

The legislature needs to hear from you!

The state legislature is meeting in special session to decide the fate of school funding for the next two years. While most of the work is being done behind closed doors by small groups of legislative leaders, others in the legislature have lots of time to hear from constituents. It's important for you to contact your legislators this week to let them know your opinion on:

- Fully funding public education as required by the state Constitution.
- Fully funding competitive salaries for teachers and other school employees.
- The voter-approved COLA initiative.
- The voter-approved class-size reduction initiative.
- Funding for counselors, nurses, and family connections coordinators.
- Collective bargaining rights for school employees.
- Allowing local school districts to fund programs through local levies.
- Funding to meet the needs of special education students.
- Funding the bonus for National Board Certification.

You can contact your legislators by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 from your personal phone during non-work hours.

Another great way to let legislators know how you feel on these important educational issues is to send them an email from your personal device and home email account during non-work hours. [Here's the link](#) to do that.

The State Supreme Court issued a ruling **FIVE YEARS AGO** that ordered the state to fully fund public education. It's now 2017 and the legislature still has not complied with the law. Legislators are being fined \$100,000 a day for being in contempt of court. The fine now totals \$62,800,000.

Take Action! Contact your legislators now (using your own personal device during non-work hours) to let them know how you feel about fully funding public education!

*"The State Supreme Court issued a ruling **FIVE YEARS AGO** that ordered the state to fully fund public education. It's now 2017 and the legislature still has not complied with the law."*

*Kevin Teeley,
President*

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Learn About National Board for Professional Teaching Certification

Have you considered which pathway will work best for you to get your professional certification? Then we invite you to attend the information session on May 11 in the Hughes Room at the LWSD Resource Center:

National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession and is a voluntary process established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). Certification is achieved through rigorous performance-based assessments that can take 1-5 years to complete. The process measures what accomplished teachers/librarians or school counselors should know and are able to do. In addition, holding a valid NBPTS certificate satisfies the ongoing clock hour requirement for 5 years of a teaching certificate, or the requirements of the Washington State Professional Certificate, whichever is applicable.

Additional information for National Board Certification is available by visiting the [NBPTS website](#), calling 1-800-22TEACH, or contacting [Kathy Colombo](#).

We've lost a friend



We are greatly saddened to share the news that Heidi Coebergh, teacher at Lakeview Elementary, lost her battle with ovarian cancer last Friday. Heidi was an amazing teacher who was loved by her students, parents, and co-workers. Everyone she met was touched by her kindness, generosity, and love for teaching. Heidi, a long-time LWEA building rep, was a huge advocate for her profession and for the members she represented. She was always there to listen, give advice, and to help anyone in need.

Heidi was very involved with the Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer, sharing her story and helping others going through her same fight. In November, she won Rivkin's 2016 Courage for Life Award. We encourage you to check out the video of her story at <http://www.rivkin.org/heidis-courage-life/>.

Donations in Heidi's memory can be made to the Rivkin Center at <https://community.swedish.org/marsharivkin>. Memorial services for Heidi will be announced at a later time.

Run for office?

Each year the members of the LWEA must elect the President, Vice President, and Executive Committee Reps (Primary, Intermediate, Middle School, High School, Special Services, Specialists, and Ethnic Minority) for the following year.

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, you can nominate yourself by contacting [Sheila Hagerman](#) in the LWEA office (May 4-10).

The following timetable has been put in place:

May 4 Nominations open - 9 AM

May 10 Nominations close – 5 PM

May 23 Candidates speak at Rep Assembly

May 24 Electronic ballots arrive in buildings

May 31 Voting closes at 5 PM

June 2 Results announced

Questions? Contact the LWEA office.

School Nurses' Day May 10

Keeping students healthy and ready to learn is the focus of the school nurses in LWSD, who provide a valuable service as they work with students, parents, and health care providers.

Why not take a moment to show your appreciation to the nurse who works in your building?



LWEA Office

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Kirkland, WA 98033

425-822-3388

UniServ Rep: [Jennifer Silves](#)

Admin Assistant: [Sheila Hagerman](#)

Admin Assistant: [Ila Rhea Morrow](#)

LWEA Officers and Executive Committee

President:

Kevin Teeley

LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

Vice President:

Howard Mawhinney

RHS / 425-936-1800

Primary Rep:

Ken Egawa

Blackwell / 425-425-936-2520

Intermediate Rep:

Gerry Wilson

Muir / 425-936-2640

Middle School Rep:

Peggy Solum

Kamiakin / 425-936-2400

High School Rep:

Katie Badger

RHS / 425-936-1800

Specialists Rep:

Marilyn Hargraves

LWHS / 425-936-1700

Special Services Rep:

Sarah Cooper

Juanita Elementary Preschool /
425-936-2570

Ethnic Minority Rep:

Maryziel Galarpe

Blackwell / 425-936-2520

LWEA Office:

425-822-3388

Teacher Appreciation May 1-12



I TEACH: I facilitate thinking.

I encourage risk. I engage minds.

I cheer for little accomplishments.

I develop life-long readers. I educate hearts.

I model kindness. I listen with my heart.

I make learning fun. I love my job.

I TEACH!

Thank you for all that you do every day!

Insights from WEA RA

Last week we shared some comments from a number of our delegates to the WEA RA in Spokane. This week we continue with the comments from more delegates.

The message that I took home was that in Washington, WEA educators' number one priority is kids! Not just educating kids, but an overwhelming concern for their safety and emotional well being. The New Business Items that I was particularly proud to vote for dealt with issues re: immigration, ageism, transgender, McCleary decision, and the environment.

Debra Wilson, Wilder

I really enjoyed hearing Bob Ferguson speak. He has become somewhat of a hero and we should be very proud!

Marilyn Hargraves, LWHS

The insight I have: As an emerging and young educator, it is essential that we as a local get our other emerging and young educators together. We lack this. There have been no new to three or four-year teacher union only meetings. If we get this group together as a collective, things can grow and change could happen. WEA-PAC will become more powerful. Members will become more informed. Let's change this bridge.

Chris Wolman, Twain

Every time I attend WEA RA, I am more in awe about the tremendous amount of work that not only teachers do across our state, but what our union does in order to make our jobs better. Every year sees our union taking their lead and their direction from what those of us who are "in the trenches" state should be areas of focus for our time, energy and funds. It is truly a democratic process where all voices are heard and valued. Should you ever get the opportunity and privileged to attend (even as a guest), I would strongly advise that you do so.

Alexa Cooke, EHS

OPPORTUNITIES

Local business looking for interested teachers who want to **make some extra money this summer**. Free training provided in simple face painting & balloon twisting. Start at \$20/hour w/ room to move up. Call Julie for more information - 253-334-3472. (Denise DeWatt, Twain/Thoreau).

WANTED

Male physician (34 yrs old) **seeking housemate**, male or female. House is 3-bedroom, furnished, with large corner lot on cul-de-sac in Finn Hill area of Kirkland. Unoccupied bedroom is 101 sq ft. Includes washer/dryer, utilities, wireless network, storage in garage. 5 minute walk to bus stop. Available now. Initial 3 month lease then option for longer; \$700/month, utilities & wireless included. Contact Brian at 206-715-8572. (Kathleen McConaha, Retired).

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Educator Appreciation Week

Come explore Woodland Park Zoo for a day! On Saturday, June 3, we invite pre-K-20 formal and informal educators to visit the zoo for free and receive half-priced **admission for one adult guest!**

Check in at the South Entrance between 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM for your ticket into the zoo. You're welcome to stay until closing time but check-in will end at 3:00 PM. Plan to bring ID to verify your employment as an educator.

We would love for you to use this day to both enjoy the zoo and explore opportunities to include the zoo in your curriculum. There will be a variety of events including **Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day**, along with all of our **summer programming** (which starts May 1).

Contact the registrar with any questions (schools@zoo.org or 206-548-2424).

Free tickets for educators

Village Theatre in Issaquah is offering LWSD educators free tickets for the dress rehearsal of *Dreamgirls*. The dress rehearsal will take place on Sunday, May 7 at 7:30 PM. If you would like to attend, RSVP by 5 PM on Friday, May 5 – contact [Ann Reynolds](#) and indicate whether you need 1 or 2 tickets.

In addition, the Village Theatre is offering 50% off ticket prices for LWSD employees in the first 2 weeks of the run (May 11-21). Call the Box Office at 425-392-2202 or online at this [link](#) and use the coupon code – “Education.” This offer is subject to availability.

Students can always get 50% off tickets to any show by arriving 30 minutes before the show starts and showing their student ID.

Marketplace

Ads are run in the Update on a first come , first served basis. All ads need to be in written form. Send directly to Sheila Hagerman at shhagerman@lwsd.org.

Ads are subject to approval of the LWEA Executive Committee and may be edited for length.

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LWEA Website

Lakewashingtonea.org

[Facebook](#)

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Calendar

May 1-12

Teacher Appreciation

May 8

School Board Meeting

May 10

National School Nurse Day
Nominations Close - 5 PM

May 14

Mother's Day

May 15-19

Sequestered Bargaining

May 23

Executive Committee
Rep Assembly