# ASSOCIATION NEWS



April 18th, 2016

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#### **Executive Board Emails:**

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- April Miller (Pasco AE) mustangapril@hotmail.com
- Richard Dexter (Columbia EA)
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- Ladonna Sterling (Richland EA) hihoaweigh@yahoo.com
- Denise Hogg (Kennewick EA) deniseho58@hotmail.com
- David Campbell (Kennewick EA)-dcampbell@washingtonea.org
- Margo Piver (Walla Walla Valley EA)wwveamargo@gmail.com
- Debbie Kibling (Pasco AE)dlkibling@yahoo.com

### **Staff Emails:**

- Edna Jenkins (UniServ Rep) ejenkins@washingtonea.org
- James Gow—(UniServ Rep) jgow@washingtonea.org
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  - slindholm@washingtonea.org
- Michelle Joy—(Field Assistant) mjoy@washingtonea.org
- **Bridget Steen**—(Field Assistant) bsteen@washingtonea.org

# Benefits of WEA Membership!!

If you are new to the Washington Education Association (WEA), you might be curious about what your membership entitles you to receive!

- Economic benefits through your local's contract negotiations
- Protection of member rights
- Professional development support
- Legislative representation & information
- Legal assistance with job-related issues
- Voice & vote in association decisions

- Publications
- \$1 million in liability coverage
- Life Insurance
- Member benefit discounts
- Legal Assistance and/or discounts for legal services for personal matters (Attorney Referral Program)
- Home & Vehicle Insurance Programs



- Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> Membership Matters Team Meeting 4PM Council Office
- Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM WEA-Southeast Exec Board Meeting, Council Office
- Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> WEA Grant Writing Academy, 4:30PM at the Council Office
- Monday and Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> WEA Eastern Region Meeting, WEA Spokane Office
- Wednesday, May 18th VALIC WORKSHOP, 4:30PM at the Council Office
- Tuesday, May 24th WEA Grant Writing Academy, 4:30PM at the Council Office
- Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> WEA-Southeast Council Meeting and Elections, 5:30PM Council Office
- Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day WEA OFFICES CLOSED
- Tuesday, May 31st WEA Grant Writing Academy, 4:30PM at the Council Office
- Friday and Saturday, June 10-11<sup>th</sup> WEA Board Meeting Federal Way
- Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> Year End WEA-Southeast Exec Board Meeting, Location TBD
- Monday, July 4th through Friday, July 8th WEA OFFICES CLOSED
- Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> WEA-Southeast Summer Office Hours Begin (July 11<sup>th</sup> - Labor Day) 8:30AM to 4:30PM Monday through Friday

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**WEA Rep Assembly** 

### DECISIONS! DECISIONS! DECISIONS!

WEA RA was held in Spokane over April 7-9. Over 60 issues were decided by the 800+ members in attendance. Many issues were decided to guide your organization in its path forward. A HUGE decision for members beginning September 1st, 2016, all clock hours will be **free**. This is a **member only** advantage!!!!! Please click the link to see what was decided.

http://www.wea-southeast.org/images/static\_content/ra%20summary%202016.pdf



Several vendors at RA disseminated very useful information to the delegates. One of the most useful of these was the WEA Professional Development Network. Since the start of this school year members who participate in a WEA sponsored Professional Development session have the course logged onto a transcript, which handily allows you to keep your clock hours for certification accounted for very easily. These clock hours are also able to be used for salary advancement, since the transcript has the objectives, which according to the RCW, determine whether they're usable or not.

Please click the link below for all information on Professional Development.

https://www.washingtonea.org/pd/

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# Membership Matters Grant Opportunity: Release Time for Member Recruitment & Engagement

WEA has a limited amount of grant funds available for locals to conduct 1-1 conversations with members and potential members. This grant process advances WEA's Membership Matters work and provides a learning opportunity as we support locals to recruit and engage members. To be considered for funding, please send a copy of the latest version of your council membership plan to Jim Fotter at: <a href="mailto:ifotter@washingtonea.org">ifotter@washingtonea.org</a> If the local included in this grant has a plan in place, please submit it, as well.

To be considered for the grant, please submit this information to this link: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XLZZL9M">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XLZZL9M</a>

## #ProudToBeUnion

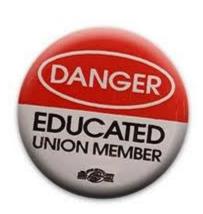
Why does membership matter to you is a new feature in the newsletter. We will be highlighting selected members words to answer the question "why does membership matter to you". Being a union member is one of the best choices available to an employee. Having the ability to have good working conditions, salary and secure employment are only a few of the benefits that being a member provides

I believe each one of us is the heart of "Membership Matters" because WE matter! Standing together in unity, solidarity, supporting each other as members of WEA/NEA. Your issues are my issues to advocate for locally, across the state or nationally. I believe knowing you are not alone, that help is only a phone call away is what Membership Matters is all about.

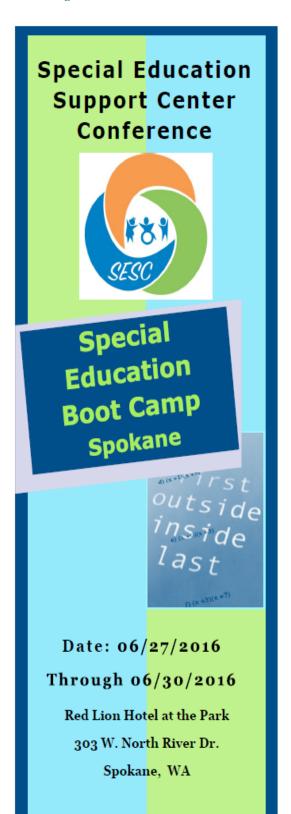
Julie Wickersham, Clarkston Classified Association Incoming WEA Board Member, WEA SE

Membership matters to me because it means power. Together we have the power to bargain great contracts for everyone.

Jennifer Gilliland, Kiona-Benton Education Association Member, Organizer



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### **Tuition**

Tuition is \$270 for all four days. Individual day registration will be offered at \$75 per day but will not open up until June 1, 2016 and will be subject to room availability. Please visit the WEA Professional Development Network for registration.

www.washingtonea.org/pd
Training Materials will be provided to attendees on a
thumb drive Monday at check in.

### Accommodations

For attendees needing hotel accommodations the Red Lion Hotel at the Park has set up a courtesy block of rooms.

Phone: 509-777-6300

Space is limited so reserve your room early.

Lunch is included daily with registration.



www.specialeducationsupportcenter.org

For Additional Information About 2016 Special Education Boot Camps and Other Professional Development Opportunities Visit

www.washingtonea.org/pd

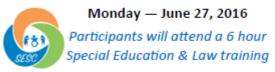
Molly Baasch
WEA Special Population / Program Coordinator
Center for Education Quality
32032 Weyerhaeuser Way S.





Laptops are required for this conference!

Training materials are provided on a thumb drive.



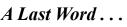
### **REGISTER HERE:**

https://www.washingtonea.org/events/salsa/425266/

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The weather is finally getting nice, we've all had Spring Break, and Standardized Testing season is in full swing! WEA-RA is in the history books, and much work was done, and more has to be done, both by our union and by us as individual educators to improve Public Education. This has been an eventful year, with the passage and enactment of the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) that gives more power

to guide and shape schools back to the states. This gives our union and its members an opportunity that we've not had for many years, to help guide the shape and direction that Public Education will take in Washington. This means that we'll have a voice in determining the proper role of such things as standardized testing, and how the results will be used. WEA is committed to doing what's right by our members and especially for our students. The saying that "A teacher's working conditions are a student's learning conditions" isn't hot air. If you've worked in an overcrowded classroom or haven't had the resources to properly help kids learn, then you know how true it is. It's fact, and doing what's right for educators is doing the right thing for our children who are our students.

At the state level, WEA will continue lobbying the Legislature and Governor to do what's right by our members and especially our students. As a union, for as many members and voters that WEA represents, our voice matters. Not only in Olympia, but in our communities as well, from Kennewick and Richland and Pasco to Clarkston and Asotin and Pomeroy, our voice matters, especially in regards to the educating of our future, our children.

It's our job as individuals and as member of our local associations to lobby and persuade our local officials, from state representatives and senators to school board members and superintendents to, again, do what's right for ourselves and our students. Educators aren't isolated from our communities; we're as integral a part of the community as the policewoman or postman, and our voice matters.

As part of this newsletter, I've included short statements about what was done at RA. Many delegates from WEA Southeast were in attendance, helping to discuss, debate and vote on these items over the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Spring Break. These items deal with exactly what I've referred to above, making Public Education better for ourselves, fellow educators, and our students.

After Spring Break, things can get a little hectic, both in the work we do with students and life in general, so please remember to be good to yourselves and your colleagues, and remember that summer is closer than we think. Let's remember to count to 10 in moments of frustration, both with students and adults, and we'll make it through to the finish line, with fewer hurt feelings and positive memories of this school year.

Thanks again for doing the necessary and good work of educating our students,