

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

TOPICS IN THIS SHORTWAVES: SOLIDARITY • WE NEED YOUR STORIES • COME CELEBRATE • REMINDERS • HUSKY TEACHER APPRECIATION TICKETS • NEW EDUCATOR NIGHTS • CONTRACT QUESTIONS • INTERESTING ARTICLES • FOR SALE, FOR RENT

Solidarity

This was not only a historic year for our local, but also locals across the state. 15 locals were on strike this year, which is the highest number ever in Washington. Last night our Executive Board sent \$2,000 each to Tumwater EA and Battle Ground EA to support their strike funds. Across the country we have not seen this many strikes by teachers in years. It is inspiring to see the power of teachers and the support of their communities behind them. Locally, we can support our colleagues, too. Tomorrow (September 19) the Everett paraeducators will be negotiating. Please wear blue to support them in solidarity.

We Need Your Stories

One of our goals for bargaining this year was to change your life. For the last 13 years we all worked hard to see the McCleary promise fulfilled. We now need to hear your stories to share with legislators, the community, and our districts. Please take the quick survey to tell us your story: <https://goo.gl/forms/CCV2byEVaUUWWT8K2>

Come Celebrate—Membership is Awesome Social

It is time to celebrate our contract and the strength of our membership. We plan to hold socials again throughout the year because they are a great opportunity to see members from across the district and take a little break. Our first social will be in October. Please stay tuned for date and location.

Update On Reminders—I messed up.

I apologize. I told you the wrong dates for credits and experience to be submitted to HR. We had two different dates in the contract and they now have been changed. So, if you have additional credits or experience to add to your classification on the salary schedule, you must have them in **BEFORE October 10th** for them to be applied this year. Classes must have been completed by October 1st. We recommend hand delivering them to HR.

Husky Teacher Appreciation Tickets

The University of Washington has established a Teacher Appreciation Day for the Arizona State football game on September 22, 2018. They have offered discounted tickets for the game. Here is the link to order tickets. <http://ev3.eventue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetGroupList?prc=TEACHERS&caller=PR&linkID=washington&RSRC=&RDAT>. The promo code page will take you directly to the discounted ticket page, so no additional promo code is needed. You get a discount on the ticket and no fees. They also recognize great teachers and our own Doug Butler got it last year. Go Dawgs!

New Educator Nights

HELLO NEW EDUCATORS WITH 0-3 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE We host monthly New Educator events and we are excited to invite you to attend the first event at the Pilchuck UniServ Council. Please join us on THURSDAY, September 20th, for *TALKING RETIREMENT ... ALREADY?!*

You have important decisions to make in the first 90 days of employment that will have ramifications for your retirement and beyond.

Join us to learn about your retirement plan options: TRS Plan II and TRS Plan III. We will have an in-depth overview of both. By the end of the evening you should have a clearer understanding of the

best plan and potential options for you. Deferred Compensation information will also be available during this session. *This training is free of charge and open to NEA/WEA/local EA union members.* Yummy food and engaging conversations will also be provided! RSVP ASAP to Shelly Lamb at slamb@washingtonea.org

Contract Questions

If you have a contract question, please send them to me by the 15th of each month.

1. *When will the contract be available?*

The contract has been approved by the school board and is off to print. We will be posting pdf version this week on our website. In the meantime, the TA packet, calendar, and salary schedules are on our web-page here: <http://www.everettea.org/contract>.

2. *Do I have to provide any documentation for LIF?*

No, documentation (agendas, notes, etc.) are not required.

3. *What about class sizes?*

The District is doing a good job at meeting the state's class size goals where it can. The state's goals are lower than our own contractual goals and their penalties are much stiffer than what we could negotiate in our contract (they lose funding). A couple of things to remember. Students need to come in "groups" of 17 to 20. Although the state number is 18, the district cannot run two 11 student classroom if 22 students arrive. Next, they need to have the space. In many of the south end schools there is no more building space or room for portables on the property that the city or county will approve. Adding the new elementary school will help next year. Finally, the numbers are district averages and not directly classroom numbers. Olympia has made huge improvements in class size, but it is very expensive problem and will keep working in Olympia to add more funding.

4. *What about lesson plans?*

At Rep. Council next week we will be discussing more about lesson plans. At this point, you need to be able to show evidence of planning in your evaluation. The District would like teachers to be more thoughtful with their planning this year and they have provided a model for those who do not have one. We are telling teachers to use what they have always used and be prepared to discuss lesson plans in more detail in their evaluations. This should not be an increased workload issue, but rather a more deliberate approach to planning.

Interesting Article

If you see an interesting article to share with members, please send it to me and we will include it in *Shortwaves*.

Why Do Teachers Join The Union? - Forbes

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/petergreene/2018/09/03/why-do-teachers-join-the-union/>

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.

Calendar of Events

Membership is Awesome Social—Sometime in October

Ex. Board—Oct. 22 (4:15 at EEA)

Rep. Council—Oct. 29 (4:30 at EEA)

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