

NO on I-1033: Eyman’s TABOR Initiative will hurt schools

Teachers, education support staff, parents and higher education faculty are united in opposing Tim Eyman’s Initiative 1033, which would slash the state budget by nearly \$6 billion in the next five years — on top of \$1.5 billion in K-12 education cuts already enacted by the state Legislature.

I-1033 is on the November ballot. By limiting state and local spending to inflation plus population growth, Eyman’s I-1033 threatens education, health care and other basic services. Already, as many as 3,000 teachers and education employees are facing layoffs. The Eyman TABOR plan will take even more resources away from Washington’s classrooms — and Washington’s students.

Eyman’s TABOR plan is already a proven failure. In 1992, Colorado became the only state in the nation to impose a revenue limit like the one in I-1033. By 2005 things got so bad that Colorado voters — led by a bipartisan coalition of business leaders, teachers, seniors, healthcare providers and fire-

fighters — voted to suspend the law for five years to stop the deterioration of their state.

Under the I-1033-like spending limits in Colorado, funding for K-12 education plummeted, dropping Colorado to 49th in the nation in education funding.

Times are tough enough

already — let’s not make them worse. That’s why WEA, the Washington State PTA and many other education groups oppose I-1033.

Visit the OurVoice Web site at www.OurVoiceWashington.org to find out how you can help defeat Tim Eyman’s latest initiative.

NO

- FORCES MORE TEACHER AND STAFF LAYOFFS
- CUTS FUNDS TO REDUCE CLASS SIZES
- CUTS FUNDS FOR CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
- CUTS FUNDS TO HIRE QUALITY EDUCATORS
- CUTS AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- CUTS ART AND MUSIC PROGRAMS
- CUTS LEVY EQUALIZATION IN 220 DISTRICTS
- THREATENS OUR STATE'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY

STOP TIM EYMAN'S PLAN TO GUT BILLIONS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

i-1033

President's message



WEA-Retired President Carl Taylor (left) reminds YOU to do your civic duty and VOTE on or before Nov. 3.

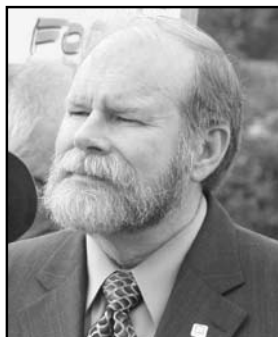


View from Federal Way

by Mike Ragan, WEA Vice President

It has been a busy autumn. State revenue has fallen dramatically, resulting in draconian cuts to programs, services, and other essential state duties, including education. And to top it off, the latest economic forecast predicts another revenue shortfall that the Legislature will have to deal with in the next session in January.

If you have not already heard, WEA (all of us) is working on a plan to keep us focused on our goals, while at the same time acknowledging that we have to do things differently because the world has changed. Those of you who attended the NEA RA in San Diego participated in the early stages of the plan development when we met during a caucus and gave feedback on what we thought the plan should look like. Similar meetings took place at the WEA Board retreat and at most councils across the state.



WEA Vice President
Mike Ragan

While there are a few councils left on our schedule, several objectives for the plan have emerged. They are: positioning WEA as an advocate of excellence in educating the whole child and educators as experts; message and methods of communicating with members and the public; restore emphasis on local bargaining, coordinated bargaining and building capacity; building public support for funding after the NEWS court case, including building external alliances; electing the right people and holding legislators accountable; budgeting resources to ensure success. Mary, myself and the management team will continue to meet with groups until the next WEA Board meeting at the end of October when the plan will be submitted for approval. If you noticed pensions were not among the objectives, it is because we need funding in order to move forward on retirement issues.

Funding is the key. It is difficult to make headway on closing the achievement gap and giving a great public education for all until we deal with the issue of ample funding. The NEWS court case is pushing the issue, but until the economy recovers and we have adequate revenue for the state, we will not be making much progress on any education agenda. That said, we will continue to work hard to do the best we can.

WEA-Retired Leadership for 2009-2010

Officers

President — Carl Taylor*
Vice President — Sandy Kokko*
Secretary — Rick Chapman*
Financial Director — Stacia
Bilsland*

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Kent — Steve Tellari
North Central WEA — Dolly
Buckingham
Pilchuck — Elaine Hanson*
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Rainier — Chuck Richards
Sammamish — Eleanor Gilmore
Seattle — Maxine Franklin
Soundview — TBD
Spokane — Margaret Soderberg
Summit — Karen Robbins
Tacoma — Gayle Hazen
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WEA Chinook — Barbara Day*
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Wooten*
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WEA-Lower Columbia — TBD
WEA MidState — Barbara
Brantingham
WEA Olympic — Rick Chapman
WEA-Riverside — Karla
Kragelund
WEA-Southeast — Pam Sebelien
Past President — Kathy Wallentine

* Executive Committee Members

NEA delegate elections

NEA-Retired annual meeting and NEA Representative Assembly delegate candidate statements

Every two years NEA-Retired members in Washington state elect delegates to attend the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and the NEA Representative Assembly, an obligation spanning two years. The meetings, which require almost two weeks of delegate time, will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 2010; and Chicago, Illinois, in 2011.

WEA-Retired is eligible for five delegates. The first and second positions are reserved for the WEA-Retired President and Vice President, with the remaining three elected by the membership. Successor delegates are determined by highest vote counts after all five positions are elected.

Only NEA-Retired members are eligible to vote in this election. If you are an NEA-Retired member, you will receive a ballot in the mail before the end of November to be returned and postmarked before Dec. 31, 2009.

Each candidate was asked to submit a statement of 50 or fewer words. Statements are included for those candidates whose nomination forms were received when this newsletter went to press. No statements will appear on the ballot.

Annette Barca (Pilchuck)

Annette retired from Everett in 2001, after serving in many roles, including grievance and insurance issues, and was active in Pilchuck UniServ Council. Now she is a trainer for the WEA-Retired seminars as well as a community volunteer for the Red Cross and on insurance issues at the Senior Center.

Maxine Franklin (Seattle)

I have forty-one years of teaching experience. My commitment and passion make me valuable to every team I'm on. Former students often thank me for my service to them. My dedication to serve would make me a wonderful delegate. Thank you for considering me for a delegate position.

Sandy Kokko (Vancouver)

Maintaining contact at the national level is important for our state organization. It would be my privilege to represent WEA-Retired for the next two years.

Claudy Randolph (Tacoma)

I have faithfully served as a

union representative for many years at both the local and state levels. I would like to continue my service as a WEA-Retired representative for both the WEA and NEA Representative Assemblies. I am looking forward to serving as a delegate.

Kit Raney (Pilchuck)

After 34 years as a teacher/Association leader in Snohomish (Association and UniServ president, WEA Board and Executive Committee member), I am proud to continue my involvement by serving on the WEA Lifelong Compensation and Legislative Strategy task forces and WEA-Retired Legislative Action Work Team.

Karen Robbins (Summit)

Karen retired in 2006 with 33 years of teaching completed, 32 in Bethel School District. Karen was a career-long union building rep, and PAC committee member. She is currently in her second term as the Summit WEA-Retired Board Director and serves on the WEA-Retired legislative committee.

Carl Taylor (Fourth Corner)

Carl is president of WEA-Retired. He has served in various leadership roles in WEA for more than 35 years. He currently represents WEA-Retired/NEA-Retired statewide as well as nationally.

Sharon N. White (Chinook)

Since retiring I have been active in your Legislative Committee, Chinook Retired President the last three years, attended Washington Senior Lobby as an alternate, and represented you at the WEA-RA and NEA-RA. I would like to represent you again. Please consider Sharon White for one of your votes. Thank you!

Judy Wooten (Eastern Washington)

Having attended the conventions, being a working member on the NEA Convention Planning Team, I am qualified to understand, participate in, and interpret the activities and business of these meetings. I am committed to representing you well. Thanks for your support.

**Ballots will be mailed to all NEA-Retired members approximately Nov. 20, 2009.
Ballots must be returned and/or postmarked before Dec. 31, 2009.**



WEA
Retired

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*Candidate Statements
for NEA positions
are enclosed.*

*Ballots will be mailed
on Nov. 20, 2009, and
must be returned by
Dec. 31, 2009.*

The only retired organization affiliated with WEA

WEA-Retired 2009-2010 Calendar

WEA-Retired Executive Committee	March 3, 2010
WEA-Retired Board Meeting <i>WEA Headquarters in Federal Way</i>	March 4, 2010
NEA-Retired West Regional Conference <i>Minneapolis, Minnesota</i>	April 12-14, 2010
NEA-Retired East Regional Conference <i>Ashville, North Carolina</i>	April 20-22, 2010
WEA-Retired Mock RA, <i>Spokane</i>	May 13, 2010
WEA Representative Assembly, <i>Spokane</i>	May 13-15, 2010
WEA-Retired Executive Committee	June 8, 2010
WEA-Retired Board Meeting	June 9, 2010
WEA-Retired Annual Meeting <i>Location to be determined</i>	June 9-10, 2010
NEA-Retired Annual Meeting	June 27-29, 2010
NEA Representative Assembly <i>New Orleans, Louisiana</i>	July 1-6, 2010

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would like to organize a chapter of
WEA-Retired in your area, or if
you would like to contact the nearest
active chapter.*