Committee, Board of Directors,
State Presidents and State Executive Directors

FROM: Dennis Van Roekel, President
John Wilson, Executive Director

DATE: January 14, 2010

RE: NEA Haiti Earthquake Recovery

We have all been moved these past few days with images and news of the great devastation of Haiti due to the earthquake. News is still being gathered regarding the situation of the Education International affiliate, Confédération Nationale des Édicateurs d'Haïti (CNEH), its leaders and members. We await word from CNEH's Jean Lavaud, René Jolibois, and Magalie Dubois, as well as others who make up the CNEH education union family.

NEA is participating in the Education International Solidarity Fund, which channels support directly to CNEH members in Haiti who have been hit hard by this earthquake. The funds are managed by Education International; disbursements will be made first to secure lives and second to support the resumption of education. This is a safe way to ensure that relief funds go directly to teachers and positively support children.

We invite you to financially support the EI Solidarity Fund for Haiti; directing the funds to the recovery efforts of teachers there. Checks can be made out to the National Education Association; which will be forwarded directly to EI for humanitarian assistance to CNEH. These can be sent to:

Haiti Earthquake Recovery
National Education Association
1201 16th Street NW, Suite 614
Washington DC 20036

There are challenging times that we face in public education and in our families just now in the United States. Yet, the Haitian's deep level of need and the intrinsic reward of giving calls on us all to do what we can.