



WEA
WASHINGTON
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

2020 NEW BUSINESS ITEM
PROGRESS REPORT

2020 NEW BUSINESS ITEMS (NBIs)

WEA Goals and Objectives:

1. Increase WEA members' professional status and job satisfaction.
 2. Improve the quality of and access to public education for all students.
 3. Forge partnerships with parents, business, other unions, and community groups.
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New Business Item A—Withdrawn

Training to Increase Equity in Supporting Positive Student Behavior

(Tani Lindquist; Shannon Rasmussen; WEA Change, Innovation, and Achievements Committee)

New Business Item B—Withdrawn

Coordinated Response to Increase Equity in Supporting Positive Student Behavior

(Sandra Hunt, WEA Health & Safety Committee)

New Business Item C—Withdrawn

Additional Staff to Increase Equity in Supporting Positive Student Behavior

(Jennifer Black; Jared Kink; WEA Legislative Strategy Committee)

New Business Item D — Withdrawn

Small/Rural Time Release Conferences (Reauthorization)

(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)

New Business Item E—Adopted

Small/Rural Regional Conferences

(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,600 (To be included in existing staffing budget.)

Non-Staff: \$70,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will establish a fund of up to \$70,000 to establish four small/rural regional conferences to be held at the regional level in the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest. This will deliver training and support to small/rural locals at a more convenient location, with each training held in a regional UniServ Council office. The funds requested would be used to cover meals, lodging, travel reimbursement, and compensation for the trainers.

Staff assigned: Mary Howes

July 2021 update: NBI has moved to next fiscal year.

New Business Item F—Withdrawn

Small/Rural Release Time Grants (Reauthorization)

(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)

New Business Item G—Adopted

Small/Rural Membership Engagement Grants (Reauthorization)

(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget.)

Non-Staff: \$40,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will provide up to \$40,000 in grants for various local association activities. These activities would include, but not be limited to: local presidents' meetings, membership engagement activities, council and state trainings and political advocacy. Grants will not exceed \$1,500 per local. It is the hope of the Small/Rural Committee, that the Budget and Finance Committee will consider making these grants a permanent line-item in the annual WEA budget moving forward.

Staff assigned: Mary Howes

July 2021 update: The committee has approved 6 of the 9-grant requests received. There are 3-grants still pending committee decision.

**New Business Item H—Adopted
Small/Rural Release Time Grants (Reauthorization)
(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget.)
Non-Staff: \$30,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will provide up to \$30,000 for Small/Rural Release Time Grants. The Release Time Grants will help provide local leaders the time necessary to organize and advocate for members. A local grant may not exceed \$1,500. It is the hope of the Small/Rural Committee that the WEA Budget and Finance committee will explore adding the cost of these grants to the annual budget moving forward.

Staff assigned: Mary Howes

July 2021 update: The committee has approved 1 of the 2-grant requests received. There is 1-grant still pending committee decision.

**New Business Item I — Withdrawn
Small/Rural Regional Conferences
(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)**

**New Business Item J — Withdrawn
Small/Rural Release Time Grants (Reauthorization)
(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)**

**New Business Item K — Withdrawn
Small/Rural Membership Engagement Grants
(Shawn Brehm, WEA Small/Rural Committee)**

**New Business Item No. 1—Adopted
White Privilege for Educator Conference
(Michael Peña, Mukilteo EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$22,500 (included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$23,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will fund a conference named the "White Privilege for Educator Conference" that would help our White educators understand the idea of White Supremacy and the tenets of its culture. Such a conference would help them explore their privileges as White educators while providing a safe space from experiencing what might be perceived as an attack upon those privileges. Goals of

the conference will include (but may not be limited to) exploring the foundation of White Supremacy culture in education and union systems, effects on educators and students from the dismantling of White Supremacy in education and unions, identifying White Fragility, and developing a toolbox from which White educators can pull skills from when facing the guilt, anger, and denial one feels when experiencing White Fragility.

Staff assigned: Manny Bosser

July 2021 update: Randy Paddock and Jill Dahlen have met with a number of staff to talk about a 1-day conference in August 2021. The conference will be virtual recognizing ongoing challenges associated with the pandemic. Content consideration and development is underway as are discussions associated with the keynote speaker and a variety of logistics. As soon as the date has been identified it will be placed on the WEA Calendar.

New Business Item No. 2—Withdrawn

**Utilizing a Comprehensive Student Behavior Survey to Increase Student Safety and Learning
(Bob Gustin, WEA Lower Columbia)**

New Business Item No. 3— Adopted

**Ramadan Article
(Sobia Sheikh, Mukilteo EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$1,400 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will feature an article in WEA 2.0 before April 1, 2021 to highlight what Ramadan is, how educators can support Muslim students during the month of Ramadan, and how educators can increase awareness among other students and the community.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: Completed. An article was published in the Winter 2021 issue of We2.0, which arrived in members' mailboxes the last week in March.

New Business Item No. 4—Adopted

**Increasing Knowledge of the Muslim Community
(Sobia Sheikh, Mukilteo EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$4,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$2,900 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will work with Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) and community members to publish on the WEA website a variety of resources (books/articles by Muslim authors) about Islam and its history.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: Completed. Book titles have already been included, and will continue to be added, in our quarterly book list under NBI 28: <https://www.washingtonea.org/resources/inclusive/>. Resources from the Council on American-Islamic Relations - Washington (CAIR-WA) also are on the web page.

New Business Item No. 5—Withdrawn

**Alignment of WEA Racial and Social Justice Work
(Michael Peña, Mukilteo EA)**

New Business Item No. 6—Failed

Equity in Retirement Benefits for Employees Taking Approved Unpaid Leave

(Filma Fontanilla, Clover Park EA)

**New Business Item No. 7—Adopted
WEA Election Days!!
(Becca Ritchie, Kent EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,300 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$180,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. The WEA will provide two voting windows (one in the fall and one in the spring, to be determined by the elections and nomination committee) that locals/councils can choose to utilize where NLRB-compliant electronic voting will be provided by WEA at either no or a very nominal cost.
2. The WEA will provide space in WEA 2.0 for locals who choose to utilize this process to make election announcements in alignment with NLRB rules.

Staff assigned: Aimee Iverson

July 2021 update: Completed. WEA secured the services of BallotPoint to provide electronic voting services to all Local Associations and Councils at WEA's cost, and has communicated the process for using their services to all Local and Council Presidents.

**New Business Item No. 8—Withdrawn
Parental Notification of Cleared Rooms
(Christie Padilla, Kent EA)**

**New Business Item No. 9—Adopted
What good has it all done? Standardized testing must end.
(Julianna Dauble, Renton EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$27,200
Non-Staff: \$68,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will convene a special committee regarding the use of existing state tests for federal accountability under the ESSA law. This committee, made of a diverse cross section of educators, will gather information on existing state tests including SBA, WCAS, WAKids, and WELPA to compare and evaluate outcomes for each test in order to identify policy problems and propose alternative assessments for use in the Washington State ESSA plan. A proposed abbreviated policy statement and alternative assessments will be presented to delegates at RA 2021 for input and approval. The WEA BOD will plan for small group breakout sessions at the RA for delegates to brainstorm organizing strategies and tactics for ESSA revision that eliminates or reduces reliance on standardized testing and/or to develop a vision for an education system free from standardized tests.

Staff assigned: Lisa Kodama

July 2021 update: Staff worked with the WEA leadership-appointed NBI 9 work team. Staff provided research and coordinated information for the NBI 9 work team's consideration to fulfill NBI 9, as well as tracked relevant state and federal policies and actions. The NBI 9 work team concluded their work and were surveyed to inform NBI 9-related organizational recommendations. Information from the NBI 9 work team was shared with the WEA Change, Innovations and Assessments (CIA) Committee, as well as a cross-departmental staff team. A team is finalizing recommendations to WEA leadership that include continuing NBI 9 work into the 2021-22FY and some key organizational assessment system position options.

**New Business Item No. 10—Adopted
Anti-Racist, Culturally-Competent Teaching and Diversity Training for ALL WA Educators
(Jennifer Bradley, Evergreen EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$10,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: \$56,000,000

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will work with the state legislature to pass legislation that requires public school districts to provide mandatory annual professional development for diversity training that includes but is not limited to:

1. Current and historic racial and cultural bias in education and society at large and its impacts on students and communities.
2. Resources and methods for culturally-competent, anti-racist, anti-bias teaching.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: SB 5044, sponsor Sen. Das, is now law. Beginning in the 2021-23 school year, and every *other* year thereafter all K-12 employees are required to utilize one professional development day on cultural competency, diversity, equity and inclusion (CCDEI) with the goal of creating anti-racist learning environments for all students. School boards are also required to participate in CCDEI professional development.

**New Business Item No. 11—Adopted
Bargaining for Common Good Language
(Sobia Sheikh, Mukilteo EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$15,100 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will craft a document explaining the principles of bargaining for the common good that may include philosophies, benefits, and example language to encourage locals to consider bargaining for the common good in order to obtain a fair and equitable contract that benefits the wider community.

Staff assigned: Mary Howes

July 2021 update: Complete. Information around BCG has been shared with UniServ Reps to be used with local leaders and bargaining teams. We plan to have continued training planned for the fall 2021 and into the next school year.

**New Business Item No. 12—Adopted
Staff Funding that Addresses and Seeks to Mitigate the Effects of Poverty in Schools
(Jennifer Bradley, Evergreen EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$16,300 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: \$350,000,000 (New Cost)

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will lobby the state legislature to provide additional personnel funding to reduce student-to-teacher ratios, counselor, and school psychologist caseloads, and lower-class caps for Title I schools.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff is lobbying legislative budget writers to increase staffing allocations in the general apportionment and Learning Assistance Programs. The Governor's budget proposed funding for additional counselors in high poverty elementary schools. HB 1208, a LAP policy bill would allow districts flexibility in using this funding to provide social emotional and mental health supports for students. HB 1208 has passed the House and has had a hearing in the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee. The final 2021-23 operating budget provides appropriations to increase counselor ratios in all high poverty schools by .5 in the 2022-23 school year.

New Business Item No. 13—Adopted
Bargaining a Better SEBB for Members
(Theresa Turner, Kent EA; Wendy Sarino, Kent EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$20,400 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will work with our labor consortium partners to:

1. Enable members to enroll in secondary insurance coverage (either from a second job or through a School Employee's benefits)
2. Allow FSA roll over of \$500 in alignment with Federal guidelines
3. Provide an appeal process for items or services members are denied under the SEBB Plan
4. Advocate for more positions on the SEBB board
5. Bargain more robust dental benefits.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: Benefit offerings are either decided by the SEB Board or mandated through legislative changes. GR staff will continue to work with labor partners to advocate for improvements to benefits and greater representation in the process. GR staff is also lobbying the legislature to fund the 21-23 SEBB contract negotiated between the SEBB labor partners and the state. The legislature adopted the 2021-23 operating budget thus funding the SEBB contract.

New Business Item No. 14—Withdrawn
NBI Spreadsheet/Database
(Brian Crowley, Clover Park EA)

New Business Item No. 15—Adopted
Aspiring Educator Conference (AEC) for Student Washington Education Association (SWEA) Members
(Brandy Alley, Student Washington Education Association)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$700 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$16,600 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will provide a grant for up to ten SWEA members to attend the NEA AEC (Aspiring Educator Conference).

Staff assigned: Mary Howes

July 2021 update: Student members are attending but it is virtual with no need for grants this year. Moved the funding for this NBI to next year.

New Business Item No. 16—Adopted
Cancel Standardized Testing for 2021 School Year
(Adam Aguilera, Evergreen EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$28,200 (included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Organize members and stakeholders to publicly call for the cancellation of standardized testing for 2021 due to the fact that schools will likely continue to be closed until a vaccine is developed and it would be nonsensical to test students in the aftermath of such conditions.

2. Lobby the State of Washington to cancel standardized testing and request waivers from the federal government.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: OSPI is the entity which can request a waiver cancelling the SBA tests for the 2020-21 school year. Supt. Reykdal's first request for a waiver was denied by Betsy DeVos. He has a second waiver request ready to go when the new administration takes office and indicates they are accepting waiver requests. WEA staff is working with OSPI to support their request for a waiver utilizing the new requirements of the new administration. The US DOE denied Washington's request to greatly reduce testing this spring but did issue a waiver eliminating accountability requirements. OSPI's goal was to not test this spring so federally required tests will be offered next fall in a greatly reduced manner.

**New Business Item No. 17—Adopted
Washington State Broadband Public Utility
(Adam Aguilera, Evergreen EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$58,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$315,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Partner with community allies and stakeholders to create a public campaign for broadband Internet to be designated a public utility in Washington State.
2. Lobby the Washington State Legislature to pass legislation to regulate internet access as a public utility.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen / Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: We successfully passed HB 1336 allowing public utility districts to provide broadband. It's one step toward more access. More info can be found in yesterday's news! Here: <https://www.columbian.com/news/2021/jul/19/new-washington-laws-start-to-close-public-broadband-gap-but-its-a-small-step/>

**New Business Item No. 18—Adopted
No Public Education Cuts
(Adam Aguilera, Evergreen EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$300,000 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$250,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: \$7,000,000,000 (New Cost)

WEA Goals and Objectives: 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Partner with all community allies and recruit stakeholders to create a public campaign to reject cuts to public education and demand new revenue from Washington State.
2. Lobby the legislature to pass progressive tax reform that lowers the tax burden on most Washingtonians and requires wealthy individuals and corporations to pay their fair share.
3. Lobby against any bills that cut public education funding.
4. Lobby to restore the funding to the vetoed bills from the 2020 legislative session.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff will be aggressively lobbying to prevent cuts to public education and regain vetoed provisos during the 2021 session. The Governor's budget missed the mark and reduced funding during the pandemic for both K-12 and higher education. WEA continues to advocate for policies that will prevent cuts, prevent federal monies being used to supplant state budget requirements in both the K-12 and higher education arenas. The 2021-23 operating budget addressed many COVID-19 funding challenges, mostly by utilizing the huge amount of federal funds that Congress has sent. The legislature also passed a capital gains tax and the governor did sign it. The new law is currently being challenged in the courts.

New Business Item No. 19—Adopted
Responsible Investing and Banking for WEA, UniServs, and Locals
(Don Burress, Bellevue EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$45,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: \$9,100 (To be included in existing staffing budget)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Move WEA finances to nonprofit banking solutions, such as a credit union, where possible.
2. Consider the social impact of current and future long-term investments. This may include divesting WEA of investments in organizations or companies that are actively anti-union, discriminate against any marginalized community, support privatization of public resources and public education, engage in environmentally harmful practices, or have taken other positions against the goals and continuing resolutions of WEA.
3. Work with the WEA Board, or designated committee, to review current banking practices quarterly and direct that changes be made to investments that do not support WEA's goals and continuing resolutions.
4. Craft a set of guidelines for UniServ Councils and local associations on best practices for moving union funds to nonprofit banking solutions. The guidelines should consider both rural and urban locals and UniServs and provide options for those that may not have many banking choices. These guidelines can be shared via secure electronic communication with UniServ and local presidents and treasurers.
5. Help UniServs and locals with their investments. WEA can share investment choices with UniServ and local treasurers via secure electronic communication.

Staff assigned: Donna Wesley

July 2021 update: The team has decided to issue an RFI (Request for Information) to a number of credit unions as a way of identifying potential opportunities we may want to pursue. Selected credit unions were identified through the survey that we sent to councils and locals. The Request for Information will go out before the end of July.

New Business Item No. 20—Withdrawn
Change School Year Schedule
(Heather Kowalski, Shelton ESP)

New Business Item No. 21—Adopted
All School Meals Free of Charge
(Michael Peña, Mukilteo EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$10,200 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: \$150,000,000

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will lobby the legislature to make all meals free for K-12 students.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff will be addressing opportunities in the state budget to provide free meals for K-12 students. At this time, school districts are able to serve all students and receive a higher rate of reimbursement per meal thanks to federal waivers being approved. While no legislation passed eliminated meal costs, a new law did go into effect eliminating the lunch co-pays some students had to pay.

New Business Item No. 22—Withdrawn
COVID-19 Testing
(Jeffrey Morgen, Seattle EA)

**New Business Item No. 23— Adopted
Mandatory Training for UniServ Council Presidents
(Kris Cameron, Wenatchee EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$7,600 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-Staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will provide and strongly encourage attendance at training for all UniServ Council presidents. Training topics will include union values and history, budgeting, communication, organizing, conflict resolution, democratic decision- making structures, and explanation and clarification of governance vs. staff roles and responsibilities.

Staff assigned: Aimee Iverson / Larry Delaney

July 2021 update: In process. We are determining the best way to deliver this training given the limitations on in person training and the existing calendar of meetings and events.

**New Business Item No. 24— Adopted
Library Books That Truly Represent Our Students
(Patty Cone, Wenatchee EA)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$11,600 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: \$5,000,000 (New Cost)

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Advocate at the legislative level for dedicated funding to enable school librarians to purchase titles identified as a result of NBI 23.
2. Provide model bargaining language to enable locals to secure funding for multicultural books.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff will continue to advocate for library materials funding in the state budget. The final budget did not contain new money for new books.

**New Business Item No. 25—Adopted
Implementation of a State Income Tax
(Eric Pickens, WEA Olympic)**

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$61,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Lobby for a constitutional amendment to allow for the implementation of a state income tax and/or other progressive tax sources.
2. Collaborate with other educational associations and organizations who are willing to join in this effort.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff will continue to support progressive revenue options during the 2021 Session. GR staff participate in other statewide coalitions supporting progressive revenue. The governor's budget proposal included the implementation of a capital gains tax, which WEA will support. SB 5096, a capital gains excise tax passed the legislature and the governor did sign the bil. Several lawsuits have been filed in opposition to the legislation.

New Business Item No. 26— Adopted
1st-Year-Teacher Grants for Culturally Responsive Classrooms
(Da Sol Lim, Highline EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$14,700 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: \$20,000 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Make 100 grants of \$100 each available to first-year teachers for purchasing culturally relevant materials for their classrooms.
2. Contact first-year teachers with information about applying for the grants.
3. Provide these teachers with resources for culturally relevant materials such as book lists and lessons.
4. Provide these teachers with a list of WEA members who can support them in leading culturally responsive classrooms.

Staff assigned: Lisa Kodama / Mary Howes

July 2021 update: The committee plans to have this process out live to all ECE members in June 2021.

New Business Item No. 27—Withdrawn
Equity in Retirement Benefits for Employees Taking Approved Unpaid Sick and/or Injury Leave
(Filma Fontanilla, Clover Park EA)

New Business Item No. 28—Adopted
Authors of Color Quarterly Book List
(Juan Cordova, Highline EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$19,400 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Publish via email and print quarterly a list of books by Authors of Color for educators to provide students with books that reflect their backgrounds and cultures.
2. Research and list at least 20 diverse books for K-12 written by Authors of Color. The list should include books that portray underrepresented and marginalized voices.
3. Post this list on the WEA website year-round for continued member access.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: We published two *Color Your World with Words* booklists so far. One in the fall:

https://www.washingtonea.org/file_viewer.php?id=40821 and one in winter:

https://www.washingtonea.org/file_viewer.php?id=43396 The next one will be posted in

June.

New Business Item No. 29— Adopted
Anti-Racism Trainers
(Isaura Jimenez, Highline EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$9,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: \$44,800 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will fund instructor training, through NEA or in partnership with POC-led organizations, that would qualify 40 WEA members as trainers for eliminating racist practices and white supremacy culture. The WEA instructors would help other educators and locals by providing spaces to address bias and help create anti-racist school climates for both students, families, and staff.

Staff assigned: Manny Bosser

July 2021 update: We have reached out to NEA to solicit their capacity to assist us with the NBI and concurrently started to explore possible external resources (BIPOC led organizations) we might partner with in the event that NEA cannot assist.

New Business Item No. 30— Adopted
Decrease Provisional Periods
(Michael Cook, Edmonds EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$10,200 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1 and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will lobby the state legislature to decrease the 3-year provisional contract to a 1-year provisional contract.

Staff assigned: Djibril Diop

July 2021 update: GR staff will look for opportunities to address this issue without putting the 3-year provisional contract law at risk of being increased rather than decreased. There was not an opening to address this issue this session without putting current employment rights at risk.

New Business Item No. 31—Adopted
Education on Tax Reform
(Eric Pickens, WEA Olympic)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$17,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 2

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will, through existing media and communication channels:

1. Inform and educate members on the benefits of tax reform and revenue retention that is consistent with our Continuing Resolution C-15.
2. Inform and educate members on why regressive tax structures are not an effective way to fund education.
3. Inform and educate members on how an over-reliance on property taxes to fund education reinforces socio-economic inequities statewide.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: Completed. Both the working families tax credit and capital gains tax passed and were signed into law by the Governor. The capital gains tax is being challenged in court, and WEA has joined in one of the lawsuits defending it.

New Business Item No. 32—Adopted
Funds for Creating a Dream Center in schools
(Miguel Saldana, Pasco Association of Educators)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$2,700 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: \$53,800 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Allocate up to \$50,000 for 10 grants of up to \$5,000 each for WEA members of locals who teach or work in high schools or middle schools (one grant per local).
2. Use the funds to collaborate with students, educators, school administrators, community members, parents, and former students to create a dream center. A dream center is a place in school (such as a classroom) for all students to go when they are stressed, need someone to talk to, need a space to do homework, and/or relax.
3. Through an existing committee set criteria for selection of the locals who will receive the grants.

Staff assigned: Janie White / HCR WT

July 2021 update: The HCR Committee met to discuss NBI 32 and its focus on creating dream centers within school buildings and shared their recommendations regarding NBI 32 implementation with WEA Leadership. After speaking to the maker of this NBI, it will be moved to the 2021-2022 budget due to Covid.

New Business Item No. 33— Adopted
WEA Combats Hate Against Undocumented Immigrants
(Angelie Seng, Mukilteo EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$5,800 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
 Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Create a quarterly campaign (Sept, Dec, Feb, May) that sends print and email communication with messages that support our immigrant and undocumented students, families, and colleagues.
2. The campaign should have a message that makes a strong and clear statement in support of our immigrant communities.
3. Here is a recommended list of statements:
 Immigrants and refugees are welcome here
 Undocumented people build our community
 Undocumented educators teach here
 Undocumented students learn like everybody else

We ALL support our undocumented and immigrant communities

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: We have created two sets of posters in PDF versions that are available to WEA members now at <https://www.washingtonea.org/resources/inclusive/immigrantrights/> under the “Make your students feel welcome” section. We are promoting them, and the messages, quarterly. The next sets of posters will be available in August and November.

New Business Item No. 34— Adopted
Mental Health Benefits Fair
(Rupika Madhavan, Highline EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$23,700 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
 Non-staff: \$11,400 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Develop a mental health benefits fair webinar and digital communications through existing means on mental health benefits for identity-based communities (Educators of Color, educators in the LGBTQ+ community, etc.) as well as a general mental health benefits fair webinar for all educators.
2. Provide information about mental health insurance benefits.
3. Show how to navigate the mental health care system, find appropriate providers, and what questions to ask providers to determine if they are a good fit.
4. Provide information on how to advocate for yourself and holistic approaches to self-care (yoga, massage therapists, etc.).

Staff assigned: Manny Bosser

July 2021 update: WEA has started the research associated with the content to conduct a successful webinar and communications strategy, including exploration of current mental health benefits, access to those benefits using the state healthcare system, and consideration of wellness plans. Additionally, we have solicited the input and assistance from AON in meeting the intent of the NBI.

New Business Item No. 35— Adopted
Quarterly NBI Reports
(Rupika Madhavan, Highline EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$1,700 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will send quarterly emails to all WEA members with the subject line, “2020 WEA RA NBI Progress Report”, with a link to a living document of updates on the progress of NBIs that were adopted. This document will indicate:

1. The number and recommended action(s) of each NBI.
2. Specific actions from each NBI that have been completed.
3. Date(s) those actions were completed.

Staff assigned: Armand Tiberio

July 2021 update: WEA emailed all members a link to the March 2021 NBI update document. This document is also located on the WEA website and updated with each report given to the WEA Board. <https://www.washingtonea.org/we-are-wea/about-wea/constitution/>

New Business Item No. 36—Adopted
East Side Human and Civil Rights, Social Justice, and Equity Conference
(Miguel Saldana, Pasco Association of Educators)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$56,100 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: \$86,300 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Allocate up to \$20,000 (two grants of up to \$10,000 each) for councils on the east side of the state to organize a Human and Civil Rights, Social Justice, and Equity Conference.
2. Work together with Councils and local leaders to support the organizing of these three-part conferences to increase awareness of how systems of oppression impact members and students, as well as the structure of our union.
3. Support educators and students at the conferences to identify, reject, and address structural barriers affecting diverse and different groups.

Staff assigned: Janie White / HCR WT

July 2021 update: The HCR Committee met to discuss NBI 36 and its focus on supporting conferences and shared their recommendations regarding NBI 36 implementation with WEA Leadership. After speaking to the maker of this NBI, it will be moved to the 2021-2022 budget due to Covid.

New Business Item No. 37—Adopted
Creating Dream Centers in Schools
(Miguel Saldana, Pasco Association of Educators)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$8,600 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: None

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 1, 2, and 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will:

1. Use the current resources available to gather information about creating a dream center and disseminate it via existing WEA communication channels such as the WEA website, email, WEA 2.0 publication, and conferences.
2. Share information with members about how a dream center functions and its role in initiating collaboration with students, other educators, and community leaders to create a safe space for marginalized groups.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: In the process of researching and drafting a story for publication to highlight the role and value of dream centers and WEA's support.

New Business Item No. 38—Withdrawn
Experience STILL Counts!
(Jennifer Hall, Seattle EA)

New Business Item No. 39—Adopted
Parental Notification of Cleared Rooms
(Thom Garrard, Edmonds EA)

Cost to WEA: Staff: \$17,900 (To be included in existing staffing budget)
Non-staff: \$2,100 (New Cost)

Cost to the State: None

WEA Goals and Objectives: 3

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The WEA will work with education partners to design a family notification process to be used when classrooms are evacuated due to extreme behaviors and which will function without increasing educator workload.

Staff assigned: Linda Mullen

July 2021 update: Complete. We finalized the notification language, shared it with the Bargaining Support Work Team and included information about it in a recent Newswire email to Board members, Council and Local Presidents and Staff.