



Update - Stay Connected

June 18, 2020



School Re-Opening Fall 2020

Less than 50% of LWEA members have completed our survey for School Re-Opening Fall 2020. All LWEA members should have received the survey on their home email. **If you did not receive the survey, please contact [Lama](#) with your home email.**

While we are unsure about the exact composition of re-opening schools in the fall, here is what we do know:

- Our interests continue to be health and safety, equity, economic security, flexibility, and managing sensible workloads.
- LWEA has recruited a team of members who represent different interests across LWEA to guide and inform our conversations with LWSD.
- LWEA has secured dates to meet with LWSD to hold interest-based conversations about the reopening of schools.

We need to hear from ALL of our members! That means you.

Our team and LWEA leadership need your input.

Help guide our thinking on what re-opening the fall will look like.

Survey Closes Monday, June 22 @ Noon

Racial Equity Policy Action

The elected LWEA Executive Committee will be presenting a letter regarding racial equity progress and policy action in our district to the LWSD Board of Directors at their meeting on June 22. Racial equity work is central to education and the labor movement, and to LWEA's values of advocating for human rights, promoting the professional growth of our members, and increasing support of public education. We encourage members to participate in this virtual meeting with us.

- **Participate by watching the meeting.** The Board meets remotely now, read about these changes and find the phone number [here](#).
- **Participate by submitting public comment.** Additionally, though there is no in-person public comment, the Board still takes public comment, and these submissions are read aloud during the meeting. Public comments must be submitted by 3:00 pm on the day of the meeting. There are two ways to submit public comment:
 - Submit written comment of 300 words or less via email to djenkins@lwsd.org
 - Leave a phone message of 3 minutes or less by calling 425-936-1257
- **Participate by emailing the Board.** You are always welcome to email any individual Board member or the entire Board at any time outside of public comment at boardmembers@lwsd.org.

**In
this
issue**

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- Stay Well Health Smart (4)

LWEA Communication Over the Summer

We will be communicating with members over the summer through home emails and on our text line. Members should expect updates on our bargaining progress starting in mid-July. **Text LWEAINFO to 41-411 to join our text line.**

As a reminder, as Howard recovers, we have reorganized our communication channels. We are asking for your patience. Questions and concerns can always be directed to your building rep or as follows:

- For questions from **Elementary staff, Counseling Specialists, ESAs, and SpEd Teachers**: LWEA Uniserv Director Katie Bishop (KBishop@washingtonea.org)
- For questions from **Secondary staff, Elementary & Secondary: Librarian, Itinerant Music/PE Teachers, ELL/SN Teachers**: LWEA VP Katie Badger (Katie.Badger@washingtonea.org)
- For questions regarding the **Professional Fund, Leaves, and SEBB**: Terri Neely (TNeely@washingtonea.org)
- For questions regarding **LWEA membership and enrollment**: Lama Chikh (LChikh@washingtonea.org)

If you would like to send a note to Howard, please send cards to the LWEA office: 10604 NE 38th PI, Suite 212, Kirkland, WA 98033. There will also be a collection bag outside the LWEA office where you can drop cards. For more information on ways to help, contact [Terri](#).



Do you like meeting new people? Are you skilled in social media? Are you interested in keep LWEA strong? WE NEED YOUR HELP. Consider joining our organizing and communication team. The Organizing and Communications team works to strengthen relationships with members through our communications, help our members build power within their buildings, and welcome new members to LWEA. If you enjoy supporting new educators or want to build power with other building reps- Join us! If you are interested in becoming involved, send me an email at katie.badger@washingtonea.org

A Huge Thanks to Our LWEA Building Reps

Please join us in thanking everyone who has served as a building rep this year. These volunteers hold our organization together through their varied and important roles: inviting new colleagues to become LWEA members and explaining the value of membership in LWEA; conducting building labor management meeting to advocate for the interests of staff; hosting building meetings to build reciprocal pathways of communication between members and elected LWEA leadership; answering contract questions; helping build local political power through WEA-PAC and other collective political action; attending monthly LWEA Representative Assembly meetings to conduct the work of our union. *The work of building reps is critical.* But building reps build power at our school sites, which makes for a stronger LWEA overall. YOU ARE THE BEST!!



LWEA Office

10604 NE 38th Place, Suite 212

Kirkland, WA

425-822-3388



Office Staff

Office Manager: [Terri Neely](#)

Admin Assistant: [Lama Chikh](#)

UniServ Rep: [Katie Bishop](#)

LWEA Officers and Executive Committee

President:

[Howard Mawhinney](#)
LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

Vice President:

[Katie Badger](#)
LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

Primary Rep:

[Patti Cook](#)
Rush / 425-936-2690

Intermediate Rep:

[Cathey Hettinger](#)
Barton / 425-936-2480

Middle School Rep:

[Kyla Thompson](#)
Finn Hill / 425-936-2340

High School Rep:

[Rachelle Horner](#)
EHS / 425-936-1500

Specialists Rep:

[Marilyn Hargraves](#)
LWHS / 425-936-1700

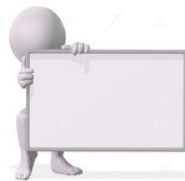
Special Services Rep:

[Cookie Grant-Suggs](#)
Rush / 425-936-2690

Ethnic Minority Rep:

[Maryziel Galarpe](#)
Blackwell / 425-936-2520

**LWEA -
this is your union!**



Limited Open Enrollment for SEBB Benefits July 1 – July 31, 2020

We know the COVID-19 pandemic may have changed your health care needs. From July 1 - July 31, 2020, employees will have a limited open enrollment opportunity to change some of their SEBB benefits. You can:

- Enroll in medical if you are currently enrolled only in dental and vision.
- Add eligible dependents to your medical coverage.
- Increase or decrease Medical FSA or DCAP annual elections.
- Enroll in a Medical FSA or DCAP for the rest of the 2020 calendar year.
- **You cannot change your medical plans or waive medical coverage during this limited open enrollment.**

To add dependents or enroll in medical, you should visit [SEBB My Account](#). All forms and documents must be **uploaded no later than July 31, 2020**. Acceptable dependent verification forms include:

- Most recent tax returns – front page only with your dependent's names
- Birth certificates
- adoption decrees
- Parenting plans
- Marriage certificate and evidence that the marriage is still valid, such as a utility bill within the last 2 months showing both your and your spouse's name
- State registered domestic partnership certificate and evidence that partnership is still valid (utility bill)

All documents must be submitted in English. Documents written in a foreign language must include a translated copy prepared by a professional translator and be notarized.

To enroll in or change your Medical FSA or DCAP elections, you will need to submit a specialized paper enrollment form. These forms will be available on July 1st and posted to the district portal under SEBB.

Any changes made to your medical plans will be effective August 1st, but your cost may not be deducted until September due to SEBB billing cycles. This means you will have an additional deduction in September, for your August premium.

No forms or changes will not be accepted after July 31, 2020.

SEBB will host a webpage about this opportunity at hca.wa.gov/sebb-oe, which will launch on June 18. Please note payroll staff will not be able to reset your SAW login or password. Please follow the instructions on the SAW website to reset your password or login. For all other questions please email SEBBbenefits@lwsd.org

SEBB Audit

The Health Care Authority's Audit and Accountability Division is conducting an audit of dependent verification on behalf of the SEBB Program. They are currently in the final phase of the audit.

Beginning next week, letters will be mailed to employees who were randomly selected in the audit process. Employees will be required to provide dependent verification documentation within 45 days of the date on the letter. Instructions for providing the documents will be included in the letter.

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 24

Exec Committee
End of Year

Relax

And

Enjoy

Summer



COMMUNITY LOVE-IN

JUNETEENTH EVENT

6/19, 3:30-4:30 PM

REDMOND DOWNTOWN PARK

#BLACKLIVESMATTER #SOLIDARITY



**IN SUPPORT AND GRATITUDE
FOR ALL THE STAFF OF
COLOR AT LWSD.**

- Bring signs to show support
- Wear masks & practice social distancing.

COMMUNITY LOVE-IN FOR LWSD STAFF AND STUDENTS OF COLOR

June 19, 3:40-4:30 PM

Redmond Downtown Park

Join us for a community JUNETEENTH event to show GRATITUDE and SUPPORT for all the staff of color in LWSD! Please wear masks and practice social distancing. Bring signs to show your appreciation. For more information, contact Renay George: ronaygeorge@gmail.com or Debbie Lacy: Debbie@EastsideForAll.org. Renay and Debbie serve on the district's Equity Advisory Team.

Annual Leave

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.

Stay Well During Summer Break

Make this a self-care summer, a time to recharge, a time to focus on your well-being. Use your free SEBB wellness benefits to support you. Learn more at [Smart Health](#)

