



Update - Stay Connected

September 16, 2020

LWEA: What is Constant, What is Changing

I cannot possibly express how happy I am to be back at work. The adage about the *blessed being too busy to worry in the daytime and too sleepy to worry at night* is spot on in my case. And it is a good thing...we have much to do over the next few months. I will sleep well for the foreseeable future.

As a union, we take great pride in meeting the needs of our members. Last spring, over the summer, and into the start of this 2020-21 school year, serving those needs has meant a steadfast focus on our response to the COVID pandemic. **Those efforts will continue into the coming months.** We are committed to do all we can to ensure that staff, student, and community health/safety concerns are the paramount consideration. As was the case in our summer bargaining efforts, we will continue to rely on our members expertise and voice while we work with the district to ensure safe, reasonable, and sustainable working conditions while you continue to meet the challenge of providing remote and in-person instruction. While it saddens me to see the extraordinary measures required of educators currently providing those in-person services, I want to acknowledge your efforts and say thank you. You are truly heroes. You exemplify what it means to be a professional.

In addition to addressing members needs related to the pandemic, we have several additional priorities to tackle in the coming months. Among them will be the recruitment and hiring of replacements for Katie Bishop and Lama Chikh. Both are moving on to well-earned promotions, Katie Bishop to a management position with the Virginia Education Association and Lama to a position at WEA headquarters. In both cases, the WEA is actively working with LWEA to recruit qualified candidates. We hope to repeat the good fortune we have enjoyed with Lama and Katie Bishop. You can continue to reach Katie Bishop until Oct 13.

We are also in the process of moving to a new office space. As many of you know, the LWEA leased our Kirkland office location from PACCAR corporation. As they had done with our office space neighbors, PACCAR notified us last spring that they were unwilling to enter into another long-term lease with existing tenants. On a very positive note, we have secured space near the center of the district, about a mile from the Resource Center. Although LWEA staff continues to work from home, we hope our new space will be ready for occupancy before Winter Break.

Finally (and very important), the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between LWEA and LWSD expires in August 2021. Bargaining that next CBA will begin in early 2021. Over the next few weeks, I will be speaking more about the processes, timelines, and training plans currently under development for that bargaining effort.

I look forward to supporting you as you take on the important work of teaching Lake Washington students. If you have questions about any of the changes listed above, please do not hesitate to contact LWEA staff: Terri Neely, Katie Badger, or myself. We can be reached by phone at 425.822.3388, by intra-district mail, or by email. You may also want to check the LWEA website and the LWEA Facebook page for answers to FAQs, helpful worksheets, insights into contract changes, and other information about our union. And, as always, sign up for the LWEA text line by texting "LWEAINFO" to 414-11. The text line is the fastest route to critical LWEA information!

We know this year will be different and challenging, but we face this challenge together.

Howard Mawhinney
President
Lake Washington Education Association

Evaluations

Many members have been wondering what evaluations will look like this year. OSPI has released [evaluation guidance for the 20-21 school year](#), along with a [Danielson for Remote Teaching framework](#). LWEA and LWSD are working on an agreement we hope to have to you soon.



We want you on our Instagram and Facebook!

LWEA members are our biggest heroes! We know that many members are putting in extreme hours to meet student needs remotely, and some members are facing the challenges of working in person with special needs students. We want to showcase this hard work and dedication. Send us **pictures** of you at work in your remote or in-person teaching space, along with 1) **your name**, 2) **what/where you teach**, and 3) **how you feel about teaching despite a pandemic right now (just 1-2 sentences)**. We will be posting to Instagram and Facebook. Share pictures/answers using this [Google form](#) (need to be logged into your Google account to use) or email Katie Badger at katie.badger@washingtonea.org.

Microsoft Training for Families

Microsoft will be hosting one-hour live events for LWSD to learn the basics of MS Classroom Teams. We know you all have put a lot of work into supporting parents as they navigate Teams. **Please send families to these events.** Additionally, there will be office hours for families to attend. They will be each Wednesday until Oct 7. Please feel free to share this link with your families: <https://www.lwsd.org/help/classroom-teams-support>

New Hires Can Get SEBB Benefits Help

If you are a new hire and need help with the SEBB website plan on attending a new hire SEBB questions and answer session. The benefits team will be hosting two Teams sessions on:

Thursday September 17th and Tuesday September 22nd from 4:3 -5:30PM.

Please email SEBBbenefits@lwsd.org with the date you want to attend and to receive your calendar invitation. This Q & A is for help with the SEBB website.

If you need help selecting benefits and would like to schedule a one on one meeting with American Fidelity to discuss your benefit options, click [here](#) to set up an on-line appointment.

Department of Retirement – Video for new employees

New to the Department of Retirement or need help understanding the difference between plan 2 and 3? Click [here](#) for plan choice information.

What to Save More for Retirement?

If you are interested in saving more for retirement, you can sign up for the Department of Retirement Deferred Compensation program, click [here](#) for more information. Envoy offers pre-tax and post-tax 403(b) tax sheltered annuity options, for more information click [here](#).

LWEA Office is relocating. We will move into our Redmond location later this year.

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
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3388

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Intermediate Rep:

Mary Kay Weinmeister
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Middle School Rep:

Kyla Thompson
Finn Hill / 425-936-2340

High School Rep:

Rachelle Horner
EHS / 425-936-1500

Specialists Rep:

Marilyn Hargraves
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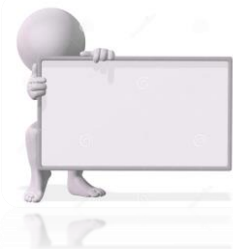
Special Services Rep:

Cookie Grant-Suggs
Rush / 425-936-2690

Ethnic Minority Rep:

Cathey Hettinger
Barton / 425-936-2480

**LWEA -
this is your union!**



WEA National Board Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Jump Start Event

FROM WEA:

As you may have heard, NBPTS will release assessment details for MOC on September 17th. Our Jump Start design team is standing by to quickly modify our past Renewal Jump Start curriculum materials to align with the new NBCT.

WEA will offer two, three-hour MOC training options for candidates: MOC 1 (Overview) and MOC 2 (Application). The course summary for each event is provided at the end of this email. MOC 1 provides foundational information all candidates will find relevant; MOC 2 is an optional, but encouraged, follow-up to MOC 1. It is focused on deeper review of your PGE's and provides time for pre-planning to meet requirements.

These events are only open to WEA members. The early registration cost for each event you attend is \$15 (before September 21st). After September 21st, the regular registration cost will be \$25 per event you attend.

We will run MOC 1 and 2 events on these dates:

Maintenance of Certification Jump Start: Part 1 (Overview) [3 clock hours for training time; 1 clock hour for preparation]

- Saturday, October 3rd (9am-Noon) Register [here](#)
- Wednesday, October 7th (4-7pm) Register [here](#)
- Saturday, October 10th (9am-Noon) Register [here](#)

Maintenance of Certification Jump Start: Part 2 (Application) [3 clock hours for training time; 1 clock hour for preparation]

- Saturday, October 17th (9am-Noon) Register [here](#)
- Wednesday, October 21st (4-7pm) Register [here](#)
- Saturday, October 24th (9am-Noon) Register [here](#)

We hope to see you online at an MOC Jump Start event. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Arlyn Palomo at apalomo@washingtonea.org. If you have questions around the content of the MOC Jump Start, please contact Beth McGibbon at bethmcgibbon@comcast.net

My best to you for a great start of your school year! Jim Meadows



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.



Sept. 22

First Day of Autumn

Sept. 28

School Board Mtg

Sept. 29

Competency Teams Meetings

Oct. 6

Exec Committee



NEA Teacher Quality Distance Learning Webinars

NEA Teacher Quality will continue its webinar series through the fall to help educators master the ins and outs of distance learning and early childhood pedagogy. The online sessions are held from 4-5 p.m. and participants should log in 15 minutes early.

Sept. 21: Leveling Up Seesaw for Distance Learning

Beginning and intermediate Seesaw users will take a deeper dive into the many features of Seesaw and models of how we can organically embed authentic social emotional supports. Learn how to create your own custom Seesaw Activities. Also discover how Seesaw's built-in features like folders, skills, and blogs can help streamline the assessment and feedback processes, whether at home or in the classroom. This session is perfect for educators who have attended our beginning Seesaw session or have been using Seesaw and want to learn more. [Register here](#)

Sept. 28: Leveling up Google Classroom for Distance Learning

Now's the time to take your Google Classroom to the next level! Come learn about how to maximize Google Classroom for remote teaching and learning purposes with embedded opportunities for social emotional learning, more complex assignments, interactive learning environments, tools for one-on-one student support and opportunities to differentiate practice to fit your students needs. [Register here](#)

Oct. 5: Leveling Up Schoology for Distance Learning

Leverage Schoology features to create synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities while growing community. Materials, gradebook, attendance, analytics, and conferences will be reviewed so you are ready to use Schoology to it's fullest. [Register here](#)

Nov. 2: Social Emotional Learning in a Virtual Space

How can you create meaningful relationships with and between students in a safe virtual space? This webinar seeks to answer this question with *already tried it* practices. Learn about different strategies, exercises, and activities that put SEL at the forefront in an intentional and transparent way. [Register here](#)

Dec. 7: Assessments: Formative and Summative from a Distance

We will demonstrate how popular EdTech tools can be leveraged to collect formative assessment and inform instruction in an asynchronous environment. [Register here](#)



Stay Safe We Care About You