



Update - Stay Connected

September 8, 2021

Instructional Supports for Students Required to Quarantine

Who has to quarantine? DOH rules around quarantine vary according to your vaccination status and whether you are displaying symptoms of covid. *Read more about quarantine and isolation on page 2.*

Individuals who are not vaccinated are required to quarantine if they are deemed a close contact, which means that many of our students, who cannot yet be vaccinated, will need support to access school while quarantining. OSPI has required that school districts provide students with access to their education despite being quarantined. It's called Continuous Learning 2.0 and you can read about it [here](#).

What should teachers do to support students who are in quarantine? We have reached an agreement with the district on [instructional supports for students who are required to quarantine](#).

Teachers of students who are quarantined will need to:

1. Share information with students and families via Teams post.
2. Develop a weekly plan for students that includes necessary/required assignments, assessments, due dates, and resources; a schedule of the days and times for observing classroom instruction via Teams; information on how to access classroom instruction via Teams. Please see item D below for an important note on this requirement.
3. Make daily instruction accessible via Teams to students who are quarantined. See items A, B and C below.

Supporting students who are in quarantine is complex and can be highly contextual, which means that teachers will need to exercise their discretion on how to support students while they are out.

- A. Teachers are not expected or required to provide concurrent instruction to quarantined students. This is not a recreation of our instructional model for last year. Concurrent teaching only happens if the teacher determines that it is feasible and appropriate.
- B. To make daily instruction accessible via Teams means to provide a student with a "look-in" to the classroom. A "look in" should include opportunities for students to observe whole classroom instruction. Teachers could also use a "look in" to provide an opportunity for quarantined students to participate concurrently, if the teacher determines that it is feasible and appropriate.
- C. "Look in" opportunities are for students who are absent for covid-quarantine reasons. Teachers may extend "look in" opportunities to students who are absent for non-quarantine reasons, if they determine that it is feasible and appropriate.
- D. Teachers can excuse or modify assignments or assessments if they can't be replicated at home by a quarantined student.
- E. This is a pilot program. The LOU is in effect for September 8 - November 5. During this time, we will be seeking feedback from members, including creative options, tips, and tools for easy ways to support students in quarantine. You can share feedback via email at askLWEA@washingtonea.org
- F. We are working with the district on an FAQ to help address additional questions related to attendance taking, recording live instruction, how program specialists support quarantined students, etc. Our goal is to share the FAQ by Friday.



Quarantine or Isolation: what are the rules?

If someone is contagious with COVID-19 while at school, LWSD works with King County Public Health to determine who is considered a close contact. Specifically, your building's Medical Coordinator communicates with close contacts about return-to-school protocols. Do you have to quarantine? It depends on your vaccination status and whether you are displaying symptoms. Do you have to isolate? If you have tested positive, isolation is required by DOH.

	Quarantine	Isolation
Vaccinated?	<p>For individuals who have been exposed to COVID <i>and</i> have symptoms. How long is quarantine? https://bit.ly/38RNHQe</p> <p><i>An individual who is fully vaccinated and without symptoms does not need to quarantine if they are exposed to COVID.</i></p>	<p>For individuals who test positive for COVID. Return is only permitted after certain conditions are met: https://bit.ly/38SdPdO</p>
Unvaccinated?	<p>For individuals who have been exposed to COVID, regardless of symptoms. How long is quarantine? https://bit.ly/38RNHQe</p>	<p>For individuals who test positive for COVID. Return is only permitted after certain conditions are met: https://bit.ly/38SdPdO</p>

Leave Balances

Year-end balances will be adjusted in September if leave balances are over the maximum allowed per employee labor agreements or the law. **Frontload accruals for 2021-2022 will not appear in your leave balances until late September.**

LWEA

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LWEA
WE are YOU
This is your union!



How Much Are My Dues?

Dues are pro-rated by the amount of time you work, or your Full Time Equivalent (FTE). 1.0 FTE is full-time, .5 is half-time, etc.

The following chart shows how much you can expect to pay in dues, depending on your individual circumstances:

CERTIFICATED DUES: 2021-22	Up to .25 FTE	.26 to .50 FTE	.51 to .75 FTE	.76 to 1.0 FTE
Monthly Dues	\$41.41	\$56.70	\$98.87	\$110.46

We are proud of our high membership numbers. Our members know that dues more than pay for themselves over time, as without the union, we would not be able to join together to negotiate the salary and benefits package you will enjoy as an employee. If our membership weakens, we will not be able to protect the financial gains and other working conditions we have been successful in gaining for our members over time.

Know Your LWEA Executive Committee They represent you

Members of your Executive Committee are:

- President – **Howard Mawhinney** / LWEA
- Vice President – **Katie Badger** / LWEA and RHS
- Ethnic Minority Rep – **Cathey Hettinger** / Barton EI
- Special Services Rep – **L. Cookie Grant-Suggs** / Rush EI
- Specialist Rep – **Amy Waldroup** / Barton EI
- Primary Rep – **Patti Cook** / Rush EI
- Intermediate Rep – **Fareeha Nasir** / Alcott EI
- Middle School Rep – **Hattie Midboe** / Stella Schola
- High School Rep – **Sharon Curry** / RHS

This group is responsible for fulfilling the programs and policies as determined by the Representative Assembly (building reps) of the LWEA. The Executive Committee exercises the general authority of the Representative Assembly between its meetings. As defined by our Constitution and Bylaws, the term of office for President and VP is three years and one year for all Rep positions. Office holders and Reps may run for re-election.

Department of Retirement Rate Changes Effective September 1, 2021

Member contribution rates for Plan 2 will change September 1:

System Plan	Member Contribution Rates	
	2020-2021	2021-2022
SERS Plan 2	8.25%	7.76%
TRS Plan2	7.77%	8.05%

You will see this change reflected on your pay information under deductions. All other retirement plans remain the same. For information on your plan go to the [DRS website](#).

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.



Sept. 12

Grandparents Day!

Sept. 14

Rep Assembly Mtg

Sept. 21

Competency Teams

Sept. 22

First Day of Autumn

Oct. 5

Exec Committee

Oct. 12

Rep Assembly Mtg



WEA Children's Fund is Now Open

Beginning this school year, the WEA Children's Fund will reimburse members up to \$100 for school supplies and clothing for students in need. This is an increase from the previous \$75. Prior approval is required for reimbursement, and receipts must be submitted within 30 days from the date of receiving approval. For more information and guidelines, visit the [Children's Fund webpage](#).

You do not have to be retired to join WEA-Retired! **Benefits** include flowing seamlessly from pre-retired to retired when the time comes, continues NEA Member benefits such as credit card and insurance programs, attorney referral program offering two free 30-minute consultations, and \$1,000,000 liability insurance if you choose to work as a substitute! There are also travel benefits, opportunities to get involved as an advocate for retired and current educators and our public-school students! WEA Retired also offers pre-retirement seminars and creates camaraderie! You can become a lifetime member with a one-time payment or break it down into smaller payments. It's never too early or too late to join WEA Retired! You can join at www.washingtonea.org/retired or email wearretired@washingtonea.org for more information. (Brigitte Tennis, WEA Retired Board Member, tennissb@outlook.com)

VALIC Financial Advisors are hosting a webinar series on Washington state retirement plans to help members understand their options and local resources. The webinars will provide the basics of the state Department of Retirement Systems, and will cover TRS and SERS Plans 2 and 3 and an overview of your district's 403(b) and 457(b) plans. Upcoming webinar dates are Sept. 2, 16 and 30. All webinars will be held from 4-4:30 p.m. [Register](#) to attend a workshop via Webex.

NEA Member Benefits 2021-22

Giving educators the support they deserve. NEA member Benefits offers travel discounts, budget tips, retirement advice and help researching and choosing the right financial and insurance products. More than what you need, it's what you deserve as a member.

For information on our 2021-22 programs and services, see:

[2021_PS_FLYER_DIGITAL_FINAL.pdf](#)

Change of Name or Address?

If you moved or your name changed over the summer, please take a moment to notify us. We try to keep our membership records as up to date as possible and we want you to be assured of receiving the latest updates from LWEA, WEA and NEA on a timely basis. Contact [Diana Wagner](#) in the LWEA office to make any changes.

Please remember that you should also notify the district of these changes. You can do that by contacting the Human Resources department.

HELP NEEDED: Looking for a one-on-one in person tutor to help me bring my use of technology to the next level. Linda Thompson RHMS (425) 780-1443.