



Shortwaves

Everett Education Association / United Teachers of Everett

Volume 5, 2017-18

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter—an informed membership leads to a strong membership.

TOPICS IN THIS SHORTWAVES: LEVY AND BOND RESULTS • BARGAINING SURVEY COMING • NEA-RA & WEA BOARD ELECTIONS • WEA-RA ELECTIONS RESULTS • EVERETT MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL • MEMBER QUESTIONS • NEW ED NIGHT • WEA RETIRED SCHOLARSHIP • FOR SALE, FOR RENT

Levy and Bond Results

This is a difficult message to send to members. As I write this message, the levy is passing with a good cushion while the bond is well below the 60% needed for passage. I have never seen us work so hard on a levy and bond campaign before. We made the calls, sign waved, held community meetings, sent rounds of post cards, were all over social and traditional media, and covered the streets with signs and door hangers—we did it all and came up short on the bond. Perspective helps a little. Nearly every levy and bond was 8% lower than past elections, so it wasn't just us. The community clearly has concerns about taxes. Locally, Lake Stevens, Marysville, and Snohomish are just passing their levies with only a few votes to spare. The good news is our hard work got the levy passed—imagine where we would be with the levy if we did not put in the work we did. In terms of the bond, our schools are overcrowded and that has to be fixed in order to lower class size. I am not sure when we will take the next step, but I do know our approach will need to change to overcome the electoral landscape because we cannot stop fighting until we pass a bond! All students deserve a safe school to inspire innovation and learning.

Bargaining Survey #1 is Coming This Week

A yellow Bargaining Survey is coming to your school this week. Please look for it from your Building Reps. Your input is vital to our success in negotiations, especially regarding LIF, workload, salary schedules, and next year's Winter Break schedule. Please spend a few minutes to complete the survey and have it back to your Building Reps prior to February 26th.

NEA-RA State Delegates and WEA Board Member Elections

Please be on the lookout for a message to your home e-mail address about WEA elections. We have three members running for NEA-RA state delegates—Susan Lindsey, Gregg Elder, and Lindsay Mead. Getting elected as a state delegates allows for them to attend and be fully funded by the WEA. Also, we locally have Jared Kink running for re-election to the WEA Board of Directors. It is really easy to vote: to go to this website:

<https://myassociationvotes.com/~wea/>. You will need to enter your username and password, which WEA created for you. Your username will be the first initial of your first name and your full last name. For example, Jane Doe's username would be jdoe. Your password will be your five-digit home zip code. It only takes a minute, you can do it from your school computer, and thank you.

WEA-RA Election Results

Congratulations to the following members who have been elected by our membership to represent them at the WEA Representative Assembly. This is one of the first years in a long time we had a contested election for WEA-RA. Thank you to all of you who ran for a position. 2018 WEA-RA Delegates: Kailani Tibayan, Lindsay Mead, Monte Scholz, Monica

Anderson, Mike Taggart, Lauren Dandridge, Denise Butler, Michael Johnson, Anna Tidwell, Gretchen Stiger, Cerra Sand, Heidi Little, Doug Butler, Carol Kummerle, Camlynn Tafa, Amber McPartland, Susan Lindsey, Gregg Elder, Loretta Vila-Henninger, and Kaitlyn Williams. Thank you for voting!!

EEA Membership is Awesome Socials

Since December we have been holding monthly socials to bring members together to meet up, connect, have some food and drink, and just have some fun. Our next event is on March 2 at El Paraiso in Silver Lake from 3 pm to 6 pm. Food and drink is on us. We hope you can make this one or the next.

Member Contract Questions

If you have a question regarding our contract, please send them to me and we will continue to answer some in each *Shortwaves*.

Can I be told when to teach something?

Mostly, no. Here is the language from Section 9.07.B (page 51) of the contract:

B. The parties share a mutual interest in delivering high quality instruction in all subject areas and further agree as follows:

1. A curriculum that requires instructional staff to use the same lessons at all times or requires identical instructional strategies for all students may not be universally appropriate for an effective educational program.
2. Teachers may exercise professional judgment (i.e., expertise, insight and creativity) in determining when and how to adapt or modify lessons to meet the diverse needs of students to achieve unit and lesson objectives within established curriculum.

What this means is the district can direct you what to teach (curriculum), but how and when you implement that curriculum is up to your professional judgment to meet the needs of your students. With that said, it does have some limits. For example, it is reasonable for the district to have history teachers at the same point in history at semester. Or, certain pieces of literature are covered in similar timeframes, so if students move classes they do not get the same book twice or off track in some way. Additionally, many grade-levels and subjects develop curriculum calendars. These calendars should be approved by the team to meet the needs of all members. They also should not be set in stone. Meeting the needs of students to achieve unit and lesson objectives within the curriculum is the goal, sometimes making changes is needed to do so.

New Educator Night—February 22 from 5-7 pm

Topic: **A Trauma Lens Approach to Insist on Self-Care for Educators**. This night will be all about your contract rights and benefits! If you plan to attend, RSVP to slamb@washingtonea.org by February 19th. Space is limited and for teacher with 3 years or less experience! Dinner will be served! When you RSVP, please let Shelly know if you have dietary restrictions. FREE CLOCK HOURS

WEA-Retired Scholarships

WEA-Retired is offering up to eight \$1,000 nonrenewable scholarships to aid WEA members in enhancing skills in specific education areas and/or attaining or maintaining a teaching certificate. The scholarships cannot be used to pay for incurred debt for past classes or reimbursement for pre-paid classes. You must be a WEA member to apply. The completed coversheet and application must be received by April 6. Please send to: WEA-Retired Scholarship Committee, 51 S.E. Bayview Lane, Shelton, WA 98584. More information can be obtained by emailing barwentz@comcast.net. [Download coversheet](#) and [download application](#) for certificated WEA certificated members.

For Sale, For Rent

If you would like to place an ad to sell personal items in *Shortwaves*, please send your ad to jkink@washingtonea.org by the 15th of each month. Please keep your ad to less than 25 words.

Looking for a roommate to move into three bedroom, two bath condo in south Everett. Rent would be \$700 and include utilities. Reserved carport spot included. Washer, dryer, radiant flooring, new paint, and new carpet. No smokers or pets please. If interested or know of someone who would be interested please contact Tracy Allen at 425-359-7254 or email at tracemallen@hotmail.com

Calendar of Events

New Educator Night—February 22nd (5-7 pm at EEA)

EEA Membership Social—March 2nd (3-6 pm at El Parasio in Silver Lake)

EEA Executive Board—March 5th (4:15 pm at EEA)

EEA Rep. Council—March 19th (4:30 pm at EEA)

EEA/UTE CONTACT INFORMATION:

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We're also on the Web! Visit us at www.everettea.org or on Facebook.