



Update - stay connected

www.lakewashingtonea.org

Jan 18, 2023



The Power of the PAC

The Legislative Session is in full swing, which means our elected leaders will be making decisions that affect our classrooms, our students, our profession, and our paychecks!

Don't you think legislators should have a well-developed understanding of the value of public education, funding policy, and the day-to-day realities of educators and students?

WEA-PAC makes this possible!

WEA-PAC, the **Washington Education Association - Political Action Committee**, works to elect pro-public education, pro-labor candidates to public office, regardless of political affiliation AND bring the voices of educators to elected leaders.


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- WORK OF WEA-PAC**
- Candidate endorsements
 - Fostering member-legislator relationships through events like Lobby Day and Pizza and Politics
 - Coordinating lobbying efforts, including educator testimony in Olympia
 - Informing and organizing members through things like the Advocacy blog

- HOW TO JOIN WEA-PAC**
- Choose your level: \$2.25, \$5, or \$10.50/mo
 - Submit a [WEA-PAC Authorization form](#) to join
 - Send questions to WEAPAC@washingtonea.org
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HOW TO GET INVOLVED

LWEA has lots of opportunities to get more involved with legislators and legislative efforts that impact our work. Reach out to your building rep or asklwea@washingtonea.org to learn more.



**LWEA Officers and
Executive Committee**

President:

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LWEA / 425-822-3388

Vice President:

[Katie Badger](#)

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Middle School Rep:

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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



MONEY MINUTE



Pre-Retirement Seminar

LWEA will be offering additional Pre-Retirement Seminars.

The seminars are scheduled for:

- March 4, 9am to 2pm virtual
 - April 28 & 29: Friday 5-8pm and Saturday 8am-4pm
- Both sessions will be held at the LWEA Office.

All 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 March 4](#)
[Pre-Retirement Seminar April 28 & 29](#)

Washington
Paid Family & Medical Leave

Changes Coming to PFML Premiums

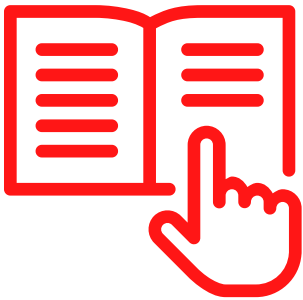
Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) rates increased starting on January 1, 2023. This represents a 0.2% increase from 2022 and a doubling of the rate from the inception of the program. This rate gets split under the law between the employer (27.4%) and employee (72.76%) for payment.

Paid Family and Medical Leave is an insurance program funded through premiums paid by nearly everyone working in Washington and many of their employers. **There is now a PMFL Ombuds office available to help members who are trying to navigate the system.** <https://paidleaveombuds.wa.gov/>

SEBB Benefits Update: The Everett Clinic and Polyclinic Extend Network Contracts

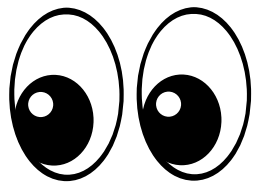


On December 22, 2022, Regence and The Everett Clinic and The Polyclinic reached a new multi-year network agreement. Regence will mail letters in the coming days to notify affected Uniform Medical Plan members that they may continue to receive care from The Everett Clinic and The Polyclinic at the preferred provider network rate.



Know Your Contract

Keep your eyes open



more information coming soon regarding:

- **Teachers Requesting Leave of Absence for 2023-24**
 - Refer to LWSD/LWEA Collective Bargaining Agreement Section 19.11, Leave of Absence for more information.
- **Job Share Requests for 2023-24**
 - Appendix M, Job Share, in the LWEA Collective Bargaining Agreement
- **Teachers Returning from Leave for 2023-24**
 - Refer to the Collective Bargaining Agreement Section 19.11, Leave of Absence for more information.

OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Terri Neely
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WEA Member Benefit



WEA-Retired is offering up to (10) \$1,000 nonrenewable scholarships to aid WEA members in 1) enhancing skills for their current position, 2) obtaining an endorsement in a new area or 3) attaining or maintaining a teaching certificate. Applicants must be a WEA member.

Below is a link to the WEA Retired Scholarship application! Check it out!

<https://wea.mobi/2023RetiredScholarships>

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.



JAN 19

EoC Gathering

JAN 24, 26, 27

Elem Conferences

JAN 31

Rep Assembly

FEB 7

Exec Committee



First Newbie Night of 2022-23 SY

Mark your calendar for the first Newbie Night of the 2022-23 SY on Thursday, February 9 to be held at the LWEA offices. Sessions are designed specifically for teachers with 6 or fewer years of teaching experience, however all are welcome!