



Update - Stay Connected

March 3, 2021

Covid Vaccinations for Teachers And Childcare Workers Expedited

Good news! Monday the LWEA and LWSD came to an agreement on [COVID Vaccinations and Testing](#). Tuesday, President Biden announced his support for [Vaccinating all childcare and PreK-12 staff by the end of March](#). Shortly thereafter, Governor Inslee moved all [Teachers and Childcare workers to phase 1B-1 effective immediately](#) making every LWEA member eligible for vaccination if desired. Additional details can be found on page two in the Safety Corner.

A word from your WEA President and Vice President:

Yesterday was an exciting day. President Biden has required states to prioritize educators for vaccination now. For those of you who have been in buildings for months, I'm sure this comes as a great relief. And for those still working with your districts to ensure the safest possible return to classrooms, today's announcement -- along with the state Health Department's guidelines and Labor and Industries requirements -- gives us better hope that we can protect ourselves and our students from COVID as much as possible.

We have yet to see the information for how this will be operationalized in Washington state. The President said he will work through pharmacies, and OSPI has been organizing its ["Get Ready" program](#) to speed educator vaccinations. We will urge them to mobilize the plan as soon as possible and will be in contact as more information becomes clear.

We have fought long and hard to get vaccinations for educators, particularly those already working in person. We realize the risks many WEA members have taken working in-person to this point and our community is grateful for your work and your commitment to your students.

We hope to have more information for you soon.

Larry Delaney and Janie White

A word from Lake Washington School District:

We are so excited that today's announcement from President Biden prioritizes COVID vaccines for educators. We have received reports from OSPI and the State Department of Health indicating that they will be providing additional guidance and support to help educators access vaccines as soon as possible.

We have been working with groups like Kaiser Permanente and Allegro Pediatrics to provide clinics for employees who were previously eligible and will be working with them and our other healthcare partners to assess their ability to access supplies and coordinate clinics in the coming days.

We will follow up with more details about how to access vaccination clinics later this week.



[The last 24 hours have significantly changed the vaccination outlook for school employees. Now what happens?](#)

Get an appointment

Thanks to a directive by President Biden, educators, school staff members, and child-care workers are immediately eligible for vaccination in Washington State.

When can I schedule an appointment?

Our [Vaccine LOU](#) (*Vaccine Priority Consideration for Certificated Staff*) prioritizes certificated staff for notification of vaccine appointments with their vaccine partners. The District works with groups like Kaiser and Allegro, and other healthcare partners, to coordinate vaccination clinics for employees and then notifies eligible employees about these appointments at these clinics.

Our agreement says that the District will notify staff about the availability of an appointment with a vaccine partner in a sequence: (1) special services staff providing in-person services; (2) classroom teachers providing in-person services; (3) all other certificated staff.

However, any member can schedule an appointment on their own with any provider who has an available appointment. You don't need to wait for a notification from the District.

How do I locate an appointment?

Use the Phase Finder tool to locate an appointment. If you're having trouble finding a provider with available appointments, try checking it on "off hours". You might also contact your health care provider to ask if they have appointments. Or ask your friends and colleagues; there's a lot of networking going on out there as people seek appointments. If you need phone assistance or language interpretation, King County and Washington state are operating [call centers](#).

Vaccines are being provided at no cost. You should not be charged any fee, even an administration fee, for an appointment that is only for vaccination.

We've heard that you won't need to provide proof of your employment with a school district. Some providers are asking for a simple attestation of school district employment or work in a school setting.

Secure [paid leave](#) for an appointment

Our [Vaccine LOU](#) (*Vaccine Appointments*) permits staff to access a vaccine appointment during the workday as paid leave in either a half day or full day increment. This allows you to secure a vaccination appointment as soon as possible, whenever and wherever you can find one, even if you have to travel out of King County for the appointment.

We will follow up soon with details for how to secure paid leave for a vaccine appointment during the workday.

Stay vigilant

Vaccination is an essential tool for ending the pandemic. We still have a long way to go: [according to King County](#), about 20% of county residents have received at least 1 dose of a COVID vaccine. Until more people are vaccinated, everyone will need to keep practicing our COVID safety measures in order to keep our schools safe and healthy.

wearing masks

keeping 6 feet apart

washing hands

increasing cleaning

staying home when sick

screening and attestation

limiting gatherings

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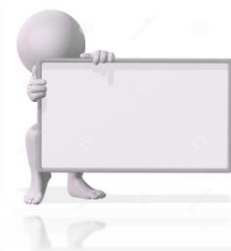
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**LWEA -
this is our union!**



Let's celebrate our nation of diverse readers with NEA's Read Across America.

Looking for books to captivate, engage and feature students of color, students of marginalized identities, students with disabilities or students with diverse families? Want to access a toolkit for a future event? Seeking free materials? [You can find all of this and more here.](#)

Connecting with Students Online: Bite-Sized Blended Book Study

Join us for a Bite-Sized Blended Book Study, featuring Jennifer Serravallo's new book, *Connecting with Students Online: Strategies for Remote Teaching & Learning*. The book study takes place within 5 weeks and participants will read two chapters: the first chapter, then one other chapter of their choice. If you are continuing to teach remotely, this book is for you!

The book features more than 55 step-by-step teaching strategies for remote instruction, focusing on the vital importance of connections. The chapters cover:

- Effectively prioritizing what matters most during remote instruction
- Scheduling your day and the student day to maximize teaching and learning
- Streamlining curricular units and rolling them out digitally
- Recording highly engaging mini lessons that students enjoy and learn from
- Conferencing, working with small groups, and driving learning through independent practice
- Partnering with adults in a student's home to support your work with their child

The dates and structure of the book study are outlined below:

1. March 30th: Book Study Launch in a 30-minute live MS Teams Meeting
2. March 31st – April 16th: Reading Chapter One and engaging with the online discussion board
3. April 16th – April 23rd: Reply to posts on the discussion board
4. April 23rd – May 5th: Reading a chapter of choice on your own
5. May 6th: Reflecting on learning with colleagues in a 1-hour live MS Teams Meeting

Participants will receive a copy of the book and are eligible for 2 clock hours and 2 hours of LWSD Timecard Rate pay. Participants can sign up on Cornerstone.

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.



Mar 9
Rep Assembly

Mar 12
Leap Day

Mar 14
Day Light Savings

Mar 16
Competency Team Mtg

Mar 17
St Patricks Day

Mar 20
First Day of Spring!

MARCH

Educators of Color

Dear Friends,
Out of consideration for our 2-5 colleagues returning to in-person learning, we will be cancelling our March gathering. **Our next gathering will take place on May 6th.** We look forward to gathering soon!



A Friend in Need

Christine Winterbrook - K5HC Team Member in Accelerated Programs – Supports Rosa Parks Elementary and Sandburg/Discovery Elementary School Highly Capable Students. Christine is currently undergoing chemotherapy and recovering from radiation therapy for Stage IV non-small cell lung cancer with the EGFR mutation which is a non-smoker's form of lung cancer. In November, she was found to have a metastatic tumor in her spine and underwent 10 cycles of radiation during winter break. The radiation caused increased inflammation that resulted in a blood clot near her spine. Shortly after radiation ended, it was discovered that a tumor in her lung had active cancer and she has now started 4 rounds (12 weeks) of chemotherapy.

Please consider a [Shared Leave Donation](#) by filling out the donation form and sending it to HR. Thank you.

Grants for Washington State K-12 Public School Teachers!

Applications are now being accepted for the "Ellison Education Grants". Grants are intended for K-12 public school teachers in Washington state. The Ellison foundation has awarded 52 grants and \$218,000 to Washington state teachers the past four years. The Ellison Foundation will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 in the spring of 2021 (for use during the 2021-22 school year). **Applications must be submitted by March 27, 2021.**

To learn more about the "Ellison Education Grants" please go to the following link: <http://ellison-foundation.org/ellison-education>.

FREE:

42" TV, Panasonic plasma (2006...so it's not "smart", only average intelligence, if that!) Works perfectly and great picture quality. Happy to give to anyone who wants it or pass along to someone who needs it. Jeanne Brown (retired) 425-836-0172 (leave message)

