



# Update - Stay Connected

December 15, 2021

## HOW WILL THE 2022 LEVIES IMPACT YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS?

[The McCleary decision](#) significantly increased state funding for K-12 basic education and protects that funding going forward. However, despite McCleary, **there is still a gap between what the state funds and what our students need**. And the needs of our students are greater than ever. **Local levy dollars help to meet these needs**, which means **the success of these ballot measures directly impacts our work with students**.

The district is placing three measures on the ballot in the February 8 election. [Last week we explained Prop 1, the EP&O levy](#). This week's focus:

### Proposition 2: replacement school technology and capital projects levy

Despite McCleary, there is still a gap between what the state funds for K-12 education and what LWSD students need. **Prop 2 would continue funding the tools, systems, supports, and infrastructure that impact students and staff every day.**

### How do these resources impact you and your students every day?



classroom technology



training



infrastructure



building HVAC systems



campus improvements



safety enhancements

Do you live in LWSD? If so, you can help by displaying a levy sign in your yard. Please contact [Terri Neely](#) to arrange for pick up or delivery of a levy yard sign!

# Holiday Greetings from LWEA



here's to a break filled with joy and relaxation



I came across a timely teacher joke last week:

Teacher: "I want a magical Unicorn for Christmas"

Santa: "Be realistic"

Teacher: "Okay. I want 30 minutes to myself each day to eat my lunch in peace."

Santa: "What color Unicorn would you like?"

Here's to a few more rainbows and unicorns this winter break. Thank you for your great work this fall. I wish you memorable moments with your family and friends, no email or skyward or cornerstone, and uninterrupted time for a good book or movie!

**Happy holidays!**

Howard

## Holiday Gift Card Program

There is still time to give your student a holiday gift.

**Help us bring a little cheer to a student this holiday season.** LWEA has a limited supply of \$50 Fred Meyer gift cards. These gift cards are available on an as needed basis to students and/or their families for whom you have identified a need. To request a gift card(s), email [Terri Neely](mailto:Terri.Neely@lwea.org) and identify the school, student's name and need (clothing, food, household item, etc). All information will be kept confidential and the cards will be sent directly to the student/family. We appreciate the incredible work you do on behalf of all students. Bring a little cheer to a student this holiday season.

### LWEA

8575 164<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Suite 100  
Redmond WA 98052

425 822-3388



### Office Staff

Office Manager: [Terri Neely](mailto:Terri.Neely@lwea.org)

Admin Assistant: [Diana Wagner](mailto:Diana.Wagner@lwea.org)

UniServ Rep: [Laura-Lee Barron](mailto:Laura-Lee.Barron@lwea.org)

**LWEA Officers and Executive Committee**

**President:**

[Howard Mawhinney](#)  
LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

**Vice President:**

[Katie Badger](#)  
LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

**Primary Rep:**

[Patti Cook](#)  
Rush / 425-936-2690

**Intermediate Rep:**

[Fareeha Nasir](#)  
Alcott / 425-936-2490

**Middle School Rep:**

[Hattie Midboe](#)  
Stella / 425-936-2475

**High School Rep:**

[Sharon Curry](#)  
RHS / 425-936-1800

**Specialists Rep:**

[Amy Waldroup](#)  
Barton / 425-936-2480

**Special Services Rep:**

[Cookie Grant-Suggs](#)  
Rush / 425-936-2690

**Ethnic Minority Rep:**

[Cathey Hettinger](#)  
Barton / 425-936-2480

**LWEA**  
**WE are YOU**  
**This is your union!**



## Shout Out .....

To our LWEA members who achieved National Board Certification this year and to those who achieved their Maintenance of Certification (MOC).



## Do You Qualify for Student Debt Relief?

Our right to learn, grow, and thrive should be based on how big we dream and how hard we work—not where we come from, what we look like, or how much money our parents have. That's why this year, we organized, petitioned, and held the leaders we elected accountable to expand student debt relief and ensure the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program works the way it was intended.

**And now, we've secured a major victory: the U.S. Department of Education has announced a major overhaul of the PSLF program!**

In just one month's time, over 30,000 borrowers have been awarded Public Service Loan Forgiveness under these new rules. You or someone you know might be eligible under these new guidelines!

**Text STUDENT DEBT to 48744  
and we will send you resources to help you get started.**

By working together, we are making sure those who attended college and choose to serve their communities are not forever weighed down by a lifetime of crushing student debt. This major step brings us closer to ensuring everybody who wants to learn and grow can do so—without exceptions.

Find out if you or a public service worker in your life qualifies for PSLF and what you need to navigate the process. **Text STUDENT DEBT to 48744 to learn more.**

Together, for our future,

The NEA EdJustice Team

## 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.



**Dec. 20-31**

Winter Break

**Jan. 3**

Return Refreshed!

**Jan. 4**

Exec Committee

**Jan. 11**

Rep Assembly

*Happy  
Holidays*



## Can my students film me at school?

More and more — students are using cell phones to record educators when they talk about mask mandates, racism or any of the various subjects that have become controversial in our politically charged environment. What can we as educators do about it?

### Know your district policy

Many local union contracts and district policies address phone use in the classroom. For example, Moses Lake School District policy 3245 says, “Telecommunication devices will be turned on and operated only before and after the regular school day and during the student’s lunch break ...” Spokane Public Schools bans student phone use except during lunch breaks. Most districts have a similar policy or allow individual schools or teachers to enact cell phone restrictions.

### Prevention is the best solution

It is best to stop a recording before it happens. The most effective way to do this is to enforce the cell phone policy consistently and equally in your classroom. Educators have found success using pocket charts, old cassette holders, vinyl envelopes, etc. If you see a student take out their phone, stop instruction and address the infraction. Use equitable and fair discipline when necessary and seek administrator support for consistent offenders.

### Administration should have your back

If a video circulates of you in your work environment, whomever recorded it should face discipline for the policy violation. Furthermore, if the video content is consistent with district curriculum and instruction, refer questions about the content to administration rather than addressing them yourself. It’s the district’s content!

### Get support

Our colleagues, together in our union, are here to support each other. If you are the target of video harassment, talk to your building rep about available union support.

