



Shortwaves

Everett Education Association / United Teachers of Everett

Volume 1, 2017-18

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

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Excited for the Opportunities Ahead

We are so excited about this year because there has never been this much possibility and opportunity to strengthen our profession. We are coming off one of the most impactful legislative sessions in decades. Legislators have provided a tremendous amount of new resources to districts while leaving it to locals and districts to find the solution. Couple this with being a bargaining year (my favorite year!), our profession's future looks very bright. We have an opportunity to make changes to our salary schedules that we have not had in decades. In Olympia, we will also have an opportunity to finally make serious improvements to testing, retirement, and class size. Membership has never mattered more than this year. Your voice and action in our association is critical for our success.

So, what should you expect?

1. It is a bargaining year, so you should watch for and seek out our yellow bargaining alert flyers. The first one will be hand delivered to you next week. In it you will be introduced to our bargaining team and the bargaining plan for the year.
2. Please stay informed about the results of the last legislative session. Our web-page includes the presentation and fact sheet from our general membership meeting for you to access. You can find these materials here: http://www.everettea.org/leg_session.
3. Please watch for e-mails to your home e-mail address. We send political pieces to your home e-mail which include critical information and opportunities. We use those e-mails on a limited basis.
4. Executive Board members, the Bargaining Team, and a few interested members will be visiting each school to conduct 1-to-1 interviews to surface issues to address in bargaining. These interviews only take a few minutes and are so valuable to the bargaining process. We will be in your buildings during the month of October (excluding conference week) and the start of November.

3rd Annual Everett School Pumpkin Patch

Pumpkins, corndogs, animals, corn maze, pumpkin bread—they have it all! Please join us for a morning of family fun at The Farm at Swan's Trail in Snohomish (7301 Rivershore Road) on Saturday, October 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All members and families are invited and kids' activity tickets will be discounted \$2. Parents will need to show their Everett School District badge.

Husky Teacher Appreciation Tickets

The University of Washington is establishing a Teacher Appreciation Day for the California football game on October 7, 2017. They have offered discounted tickets for the game. Here is the link to order tickets. <http://ev3.evenue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetGroupList?prc=TEACHERS&caller=PR&linkID=washington&RSRC=&RDAT=>. Go Dawgs! I will see what we can do for the Cougs, too.

Pre-Retirement Seminars—Taking Charge of Your Future

The Everett Education Association through the Pilchuck UniServ Council holds pre-retirement seminars for members; the first three this year are intended for those who are within three years of retirement. These seminars are unbelievably valuable to help guide and prepare you for retirement. More information and registration can be found on our web-page here: http://www.everettea.org/pre-retirement_seminars.

Member Benefits--Clarity Financial

One of our best member benefits is free financial services through Clarity Financial in Mill Creek. They can help with everything from investments to retirement to budgets. For services contact Robert Hamm at 425-287-5800.

National Board Cohorts

National Board Certification Candidates! If you are interested in joining a Pilchuck UniServ Council / WEA Fourth Corner National Board cohort, please contact Adam Goldstein at agoldstein@washingtonea.org for space availability. Space will be limited. Like last year, we anticipate full cohorts this year.

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*.

What is going on with the new district LIF forms?

--From dozens of teachers.

Per Section 8.04.D.2.a on District directed LIF days, agendas and notes are required for activities on these days. What these look like is up to the District's discretion. The Association shared with the District the agendas and note, especially when not returned with feedback, was more onerous than useful. The District also shared they have concerns about planning lessons and streamlining the process. So, several principals with Association feedback worked on creating two templates—one for planning and another to streamline data collection from the previous form. The intent of the forms was for teachers to use them in the evaluation process; completing each would be enough evidence for at least 4 of the 8 criteria. Completing the forms should only take 5-10 minutes, are only needed when necessary, completed only on District LIF, and should be working documents that can and should be adjusted. What they are not is a compliance piece for LIF to prove you are doing work or a document to have teachers teaching in lockstep the same thing on the same day. All looked good until a new process had to be communicated to 25 different principals. In many places the forms are easy and valuable, while in others expectations are too high and the forms create more work than they are worth. At this point, keep providing feedback to your Building Reps so issues can be addressed at each building and let's see how evaluators use the templates during evaluation.

Important Reminders

1. It is a good idea to check your payroll stub on Employee Online each month, especially this month since salaries have been adjusted. If you have a concern, contact payroll as soon as possible.
2. Please be careful with your district supplied computer, especially in your car. Leaving your device in the open is very tempting for criminals. If you do lose your computer, please let the District know as soon as possible because it can be locked and tracked. Don't wait for it to turn-up.

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

EEA Executive Board—October 9th (EEA at 4:15 pm)

EEA Rep. Council—October 16th (EEA at 4:30 pm)

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

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