



Update - stay connected

www.lakewashingtonea.org

March 20, 2024

School voucher initiatives: What you need to know

Restore Washington has been pushing forward school voucher initiatives in our state. Vouchers take funds from already-underfunded public schools to pay for private-school students' tuition, further exacerbating existing funding inequities. **We can't let this happen in Washington.**

Whether a voucher initiative appears on the ballot in 2024, 2025, or 2026, the impact would be devastating!

WEA has already taken some initial steps to protect us from the threat of vouchers. But we need all members to be aware of the risks a voucher initiative poses and take action to protect our schools.

What can you do to help? [Take the pledge to decline to sign and oppose school voucher schemes here in our state.](#)

Both Local and Uniserv Council = Lake Washington EA

[Learn more about the voucher initiatives.](#)

Drain BILLIONS from the state's K-12 education budget

McCleary progress would disappear

Negative impacts on student learning

Lack of transparency and oversight protections

Discrimination against vulnerable students

Nearly all voucher schools are religious schools



ESP Professional Development Input Needed

WEA is looking for all ESP members to share their priorities on the kind of training they'd like to take or see offered by their Association. The [statewide online survey](#) will help guide WEA's future professional development offerings, as well as how, when and where they are offered. The online survey is open to WEA ESP members only and closes on March 31.

Professional Education Advisory Board Certificated Members Needed

WEA is compiling a database of certificated members who are willing to serve on college and university Professional Education Advisory Boards (PEAB). These boards help guide professional educator preparation programs across the state. The programs may be for teachers, school counselors or school psychologists. According to the Washington Administrative Code, PEAB programs must include classroom teachers appointed by WEA.

If you or a certificated member you know are interested in serving on a board, please fill out the [PEAB Interest Survey](#). If a request comes in that may be a good fit, WEA will reach out to the member for permission to share their information to a college or university.

If you have questions about serving on a board, contact [Adrienne Brand](#).

NEA Discounts

Thinking about a little spring break shopping?



Shop exclusive deals from more than 3,500 retailers, online stores and restaurants. Members get up to 40% off tickets to theme parks, attractions, concerts, sports, live theater and more. Visit www.neamb.com/start for more info about NEA Member Benefits programs.

**LWEA Officers and
Executive Committee**

President:

[Howard Mawhinney](#)

LWEA / 425-822-3388

Vice President:

[Katie Badger](#)

LWEA / 425-822-3388

Primary Rep:

[Patti Cook](#)

Rush / 425-936-2690

Intermediate Rep:

[Rojine Rudio](#)

Red EI / 425-936-2660

Middle School Rep:

[Martha Daman](#)

RSAR/ 425-936-1544

High School Rep:

[ShineMay Woodcock](#)

JHS / 425-936-1600

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



Inspire Future Innovators

Site Leader Opportunity



[Camp Invention](#) is in need of a site leader this summer for Hazel Wolf the week of July 15-19, to offer the highly engaging program to our school community that embraces student driven learning through immersive STEM thematic innovation enrichment. Hear from other teachers about their experiences with being a site leader: [Educators Share Their Real Experiences With Camp Invention - YouTube](#)

The program offers the following for local educators that get involved:

Stipend Compensation

- Embedded practical Professional Development
- Transference ideas to integrate into their school year
- Evidence based student impact
- Up to 2 free- immediate children's registrations (if applicable)

Here's a look at this year's newly released Camp Invention program called [ILLUMINATE](#)! The Invention Education infused pedagogy cultivates social-emotional learning, inventive thinking, growth mindset, entrepreneurship and builds student wellness skills.

If you are interested in having a brief conversation to learn more about what is involved in being a site leader please contact **Annette Phillips** at 330-815-0889, or aphillips@invent.org or schedule a brief Zoom chat [here](#).



**Reminder:
Interested in
learning more?**

This spring there are two information sessions on Teams to introduce the NB requirements, process, timelines, options, cost, benefits and other logistics. We will also familiarize you with the support that LWSD provides to those working on NB certification. These information sessions will be hosted by the current LWSD NB facilitators: Julia Vasiliauskas and Danielle Lankester.

Each information session will have identical information. Please email Julia Vasiliauskas jvasiliauskas@lwsd.org

Wednesday, April 3: 4:30pm-5:30pm
OR

Thursday, May 2: 6pm-7pm

If you cannot attend these sessions, there are similar sessions hosted by WEA posted [here](#). Please let Julia Vasiliauskas know if you attend one of those instead, with your plans for pursuing National Boards.



LWEA Executive Committee Elections

LWEA is gearing up for elections of the following 2024-25 Executive Committee Representative positions:

- Elementary Primary Rep
- Elementary Intermediate Rep
- Middle School Rep
- High School Rep
- Special Services Rep
- Specialist Rep
- Ethnic Minority Rep



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.



Start thinking about colleagues that would bring your voice to LWEA and nominate them...OR nominate yourself.

Watch for more information about Nominations and Elections coming soon.



Friends In Need



Amy Bateman, LWHS, "I'm asking for shared leave donations for a sensitive topic, but one I do not shy away from. Due to an incredible amount of health issues and an ongoing custody battle, my mental health has taken a major hit. I've found it difficult to function some days, so I've upped my therapy sessions. Because of this, I am asking for shared leave donations so that I can attend to my mental well-being. I'm doing my best to take care of me first so that I can be an effective and caring teacher to my students. Thank you so much for your time and consideration!"

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

MAR 27

Mock RA

MAR 31

Easter

APR 1

April Fool's Day - Really!

APR 6-14

Spring Break!

APR 11-14

WEA RA - Spokane

SPRING



FOR RENT:

Condo available for rent in Kirkland! 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom 1,040 sf; top floor w/ vaulted ceilings, large balcony, wood burning fireplace, & in unit laundry. GREAT location! Walking distance to Juanita Village & Beach. Free rent through March 2024. \$2,500/month. Contact former LWHS teacher Lucianna at luciannaweber206@gmail.com for more details.