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Update - Stay Connected

March 10, 2022

Sine Die = final day of the 2022 regular legislative session!

Legislative Update

The House and Senate released their Conference Budget yesterday afternoon. It includes a **5.5% COLA for the 22-23 school year**, which will be applied to the state funded average salaries for classified, certificated, and administrators.

The Conference Budget also includes **increased funding for mental and behavioral health** by [providing more counselors, nurses, social workers and psychologists](#) through the prototypical school model.

Other wins for K-12 public education in the Conference Budget: **paraeducator training is expanded** to include 4 days of training for new staff; a **new funding item for student transportation** meant to begin to address modernization needs; **enrollment stabilization funding**, which will help ensure that school funding – which is based on student enrollment – will remain healthy despite the fluctuation in enrollment numbers during the pandemic.

Here's a look at the **K-12 major funding items** in the Conference Budget:

\$91 M for Mental Health / ESAs
\$346 M for Enrollment Hold Harmless
\$28 M for LAP Hold Harmless (FRPL measure)
\$13 M for Pupil Transportation (Demonstrated cost/special populations)
\$22 M for School Food: Community Eligibility
\$18 M for School Food: Food Supply Chain
\$3.6 M for School Food: Local Food Procurement
\$8 M for Funding for Charter Schools and certain Small School Districts (urban and suburban only; 800 students or less)
\$3 M for Running Start - After-Exit Grants
\$3 M for Financial Literacy
\$3.5 M for MTSS Implementation - Regional Supports
\$1.5 M for Paraeducator Training to 4 days
\$4.5M for Changing Native American Mascots
\$3.6 M for Health Care Simulation Lab Equipment Grants (Skills Centers)
\$1 M for Intensive Tutoring Grants
\$1 M for Behavioral Health Pilot Program
\$380K for Language Access for Families
\$700k for Professional Development for Educational Interpreters (Sign language interpretation)
\$125K for Transitional K Study and Requirement for SPI Rules

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[Next steps](#)

Today is the last day of the 2022 regular legislative session. The Conference Budget will be discussed by each chamber. Debate begins after 3 pm today. You can [watch debate live](#). They have until midnight tonight to pass a budget.

We will keep members updated on what happens next, should both chambers pass the Conference Budget, and what a 5.5% COLA means for LWSD educator pay for the 22-23 school year.

Is Your Teaching Certificate Expiring?

Is your teacher certificate expiring in June? WEA has fun and engaging game-based learning and gamification [STEM courses](#) that meet STEM certificate renewal requirements. Facilitators Tammie Schrader and Al Gonzalez will help you understand how using games in teaching can:

- Increase student participation,
- Foster engagement,
- Motivate students to take risks and
- Capture learners' interest and inspire them to continue learning.

Find out more and register for:

- Introduction to Game-Based Learning in the Inclusive Classroom
- Introduction to Gamification in the Inclusive Classroom
- Advanced Game-Based Learning in the Inclusive Classroom
- Advanced Gamification in the Inclusive Classroom

WEA also offers these STEM classes:

- Unpacking Standards to Reach ALL Students in the Math Classroom
- STEM and Inclusionary practices
- eSports in the Inclusive Classroom
- STEM in Sports
- STEMizing your instruction
- Asynchronous STEM courses, available through Canvas

Space is limited. [Register now](#) to ensure that you complete your clock hours in plenty of time to submit for certificate renewal.

[Find out more and register for WEA STEM offerings](#)

Professional Development for Clerical Services Staff

Join us to learn about equity in schools and how to communicate effectively with diverse students and families.

Saturday, March 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This new training will be held virtually and four clock hours will be available.

Education Support Professionals serving in clerical service roles interact daily with students, parents/guardians, staff, visitors and community members. They are often the first and last impression one has about a school and district.

Clerical Services staff are on the front lines of all office operations; working in settings from schools to administrative offices. The daily workload of ESPs in this position often includes answering phones, processing important paperwork, scheduling and maintaining records and files. [Register for this course](#).

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!



WEA Professional Development for Substitute Educators

WEA is excited for the opportunity to provide free substitute courses to all substitutes in school districts represented by WEA locals. Their **first PD is this Saturday, March 12**. Another course will be offered in May – more to come later.

To register for Saturday's course, see [PD for Substitute Educators](#)

WEA Scholarships

The Washington Education Association is offering six Magnuson scholarships of \$1,500 each this year to educational support professionals who are pursuing professional advancement through trades, technical or collegiate institutions. All current ESP members of a WEA local affiliate or bargaining unit are eligible. [Online application](#) is due April. 4.

Washington Library Association Merit Awards

The WLA Awards offer the opportunity to recognize and highlight the outstanding work that has been ongoing in Washington libraries.

What library achievement did you see in your community or workplace that you'd like to see celebrated? Examples can include, but aren't limited to, outstanding service in the areas of:

- Programming (virtual, educational, community building)
- Outreach to users
- Services
- Access to technology
- Access to collections
- Serving the needs of people who were vulnerable, underserved
- Providing innovative ways to deliver services/materials
-

Library workers at **all levels** and in **all types of libraries** are eligible. Nominees do not need to be WLA members

To nominate an outstanding individual or group for an award, please complete the WLA Award Nomination Form by **Wednesday, March 16**.

For further information and award nomination form, see [WLA Merit Awards](#)

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.



March 11
Leap Day
No School

March 13
Daylight Savings Begins

March 15
Rep Assembly

March 17
St. Patrick's Day

March 20
First Day of Spring

April 4-8
Spring Break



Keep an Eye Out for:

- **Nominations for LWEA Executive Committee Reps 2022-23**
- **Building Rep Elections 2022-23**
- **Other ways to get involved in LWEA**



A Friend in Need

Lisa Rudolph, is an amazing art teacher at Evergreen MS and needs your help. She is looking to extend her leave with your help of leave donations. Her husband John, had a catastrophic stroke on 12/31 while they were in Coeur d' Alene ID. They have been unable to get back to their home in Kirkland because John has had multiple setbacks during his recovery. He has been hospitalized and in skilled nursing care during this time with Lisa by his side daily. Lisa needs some extra time in order to continue to advocate and care for John. As you can imagine this has been devastating to the Rudolph family. Many of you may have known 1 or more of their 4 children or knew John from his days coaching LW football. Any donation you would be willing to give would extend the time needed to care for John until they can return home and would be greatly appreciated. The family sincerely thanks you in advance.

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

