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lweateachers

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Update - Stay Connected

March 24, 2022

Legislative wins



WEA-PAC

A short and sweet regular legislative session ended on March 10, 2022.

WEA members celebrated many crucial wins for public education:

- ★ The school funding formula was changed to include **\$91 million more in funding to add nurses, counselors, social workers, and psychologists in schools**. Phased in beginning in 22-23 and increasing through 24-25, this new funding will provide our students with mental, physical, and behavioral supports.
- ★ **\$346 million in K-12 stabilization funding** will ensure that, despite enrollment fluctuations during the pandemic, **services and programs won't be subject to cuts and reductions**. Stabilization funds ensure that specific programs, like Special Education or CTE, and the general apportionment won't be cut because of unstable enrollment numbers.
- ★ Further pro-education laws passed this session: **expansion of access to free school meals, making Juneteenth a school holiday, expanding access to broadband internet, and expanding performing and visual arts education**, just to name a few. [The list goes on](#) and on.
- ★ **A 5.5% Cost of Living adjustment** was added to the state funding for staffing, and the state's intent is that it ends up in our pockets. WEA members sent nearly 15,000 messages to lawmakers to let them know that our pay needs to keep up with inflation. Thank you to everyone who added their voice to this effort!

Did you know?

School funding is based on student enrollment; when enrollment drops, so does funding. The change to funding is realized immediately because both funding and enrollment are reviewed and allocated on a nearly month-to-month basis through the school year. If enrollment drops in February, then funding amount a school receives for February will be reduced.

These successes would not be possible without WEA-PAC: [See pg 2](#)

WEA-PAC:

a strong, non-partisan voice to elect pro-labor, pro-education candidates.

Clearly, having lawmakers in the legislature who understand the importance and value of public education, funding policy initiatives, and supporting educators makes a difference. It's quick and easy to start contributing \$2.25/month or increase your contribution level to \$5 or \$10/month

Unite with educators from across the state by [joining WEA-PAC](#) or [increasing your contribution today!](#)

[How to Join WEA-PAC \(washingtonea.org\)](http://washingtonea.org)

Not sure if you're a WEA-PAC member already? Ask your building rep or email askLWEA@washingtonea.org.



[Learn About National Board for Professional Teaching Certification](#)

Have you been considering pathways towards professional certification? Attend our LWSD NB information sessions online through TEAMS:

- April 12th, 6:00-7:00pm*

This is the last LWSD information session for this year. Our 2022-2023 Cohort support begins in June, 2022.

National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession and is a voluntary process established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). Certification is achieved through rigorous performance-based assessments that can take 1- 5 years to complete. In addition, holding a valid NBPTS certificate satisfies the ongoing clock hour requirement for 5 years of a teaching certificate, or the requirements of the WA State Professional Certificate, whichever is applicable. Additional information for National Board Certification is available by visiting the NBPTS website at: <https://www.nbpts.org/>

*If you are interested in joining the April 12th NB Information Session on Teams, please contact Julia Vasiliauskas, jvasiliauskas@lwsd.org to get the Teams call meeting link.

Support for New Multilingual Learners

Educators, needing resources to support your Newcomer Multilingual Learner students? The WIDA Secure Portal offers many courses, most relevant being "Classroom Teachers: Engaging Multilingual Newcomers". **You can request an account by emailing help@wida.us** to gain access to all their classes, all LWSD staff have the ability to request an account.

**LWEA Officers and
Executive Committee**

President:

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High School Rep:

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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!



Money Minute



This column will be appearing regularly in the Update to help educate members regarding money and financial literacy. We have the LWEA dedicated email up and running. To submit a general question to be considered for this column, please send an email to:

moneyminute@washingtonea.org

LWEA Executive Committee: Who Will Represent You?

Nominations for the positions of Lake Washington Education Association Executive Committee members will be opening soon.

You will receive a Notice of Nominations and Elections for the LWEA Executive Committee in your home PO mail by early April.



If you do not receive a letter, send an email to [Terri Neely](#) with your home address.

Nominations will be taken for the following positions: Primary, Intermediate, Middle School, High School, Special Services, Specialist and Ethnic Minority representatives.

All nominations must be made by a member of the Lake Washington Education Association in good standing. Self-nomination is allowed. **To be eligible for any position the nominee must be a member in good standing.**

Certificated Staff: Review Your Paycheck Monthly

You should review your paycheck every month. This guide explains what you will see on your paycheck and what it means: [Know Your Paycheck](#)

To access your individual pay checks: from Employee Access, select "Check History" and follow the steps on [How to read Your Paycheck](#)

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.



April 4-8
Spring Break

April 7-9
WEA Rep Assembly

April 12
Exec Committee

April 17 Easter
Spring Break

April 19
Rep Assembly

Come on



and Spring Break!



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.

NEA Member Benefits, March 2022

- [Deals and Discounts from NEA Member Benefits](#)
- [California Casualty Music and Arts Grant](#)
- [Which tax preparation program is right for you](#)
- [More educators are finding real relief from their student loan debt](#)
- [Clean hands and spaces training](#)
- [Vacation deals](#)
- [Common home insurance purchasing mistakes](#)

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 wearetired@washingtonea.org for more information. (Brigitte Tennis, WEA Retired Board Member, tennissb@outlook.com)