WEA Family!

We are so excited to march together at Pride on Sunday!

In this documents you'll find all the details you'll need, even if this is the first time you've marched.

Before we get started, in addition to the staging instructions being in the body of this email, we have also added the abridged final staging details right into our <u>RSVP link</u>. For ease, this link is also posted on our <u>Facebook page</u>. We appreciate if you continue to spread the word!

Logistics:

- 1. **Time:** Please arrive at 10:45. We are scheduled to depart our location at 11:15. We can expect to leave closely to this time. If you miss us, catch up and join us!
- 2. **Starting Location:** Given our amazing placement of #32 in the parade, we are in a new location which is different than last year. **It is on 4th Ave between Seneca and Spring Street.** Here's our diagram of where to find Washington Education Association #32:



- 3. **Relationships and Visibility**: Not only will we be making friends with over 100+ educators from across the state (Pasco! Sunnyside! Olympic Peninsula!) take a look at the diagram of community leaders who we will be connecting with in the staging area, and who we can share supportive messages about McCleary and our public schools. (...and we can #fangirl about WEA-Endorsed Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu, NEA-Endorsed Congresswoman Pramilla Jayapal, our educator foodgroup Starbucks, and don't even get us started on the Consulate of Canada, eh!)
- 4. **All Hands On Staging:** When we arrive, we'll all be helping with sign making, t-shirt distribution (we have 100), sticker distribution, introducing and welcoming one another, etc.. Each local will receive a customizable

#ProudToBeUnion sign to boast the name of their local, which we'll collect afterwards to use for years to come! Yes, the signs, flags and children you bring are very welcome!

- 5. **Parking:** It is advised to use public transit or to come early to find parking close by. Good news is that it's Sunday, so the street parking is free, and we are the beginning of the parade. Just know that there will be thousands of people heading down at the same time, so bring some patience and some dollar bills in case it's needed. Btw: Taxi cabs are union. Here's the parade route link to help this planning. Recall that you will end up at Pride Fest at the end of the route and will walk back to your car wherever you park it.
- 6. **Self-Care:** It's looking like 80 degrees, so please rock the SPF and perhaps a hat or cute rainbow umbrella. Also, comfy shoes for the 2.5 mile walk. Consider a water bottle and granola bar if you're like Shannon and get hangry. It can be loud in the staging area, so consider ear plugs if you're sensitive to noise. Also, there are restrooms in the staging area but the lines can be looooong. Perhaps stop before.
- 7. **Travel Lightly:** We won't have a car in the parade this year, so please pack lightly and be prepared to carry what you come with. Or invest in a fanny pack.
- 8. Cash: consider some cash for the booths (food, souvenirs, etc.) at Pridefest at the conclusion of the parade
- 9. **Watching the parade:** Since we're at the beginning of the parade, when we finish, you'll be able to walk back about a block to watch the rest of the parade after us (approx. 130 other contingents behind us). <u>Here's</u> the route again
- 10. **Heads up about why I-1552 is harmful to schools and kids:** You'll frequently see <u>Washington Won't Discriminate</u> signage and you should know this matters to us and our schools. I-1552 is another dangerous initiative that's being circulated. In Shannon's words, I-1552 is meant to target our public schools, harm our students and colleagues who are transgender, makes educators into bathroom police, and it will gut public education funding. Our WEA Board has taken a position to oppose this bad initiative. In other words, we support the <u>Washington Won't Discriminate</u> counter-campaign.

Bonus Question: **Team Work Makes The Dream Work:** Members, leaders, staff and community members are making this experience happen together. You're awesome.

See you on Sunday at 10:45. We can't wait!

Shannon and the team

http://bit.ly/WEAPride



RSVP! WEA members are proudly marching in the June 25, 2017 Seattle Pride Parade!

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