



# Update - stay connected

[www.lakewashingtonea.org](http://www.lakewashingtonea.org)

October 19, 2022

## **THE MOST EXPENSIVE PIZZA YOU HAVE EVER EATEN!**

**LWEA is committed to educating our members about high-fee 403b plans. This is the time of year when people, calling themselves “Financial Professionals,” may be coming into your building or emailing you to discuss your retirement benefits.**

While you are eating free pizza in the staff lounge, these salespeople will tell you how your retirement plan in WA works. They may also tell you that you will not have enough savings for retirement, and they will encourage you to start saving in a 403b plan that their company offers. What they may not tell you is that signing a contract with them will enroll you in a high-fee 403b plan. They may also use this meeting to attempt to sell you life insurance or long-term care insurance with their company. Their most egregious act is encouraging you to consolidate previous retirement savings accounts into their high-fee company. They may also tell you how many of your colleagues have already opened a 403b plan to make you feel more comfortable signing up with their company.

Please be aware that **the WA Department of Retirement Services does not make building visits**. If you have recently received an email (possibly forwarded from your office manager or building admin) telling you that a retirement benefit provider is coming to educate staff about their retirement options, please be aware that these are salespeople using your retirement benefits as a platform to sell you their high-fee products.

## **Learn More**

If you do choose to sign up for an appointment, please be aware that these salespeople are trained in avoiding questions about their high fees. LWEA encourages members to make informed decisions about personal finances and retirement planning.

- 403(b)Wise provides excellent resources for members. [Learn more about high-fee 403b plans](#), or, if you already have a 403b plan with a high-fee company and want out, [how to get your savings out of the plan](#).
- Interested in saving more for retirement? [Learn more about a low-fee Deferred Compensation Plan \(DCP\)](#), also known as a 457b plan, offered by the WA Department of Retirement Services.

## LWEA Officers and Executive Committee

President:

[Howard Mawhinney](#)

LWEA / 425-822-3388

Vice President:

[Katie Badger](#)

LWEA / 425-822-3388

Primary Rep:

[Patti Cook](#)

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Stella / 425-936-2475

High School Rep:

[Bethany Shoda](#)

LWHS / 425-936-1700

Specialists Rep:

[Nikole Lalas](#)

RHS / 425-936-1800

Special Services Rep:

[Karyn Taggart](#)

KaMS/ 425-936-2400

Ethnic Minority Rep:

[Michael Finley](#)

RHS/ 425-936-1800



# 22-23 Dues Rates for LWEA

The LWEA Bylaws require that local dues are calculated based on .007 of the prior year's total compensation for a beginning teacher. As the beginning teacher salary changes, our dues also change. In 2021-22 a beginning teacher's compensation was \$64,046. When you look at your paycheck, you'll probably notice that your dues went up this year by about \$3-\$5 dollars.

Dues are deducted in 12 monthly installments from September through August. Here's the breakdown that explains how your dues are distributed.

FTE	NEA	WEA	Community Outreach	BIPOC	LWEA	UniServ Council	TOTAL
.76 - 1.0	17.00	47.58	1.00	1.00	37.36	11.92	115.86
.51 - .75	17.00	35.71	1.00	1.00	37.36	11.92	103.99
.26 - .50	9.46	23.79	1.00	1.00	18.68	5.96	59.89
.1 - .25	5.71	11.92	1.00	1.00	18.68	5.96	44.27

A highlighted category means there was a small increase in the dues amount.

### Key

- NEA: National level affiliation
- WEA: State-based affiliation and support (Prof Dev, conferences, grant programs)
- LWEA: President and VP Release Time, Bargaining, Comp Teams and Operating Expenses
- UniServ: WEA Staff Salaries and Benefits and Operating Expenses (lease, supplies, etc)
- BIPOC: Special assessment funds for BIPOC programs
- Community Outreach: Support for community groups, member engagement and grassroots lobbying.



**In addition to regular dues, members may elect to participate in WEA-PAC, the state political action fund, and NEAFCPE, the national political action fund.**

If you elect to participate in these political action funds, your dues deduction will increase by \$2.25 per month for WEA-PAC and by \$1 per month for NEAFCPE. In large part, WEA-PAC and NEAFCPE fund opportunities for our educators to meet with legislators to share their knowledge of and expertise in the education legislation under consideration by state and federal government.

**[Join WEAPAC/NEAFCPE](#)**

Not sure if you've already joined? Join again, you won't be double charged.

# SEBB Benefits – Open Enrollment

The open enrollment window for SEBB is shorter this year. Open enrollment dates are:

**October 31 through November 21, 2022**

Forms and SEBB My Account will be available to make changes for open enrollment on October 31. Enrollments, changes, and premiums are effective January 1, 2023.

**Be prepared**, review your current enrollment and research changes:

Visit [Open Enrollment - SEBB](#)

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## Seattle Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA) to offer flu shot clinics in October

LWSD is partnering with Seattle Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA) to offer flu shot clinics in our four comprehensive high schools throughout October. There is a staff-only event on Friday, October 21 from 1-5 p.m. at the LWSD Resource Center. The exact products available will be Flucelvax Quadrivalent Flu Vaccine and the Flucelvax Quadrivalent Preservative-Free Flu Vaccine. **Everyone age 4+ is eligible for the following three locations:**

### Dates/Locations

- Monday, October 24, 3-7 p.m. at Juanita H.S. (10601 NE 132nd Street, Kirkland)
- Thursday, October 27, 2:30-8 p.m. at Eastlake H.S. (400 228th Ave NE, Sammamish)
- Friday, October 28, 3-7 p.m. at Redmond H.S. (17272 NE 104th St, Redmond)

Register here: <https://schedule.seattlevna.com/home/b2e67bfb-a83a-ed11-9db1-6045bd0054d4>

### STAFF ONLY:

Friday, October 21, 1-5 p.m. at LWSD Resource Center (16250 NE 74th ST, Redmond)

[Register here.](#)

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## OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Terri Neely  
Field Assistant: Diana Wagner  
UniServe Rep: Laura-Lee Barron

8575 164th Ave NE  
Suite 100  
Redmond, WA 98052





# Introducing Nani Lium – LWEA UniServ Rep Director

LWEA is happy to have Nani as our newest full-time staff member. Nani has been a part of WEA for thirteen years. She has jumped right in attending Bargaining meetings and District Labor Mgmt. She will soon begin visiting schools to meet with staff and building reps. “I am excited to begin working with Lake Washington and to become a part of the LWEA family. I believe in the significance of our work and the importance of solidarity in the labor movement.” Welcome to Nani!

## 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.



### OCT 17,18 & 20

Elem Half-Day Conferences

### OCT 21

LEAP Day  
NO School

### OCT 31

**HALLOWEEN**



## Do you know how much you can expect for retirement income?



Your monthly retirement income is based on several factors including: your salary, how old you’ll be when you retire, the type of plan you have and if you decide to list a survivor.

Three tools to set you up for a successful retirement:

- Log in to your online account and use the Benefit Estimator to get an idea of your monthly retirement income.
- Listen to the new DRS podcast: [Fund Your Future](#)
- Use the tips in the [financial independence checklist](#) to set some goals

## Pre-Retirement Seminar

LWEA will be offering the first Pre-Retirement Seminar of the 2022-23SY on Friday, Dec.2 and Saturday, Dec. 3. Both sessions will be held at the LWEA Office.

The sessions will go into depth on Social Security, Health plans and Retirement plans. Priority is given to those who will be retiring this year.

For more information and to register, see:

[Pre-Retirement Seminar December 2022](#)