



Update - Stay Connected

May 29, 2020

Annual Leave Changes

LWEA and LWSD have agreed to allow employees to accumulate up to 60 hours of annual leave in the 20-21 school year. In the 21-22 school year, annual leave accumulation will return to 37.5, per section 19.9.2 of the 2017-2021 LWEA/LWSD CBA. Your unused annual (personal) leave will be **automatically cashed out** at the sub rate of pay (\$184 per day). If you want to carry over days to next year, you must notify the district prior to June 30, indicating that you want to carry over your unused days (from the 2019-20 school year). Unused annual leave is carried over on a 1-for-1 basis.

Send your request to leave@lwsd.org – by June 30, 2020. Keep a copy of your e-mail and the auto-reply response from the District for your records.

Important – please note:

- For the 20-21 school year only, you may accumulate up to a total of 8 days of annual leave. Since you get 3 new annual leave days in the fall, a maximum of 5 days can be carried over into the 20-21 school year only. Any excess days will be cashed out.
- If you already have days that you've carried over from prior years, you **MUST** indicate that you want to continue to carry them over. If you do not notify the district, your carryover days will be cashed out.
- If you are interested in a combination (some cashed out and some carried over), you also **MUST** notify the district.
- Please do not contact the District to find out how many much unused annual leave you have remaining – you can easily [check your balance on Employee Access](#).
- Be sure to send your request to leave@lwsd.org.
- You will receive your annual leave cash out in your August paycheck.

Stay Connected to LWEA Over the Summer

Sign up for our text line.

- Sign up by texting LWEAINFO to 41411.
- We have just over 50% of members on our text line. With critical information coming over this summer- this is the FASTEST way we can get information to you.

Ensure we have your HOME email.

- Send it to Lama to ensure you are added to our list.



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President Message

Dear LWEA members,

15 days. We only have 15 days left of the 19-20 school year, a year that has been beyond challenging. Unfortunately, next year is likely to present many of those same challenges, along with some new ones.

That is why I need your help – Stay Connected and Share Your Feedback.

In June and July, a team of members working with LWEA leadership will begin the task of figuring out what next year will look like. Here is what I need from you to make this next year possible:

- Share your feedback. We have worked to create multiple venues to collect member feedback.

WEA Survey: Fill this out before June 3 (Wed). [WEA Survey](#)

- **Rep Feedback:** Reps have been asked to gather themes/questions/concerns from members to share before the **June 9 RA**. Please make sure to share your questions/themes/concerns with them.
- **LWEA Member Survey:** Coming June 10, we send out our own Lake Washington specific survey on reopening schools. As was the case with the survey completed on May 15th, this will go to members' home email addresses. Send [Lama](#) an email to ensure she has your home email on file.
- Stay Connected
 - **Sign up for our text line.**
 - Sign up by texting LWEAINFO to 41411.
 - We have just over 50% of members on our text line. And almost 50% will potentially miss critical information coming over this summer- this is the FASTEST way we can get information to you.
 - **Ensure we have your HOME email.**
 - Send it to [Lama](#) to ensure you are added to our list.

Through each of us lending our input and thoughtfulness- we build our power. This power and direction will help our bargaining team get a picture of how to best advocate and support LWEA member and LWSD students. Our district also needs to know how their staff can be supported so we can achieve the best outcome in this strange normal.

As we mourn and cope with the loss of our sense of normalcy and connection, please keep reaching out to your colleagues. Do not hesitate to reach out to LWEA for support. Or EAP services (which is a free and confidential mental health support). I am so impressed and humbled by our members fortitude in these times. While it is only 15 days until this year ends, I have hope that with members helping steer the ship- we may find a path in these uncharted waters.

Sincerely,
Howard Mawhinney

Electronic Contract Signing

Due to the constraints COVID-19 has created regarding the exchange and submission of materials, in addition to the District's efforts to move to more paperless processes, the District has created an electronic means for certificated staff to view and accept their 2020-21 employment contracts. This process will utilize Employee Access to electronically disseminate, accept, and retain certificated contracts. This new process will eliminate the need for physically signing and returning the paper contract. As such, contracts will not be sent via email as has been the practice in previous years. Instead, all certificated staff will be provided information on how to access their 2020-21 contracts using Employee Access and acknowledge acceptance with an electronic signature.

Use this link to review instructions for signing and accepting 2020-21 employment contracts electronically through Employee Access. [Electronic Signature for 20-21 Contracts](#)

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**LWEA -
this is your union!**



Educators of Color—Last Gathering of the Year!

Connecting Educators of Color, **Sharing** ideas/struggles and **Empowering** each other to make change.

Who: All Educators of Color

When: June 4th, 2020 4:00- 5:00pm

Where: Join us on **Zoom** with a beverage of your choice!

RSVP to receive the Zoom link: LWEA-EOC@lwsd.org

Funds Are Still Available – WEA Member Crisis

The WEA Board approved the WEA Individual Crisis Fund to provide one-time, temporary financial relief for active WEA members (WEA-Retired and SWEA members are not eligible) who have personally experienced a loss of income due to the COVID-19 school closures. Crisis grants will be \$575 each and are intended for those WEA members hardest hit from lost income. Loss of wages does not necessarily have to be from your primary job but may apply to 2nd job or a certificated employee who is also a coach. There is limited funding available, and applications will be accepted until funds are depleted.

Many members who are most in need may not have access to technology or email and we want to make sure you have an opportunity to reach out to them. Please remember, the funds are granted first come first served.

There are two options for applying:

1. Apply here via the [online application](#).

- Submit information -- name, local, and employer to verify active membership
- Provide contact information and complete mailing address
- Indicate financial need via a checkbox

2. Call 253-765-7093 to have the application filled out for you. People calling the number will leave a voice mail, which will be returned during business hours in the order it was received.

People who have questions about the application process can email WEAmembercrisisfund@washingtonea.org.



Marketplace

Ads are run in the Update on a first come, first served basis. All ads must include a home email and/or phone number. Send directly to [Terri Neely](#) in the LWEA office.

All ads are subject to the approval of the LWEA Executive Committee and may be edited for length.



June 3

Exec Committee

June 3

WEA Survey

June 4

EoC Final Gathering

June 9

Rep Assembly



WEA Self-Pace Classes

As WEA summer trainings have been cancelled, several courses have been created for members and non-members which will give them the opportunity for self-paced learning. The WEA has launched 5 asynchronous (self-paced) trainings on a learning management system called Canvas. Participants can sign up any time as long as they complete the self-paced training by mid to late August.

The [flyer](#) includes the descriptions and registration links for the self-paced learning classes.

Some of the classes are paid for by the state and allow for any educator to attend. They include:

- STEM Integration for Secondary Educators (Available for all educators but mostly geared for teachers)
- De-escalation (This one was developed by both para-educators and teachers and appropriate for all)
- Intelligent Lives: In Inclusionary Practices Journey (for all educators)

The following two options are for WEA members only:

- TPEP 101 (Classroom teachers who are WEA members)
- TPEP Evidence and Artifacts (Classroom teachers who are WEA members)

All trainings are free to participants. WEA hopes to add more classes in June.

End of Year Technology Reminders

There are technology preparations administrators and staff need to take before leaving for the summer to maintain access to systems while offsite and to organize classroom and student technology for maintenance and upgrades before school starts next year. The accompanying resources document, [End of Year Technology Reminders](#) provides detailed instructions for the following preparations:

- (1) For departing staff only - Responding to AskEmpAccess email with personal email address to retain access to Employee Access records and to turn in district technology.
- (2) Preparing classrooms for summer technology maintenance.
- (3) Ensuring continued remote access to laptops, Office 365, and password management over the summer.

FREE: 1- Infant bouncer seat, Disney/Winnie the Pooh pattern with music and vibration and 1 – Graco Soothing Vibration Electronic baby swing w/variable speed, sound and music. Both are in excellent condition, barely used. Text Terri @ 425-443-2619 (Terri Neely, LWEA)

ESTATE SALE: 2014 Model S Tesla, black, 22,000 miles, excellent condition, \$35,000 Contact Catherine at ellisfamily4@comcast.net (Cathy Ellis, Blackwell)