

**MAY
2026**



Meet Your State Officers: President-Elect: Avery Hopf



Hello Current & Future Educators,
I'm Avery Hopf and I'm beyond grateful to introduce myself as 2026-2027 Educator's Rising President Elect. As President-Elect, I'm looking forward to supporting our organization, helping us grow stronger together, and creating more opportunities for us to learn, lead, and make an impact in our state.

I am currently a Sophomore at Northeast Dubois Jr/Sr High School in Southern Indiana. I have two younger siblings, a brother and a sister. I joined Educator's Rising this past year. A highlight of my time working with Educator's Rising was our "Kids Night Out," a night when we set up games and made food with the kids. Education is something I highly prioritize and hope to encourage others to get involved in.

In my free time, I enjoy playing volleyball, basketball, and track. I also like being involved in Educators Rising, FCA, FFA, Student Council, Spirit Club, Spanish Club, Natural Helpers, and the Student Leadership Group at my church, and I also help serve at the kids' church every Sunday.

National Conference information:

Alene and Amy will be in Portland from June 18-24, so if you need help, reach out to them.

Alene - 317-727-6117 or asmith@ista-in.org,

Amy - amitchell@nedubois.k12.in.us (Amy is judging and will be more accessible via email)

Webinar – May 14 at 4 PM: What to expect at conference: how to prepare, check-in process, things that you do to get ready. Teacher leaders please attend!

National Ed Rising Conference quick glance: (all times are PDT)

June 19 - 1:00 p.m., State officer meeting

June 20 - 1:00-7:00 p.m., Competitions, College Fair, Breakout sessions

June 20- 7pm Opening session- Amy and Paula can reserve table 15 minutes prior to doors opening with table tents

June 21 - 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Competitions, Breakout sessions

June 22 - 8:00 a.m.-12 noon, Competitions, Breakout sessions,

June 22- 10am-noon State Delegate meeting

June 22- State dinner (TBA)

June 23 - 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Closing Session and awards- Breakfast provided

Link for [tentative agenda](#)

****It is highly recommended that when students are not competing, they attend the planned breakout sessions and explore the city during scheduled times. Our curated breakout sessions are designed to support student growth beyond the classroom, covering topics such as the college admissions process (presented by collegiate administrators), adaptive strategies for current and future stressors, and leadership development, and they also offer opportunities to connect with practicing educators who can support their future careers. Don't miss these valuable sessions!**

Alene will be available to practice with students before they meet the national judges. Contact her to set this up.

Things to do in [Portland](#). **Please click on Portland to get the information.*



Important Dates:

- May 5- Educators Rising National Signing Day
- June 20-23- National Educators Rising Conference in Portland, OR
- July 20 Teacher leaders re-enroll in Educators Rising portal
- July 29 10 am-3 pm Education Pathway workshop, Jasper Public Library, Jasper, IN Cherry Room
- **2027- Nationals, Columbus, OH**
- **2028- Nationals Kissimmee, FL**
- **2029- Nationals Portland, OR**

July 29th Teacher Leader workshop:

- Education Pathway courses
- Fundraising ideas
- Dynamite lessons used in Education classes

Teacher leaders will meet in person or zoom in and join in the conversations on these topics above and more. A registration link will be sent out soon.

Jasper Public Library Cherry Room
100 3rd Ave, Suite B, Jasper, IN

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., EDT

- Lunch will be provided
- No cost for the event
- PGPs will be provided for attendance through ISTA.

We will not be hosting Zoom meetings the months of May - July. They will start back up in August.



Teacher leaders and a few of the presentors at the Educators Rising State Conferencend