

Follow us!



@LakeWashingtonEA



lwteachers

<https://www.lakewashingtonea.org/>



Update - Stay Connected

May 25, 2022

Certificated Contracts for 22-23

Human Resources will continue to use Employee Access to electronically disseminate, accept, and retain certificated employment contracts for the 22-23 school year. This process has eliminated the need for manually signing and returning paper contracts. As such, contracts are no longer sent via email as was the practice in prior years. Instead, all certificated staff will be provided information on how to access their 22-23 contracts using Employee Access and to acknowledge acceptance with an electronic signature.

Friday, May 27

- Complete instructions on how to view and accept certificated contracts will be emailed to all cert staff.
- Contracts will be available through Employee Access.

Friday, May 27 - Friday, June 10, 2022

- The window to electronically sign 22-23 contracts.

Updated Return to Work Rules for Retirees

Some retirees can now work up to 1,040 hours and continue receiving benefits. As part of the most recent Legislative Session, the Washington State Legislature approved ESHB 1699 which created **an exemption to retiree return to work rules**. The exception is in place from March 23, 2022, to July 1, 2025.

The exemption allows some retirees from the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS), Public Employee' Retirement System (PERS), and the School Employees' Retirement System (SERS) to work up to 1,040 hours per year and maintain their pension benefits. Visit DRS for [additional information and to see if you are eligible](#).

Do You Qualify for Public Service Loan Forgiveness?

In February we told you about [member Jill Johnson](#) who had \$49,000 in loans forgiven AND received a check for \$9,800 through the TEPSLF program!

Because of the COVID-19 national emergency, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced a **limited time** change to Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program rules: borrowers may become eligible for loan forgiveness if some or all of the payments they made on their William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program loans were previously under a nonqualifying repayment plan for PSLF. **ED refers to this expanded opportunity for loan forgiveness as Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness (TEPSLF).**

To [find out if you qualify and for more information](#) visit the ED website.

What Your Retirement Separation Date Means for Benefits

A June separation with final paycheck in August

An employee resigns their position effective June 30, retires on July 1st and their last paycheck is in August:

- The SEBB Program will discontinue the employee's insurance coverage one June 30th
- The employee's retirement date can be July 1

An August separation with one final paycheck in August

An employee resigns their position effective Aug. 5th, and their last paycheck is in August:

- Will continue health insurance coverage through the SEBB Program in July and August
- The employee's retirement can be Sept. 1

Money Minute



Learn More About the Impact of High 403b Plan Fees!

Who Would You Rather Be?

Educator #1	Educator #2
Age 22	Age 22
Earns starting salary of \$53,000/year (base only)	Earns starting salary of \$53,000/year (base only)
Saves \$5,300/year (or 10% of base salary) invested in same type of investment	Saves \$5,300/year (or 10% of base salary) invested in same type of investment
Earns 7% annual return	Earns 7% annual return
Contributes until age 60	Contributes until age 60
Accumulates \$502,942	Accumulates \$846,305

Everything in the above chart is the same **except for the final accumulated amount saved in a 403b Plan**. Why does Educator #2 accumulate **\$343,363 more** than Educator #1? (Spoiler Alert—Educator #2 has LOWER FEES in their 403b Plan compared to Educator #1.)

Please join us on **Wednesday, June 1st at 4:30 pm on Zoom** for a presentation by Dan Otter, from [403bWise](https://www.403bwise.com) to learn more about how lower 403b Plan fees can supercharge your retirement savings. Contact Terri Neely at TNeely@Washingtonnea.org to register and receive the Zoom link.



Annual Leave Carryover

Expect to receive information by the end of week.

**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!



Only 21 Days Until School is Out!!

Remember to hold Building Rep Elections for the 2022-23 SY prior to summer.

SAGA Meeting

SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Affinity group) will be holding our last meeting of the year on Tuesday June 7th IN PERSON at Edith Moulton Park from 5:00 to 6:30. The park is located at 13634 108th Ave NE in Kirkland (just down the street from Keller Elementary. Please come out and join us for some sun, fun and connection before the end of the year. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. Look for us at the covered shelter area. Hope to see you there! **RSVP:** vmccarter@lwsd.org



Do You Receive the Update through Text?

If so, you will notice a change in June. LWEA/WEA is changing our media platform to Message Media. Everyone who is currently on the textline will be migrated to the new MM textline. **The only difference is the incoming message will be coming from +1 (833) 258-6815 instead of the old 81411 number.**



PD Opportunities

WEA's Inclusionary Practices Project (IPP) and Special Education Support Center (SESC) offers courses online, in real-time, via Zoom.

Clock hours are available. Courses/Clock hours are free. We keep all updated/new flyers [here](#). You may also check our SESC [website](#), or our WEA [synchronous training page](#) or [asynchronous training page](#).

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.



May 27

LEAP Day

May 30

Memorial Day

May 31

Snow Make Up Day

June 1

403bwise Presentation

June 7

Exec Committee Mtg

June 14

Rep Assembly Mtg

June 17

Last Day of School!!

Show someone you care



WEA Retired

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)

Market Place:

Seeking Rental - 30 yo female professional + spayed cat looking for 1-2 bedroom rental housing starting in June (flexible move-in). Excellent rental and credit history. Please contact Hattie Midboe (hmidboe@gmail.com) - thank you!

For sale: Beautifully reconditioned pianos including a 45" tall studio size piano. plays well, sounds good tone, looks nice. \$550. Chuck Telford, retired counselor, Kirkland Middle School. 425 785 8532



A Friend in Need

Heather Kolbly, School Psychologist, is experiencing a significant health problem that has placed her on leave. Heather does not have enough sick days to cover the leave, which will result in financial hardship for her family. Would you please donate whatever sick days you can to support her through this difficult time? Thank you.

Mary Kay Weinmeister, a teacher at Norman Rockwell Elementary, is in need of additional sick leave after her son-in-law's death from a lengthy battle with sarcoma. Any donations of shared sick leave would be greatly appreciated during this time of recovery and transition for her family. Thank you!

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