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March 8, 2023

Olympia Watch: tracking our priorities

Leg<mark>islators will</mark> be holding town halls over th<mark>e next few we</mark>eks.

Make sure our elected leaders know what schools and students need by attending a town hall: <u>list of announced</u> <u>town halls</u>. Town halls offer members an excellent opportunity to speak directly with lawmakers about important issues like ESP pay, SpEd funding, and raises for all educators. For more tips and talking points, reach out to WEA Political Organizer <u>Hillary Hunt</u>.

Today is the House of Origin cutoff! That means it's the last day to consider bills in the house of origin.

To move forward, bills must be voted up by 5 pm today.

- Bills in green have passed out of the house of origin.
- Bills in grey have not passed out of the house of origin.
- Bills in **red** were awaiting a vote in their house of origin today.

SpEd funding increases

- Improving access to FAPE for students with disabilities
- Free school meals for all K-12 students
- Adequate and predictable student transportation
- Transition to Kindergarten
- Recess requirements for elementary students
- Dual & tribal language education
- Expanding media literacy and digital citizenship programs
- Diverse, equitable, and inclusive curricula
 Inclusive learning standards and materials
- Universal HiCap screening
- Teacher residencies and early career educator supports
- Professional learning communities
- PK-12 COLAs
- School library information and technology programs

ESP wage increases

- K-12 experience factors
- Enrichment levy authority
- Exempting benefit enrollment info from public disclosure
- Health benefits/SEBB for subs
- Protecting survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking from information disclosure
- Protecting communication between employees and unions
- Provision of accurate employee information to unions by employers
- Minimum paraeducator requirements
- K-12 inflation adjustments/increases
- Isolation and restraint of students
- Reviewing reprimands for professional educators

SCHOOLS THAT WORK FOR STUDENTS

SAFE LEARNING & WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

INVESTMENTS TO ATTRACT & RETAIN A DIVERSE WORKFORCE

> **testifying on these bills?** Please contact WEA Political Organizer **Hillary Hunt.**

Interested in

LWEA Officers and Executive Committee

President: <u>Howard Mawhinney</u> LWEA / 425-822-3388

Vice President: <u>Katie Badger</u> LWEA / 425-822-3388

Primary Rep: <u>Patti Cook</u> Rush / 425-936-2690

Intermediate Rep: <u>Fareeha Nasir</u> Alcott / 425-936-2490

Middle School Rep: <u>Hattie Midboe</u> Stella / 425-936-2475

High School Rep: <u>Bethany Shoda</u> LWHS / 425-936-1700

Specialists Rep: <u>Nikole Lalas</u> RHS / 425-936-1800

Special Services Rep: <u>Karyn Taggart</u> KaMS/ 425-936-2400

Ethnic Minority Rep: <u>Michael Finley</u> RHS/ 425-936-1800



Certificate Renewal Applications submitted beginning July 1, 2023: *New*



In 2022, the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) approved new Cultural Competency, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (CCDEI) standards. The CCDEI standards provide the foundation for the new equity certificate renewal requirement.

- As part of the 100 clock hours for certificate renewal, teachers must complete 15 clock hours, or the equivalent in credits or PGPs, in equity-based school practices.
- Teachers who maintain a valid NBPTS National Board certificate can meet the equity certificate requirement.

READ MORE about <u>certificate renewal requirements</u>, including STEM integration requirements, and the <u>CCDEI</u> <u>standards</u>

Questions on certificate renewal can be directed to the OSPI certification office at <u>cert@k12.wa.us</u>.





MONEY MINUTE

Join the Pre-Retirement Seminar on April 28-29!

This 2-day seminar covers financial and estate planning, healthcare, social security, TRS/PERS/SERS Retirement Systems.

Seminar is in person at the LWEA offices. Contact Diana Wagner at <u>dwagner@washingtonea.org</u> for more

information.



Celebration of Life



Andy wanted to promote the RHS Band. Donations in honor of Andy can be sent to: Redmond Mustang Band Boosters

> PO Box 2601 Redmond WA 98073

OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Terri Neely Field Assistant: Diana Wagner UniServe Rep: Nani Lium

8575 164th Ave NE Suite 100 Redmond, WA 98052

Set Your Clocks



Marketplace

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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.
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MAR 10 Leap Day



MAR 12 Day Light Savings

MAR 14

Rep Assembly

MAR 17 St. Patrick's Day



MAR 20 First Day of Spring



Thank You for Helping 💐 A Friend In Need

"Stacey Smith would like to thank everyone for the shared leave donations. She has received enough to get her through her medical leave. She is extremely grateful and just blown away by all the support! Please accept her most deepest gratitude for such an outpouring of kindness and generosity."

Professional Development for Substitutes

WEA's Emergency Substitute Teacher Support Project is offering professional development for substitutes online, in real-time, via Zoom.

Upcoming Courses:

- Understanding Behavior for ESTs and Substitutes (3 hours)
- Impacts of Equity on Behavior for ESTs and Substitutes (3 hours)
- Understanding Behavioral Functions and Motivations for ESTs and Substitutes (3 hours)
- Equitable Education for ESTs and Substitutes (3 hours)

Registration is open. Course capacity is 500. WEA members and non-members are welcome to attend. Clock hours are available. Courses/Clock hours are free.

> Learn more and register here: Emergency Substitute Teacher PD

Questions? Email Contact: EST PD



Call for Nominations



WEA Nominee for NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence Nominations due 5 p.m. Monday, March 27

The NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence recognizes, rewards and promotes excellence in teaching and advocacy for the profession.

Eligibility: All current members of an NEA local affiliate or bargaining unit are eligible, including teachers, education support professionals, and higher education faculty and staff. Any WEA member is eligible to nominate another WEA member for this award.

Award criteria: Nominations must address the candidate's qualifications in five areas: 1) Professional Practice, 2) Advocacy for the Profession, 3) Community Engagement, 4) Leadership in Professional Development, and 5) Attention to Diversity.

Award recognition: WEA's nominee will receive expenses-paid travel to the NEA Foundation's Annual Salute to Excellence in Education Gala in Washington, D.C., in February 2024. Five awardees will be selected for The Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence and receive \$10,000 each, plus expenses-paid travel for themselves and a guest. The NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence recipient, selected from the five, receives \$25,000 in cash and a personalized commemorative gift. <u>Read more about the award.</u>



Nomination Process

WEA is accepting nominations for our state affiliate award winner. It's easy to nominate a deserving WEA member! There are just two steps:

1. Submit a brief letter of nomination (no more than 3 pages, double spaced) outlining the individual's strengths and accomplishments tied to the five award criteria. Send nomination letters by 5 p.m. Monday, March 27, to WEA Center for Education Quality staff <u>Arlyn Palomo</u>.

2. Have your nominee submit brief responses (400 words or less per response) to the following prompts by 5 p.m. Monday, March 27, via this <u>submission link</u>.

- Question 1: In what ways have you distinguished yourself for your instructional expertise, creativity and innovation?
- Question 2: How have you advocated to advance the education profession and to strengthen public education?
- Question 3: How do you connect the community with the work you do in your classroom, school and/or district?
- Question 4: In what ways have you cultivated your professional expertise and led others in professional development?
- Question 5: How do you ensure the diverse needs of learners are met and honored?

WEA will notify nominees about the status of their application by early May.