Lake Washington Education Association

May 9, 2018

From WEA President Kim Mead:

A lot of WEA's focus recently has been on the billions in new state funding for K-12 public schools, especially for educator salaries. If WEA members organize and get involved, we have a huge opportunity for local unions to negotiate substantial pay raises for 2018-19.

We've also heard from WEA members who agree pay raises are much needed (and deserved) but wonder what we're doing to reduce class sizes and caseloads. Don't worry: reducing class sizes, shrinking caseloads and adding support staff for our students remains a top WEA priority.

WEA members ran and passed Initiative 1351 in 2014. While legislators have funded smaller K-3 class sizes mandated by I-1351, they've delayed class-size reductions in 4-12 and high-poverty schools, and they've postponed funding for the additional paras, counselors, psychs, therapists and other positions required by I-1351.

Now's our chance to remind lawmakers in Olympia that all students deserve to get the one-on-one support and attention they deserve and that I-1351 must be funded. Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal, who was elected with WEA's support, is sponsoring an online_poll asking voters for their education funding priorities.

The <u>survey</u> is short and it's crucial for Supt. Reykdal to hear from us as school employees. If you agree ALL students deserve smaller class sizes and additional support staff, and that certificated staff and education support professionals need workload relief, then please take a minute to complete the <u>survey</u>.

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Kim Mead, WEA President

In this issue

- Special Ed Bootcamp (2)
- Finding something in the contract (2)
- Annual Leave cash out (3)
- Showcase of Success (3)

Space is still available!

There are two Special Education Boot Camps this summer, sponsored by the Washington Education Association (WEA) and the state Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). This four-day event offers a selection of courses designed for the individual providing services for students with disabilities.

Courses are available for school employees, parents, school administrators, and representatives from community agencies. Boot Camp will be held **June 25-28 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Spokane City Center in Spokane** and **July 10-13 at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound**.

Course offerings and costs vary between locations because of the facility. Registration fees for both boot camps include:

- · Four days of excellent training
- Breakfast and lunch daily
- A thumb drive inclusive of all materials
- 24 clock hours

Bring your laptop or electronic device with a USB port to utilize the provided thumb drive. All materials are included on the drive.

Lodging: Participants are responsible for their own lodging. DoubleTree Spokane City Center has a limited number of rooms for Boot Camp attendees at \$139 per night plus taxes and fees. Contact the hotel at 800-757-6131. In Grand Mound, Great Wolf Lodge has a courtesy hold on a limited number of rooms for WEA members at a rate of \$130.90 per night including tax and fees. You can make your room reservations now at www.greatwolf.com/grand-mound or by phone at 866-941-9653. **Please use offer code 1807WEA.**

Registration deadline for the **Spokane Boot Camp** is Monday, May 28, or when full, and registration deadline for the **Grand Mound Boot Camp** is Monday, June 4, or when full.

Questions? Contact Jill Dahlen or call 253-765-7088.

Thank you to LWSD nurses! National School Nurse Day - May 9

Can you find it in the contract?

The LWSD/LWEA contract can sometimes be a confusing place when you are looking for information. If you are looking for specific information on a certain subject, there are a couple of places you can look:

- Index the last page of the contract has a very comprehensive index of items that you may need and the specific page number(s) of where to find them.
- Search if you are looking at the contract on the LWEA website or the LWSD Portal, you can search for a phrase or set of words. From the edit toolbar – pull down to "Find" and fill in the specific item you need to find.

You can access the LWSD/LWEA contract on the LWEA website or on the LWSD Portal.



LWEA Office 10604 NE 38th Place, Suite 212 Kirkland, WA 425-822-3388

UniServ Rep: Jennifer Silves

Office Manager: Sheila Hagerman

Admin Assistant: Terri Neely

LWEA Officers and Executive Committee

President:
Kevin Teeley
LWEA Office / 425-822-3388

Vice President: <u>Howard Mawhinney</u> RHS / 425-936-1800

Primary Rep:
Heidi Wilson
Parks / 425-425-936-2650

Intermediate Rep:
Gerry Wilson
Muir / 425-936-2640

Middle School Rep: <u>Peggy Solum</u> Kamiakin / 425-936-2400

High School Rep: <u>Katie Badger</u> RHS / 425-936-1800

Specialists Rep:
<u>Marilyn Hargraves</u>
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

We're going to say it again!

Your unused annual (personal) leave will be **automatically cashed out** at the sub rate of pay (\$175). If you want to carry over days to next year, you must notify the district prior to June 30, indicating that you want to carry over your unused days on a 1-for-1 basis.

Send your request to **Leave@lwsd.org** – keep a copy of your e-mail and the auto-reply response from the District for your records.

Important - please note:

- If you already have days that you've carried over from prior years, you MUST indicate that you want to continue to carry them over. If you do not notify the district, your carryover days will be cashed out.
- If you are interested in a combination (some cashed out and some carried over), you also MUST notify the district.
- <u>Don't contact the District to find out how much unused annual leave you have remaining</u> you can easily <u>check your balance on Employee Access</u>.
- You'll receive your annual leave cash out in your August paycheck.

Thanks for all that you do every day!



Teacher Appreciation Week - May 7-11

Showcase of Success

The <u>Showcase of Success</u> will bring together educators, industry professionals, and community leaders to celebrate the students, families, and teachers who have participated in Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS) programs in 2017-18. For more information – <u>use this link</u>.

The guest speaker, Dr. Lonnie Johnson, is an engineer and inventor, the CEO and founder of the Johnson R & D and has worked with NASA on the Galileo mission to Jupiter, Cassini mission to Saturn, created more than 100 patents, and developed a Thermo-electro converter that converts heat directly into electricity. He is a member of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, an organization that mentors high school and college students and was inducted into the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame. He is also a fierce advocate for STEM education for ALL students.

WABS is a collaboration of 11 Puget Sound school districts. The group believes that by working together, they can ensure that every student, regardless of their background, graduates on time from high school, enters college ready to for credit-bearing classes, and has the knowledge of the skills needed to pursue high-demand careers.

WANTED

Female mid school teacher seeking <u>roommate</u>, prefer female but male ok, to share 2 bedroom apart/townhouse/house together (prefer Kirkland) or join in on a lease you already have. I have cat but she doesn't get along w/ other pets. Hattie Midboe (Stella Schola) 360-927-4871 or hmidboe@gmail.com.

<u>Out of sick leave</u>! Elizabeth Miles (Dickinson) is slowly recovering from 2 surgeries, urgently needs additional leave to cover this time. Please complete a donation form & send it to HR. Elizabeth will appreciate your help!

SERVICES

Student Loan Forgiveness workshop: No cost workshop features information on addressing student loan debt via both forgiveness & refinancing options. Learn about how to best deal w/ the burden of student debt & have a chance to meet an expert on the topic. Located at the Redmond Community Center in Marymoor Village on May 22. 2 sessions (3-4 PM & 4-5 PM). To register go to Eventbrite.com, search Lake Washington Student Loan Solutions. Questions, Contact Kelly Cooley at Horace Mann Insurance, 425-939-6862.

TO RENT

<u>Teacher searching for new roommate</u>. Small condo community in Sammamish, right next to Pine Lake. \$1,000 in rent for 2 bedrooms & own bath, cable & electric separate. Move in 7/18 or 8/18. Catherine Noring (McAuliffe) 214-587-5714 or cnoring93@gmail.com.

FOR SALE

Old, oak **church pew** from St Mary Parish in Aberdeen, \$300. 1994 Yamaha **upright piano**, \$750. German Shrunk/**entertainment ctr**, \$300. Pictures available. June Evanson (Inglewood) 425-868-8817.

FREE

HP <u>color printer</u>, Envy 4520. Wireless setup for Win or Mac. Gerry Lenocker (Tesla) 425-406-9926.

Teacher Appreciation at Wild Waves

Wild Waves Theme and Water Park is hosting its first-ever Educator Appreciation Days at the park on Saturday – Sunday, June 23-24 in order to say THANK YOU to educators and to allow them to access a day of fun with their families to kick off the summer. This includes all-day Theme & Water Park admission and a catered pizza lunch in our Cascades Picnic Groves pavilions, for only \$20.99 plus tax per person (typically costs \$42.99 just to get into the park!). To purchase tickets, use this link.

Wild Waves also has new discounts for educators that are available for any day this spring or summer - save over \$20 per ticket.

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.

LWEA Website

Lakewashingtonea.org

<u>Facebook</u>

Calendar

May 15

Executive Committee

May 16

Wine and Wisdom Blu Sardinia

May 22

Rep Assembly

May 23

Educators of Color LWEA (4:30 PM)

May 28

Memorial Day

May 31

Deadline for Prof Fund receipts