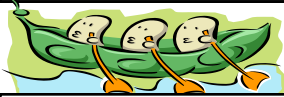
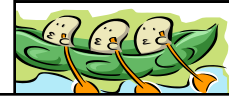


# The Newsletter of the Peninsula Education Association



## P.E.A. PATCH



Volume 33 Issue #7

PEA

February 2015

### Legislators feel they deserve an 11.2% pay increase? Really?

The Washington Citizens' Commission gave state legislators a 11.2% salary increase over the next two years. In addition, legislators already receive a per diem allowance of \$120 per day, which gives them an additional \$19,800 over the course of the two-year term in office. At the SAME TIME legislators have been suspending teacher cost-of-living raises for the LAST SIX YEARS!

Legislators work 105 days per year in odd-numbered years and 60 days in even-numbered years, for an average of 82.5 days per year. At this proposed salary rate, they would make almost \$568 for each day they work. This does NOT include their additional \$120 per day allowance, which brings the per-day total to \$688.

To add insult to injury, Governor Inslee has proposed giving K-12 employees only a 4.8% cost-of-living increase spread out over the next two years. He also wants to freeze our health care allotment at the 2011 rate of \$768 per month through the 2016-2017 school year. In contrast, he has proposed an increase to the state employees' health care—which covers legislators—to \$947 per month.

Professional compensation is key to attracting and retaining high quality teachers, and school employees for our students. The State Supreme Court has ruled the Legislature in contempt to not fully funding basic education. You have not had a COLA for six years costing you , if you are at the top salary level you have lost over \$25,000 and this is not considering losses to your retirement. 1351 has been passed by the voters, and the legislature had mandated reforms, high-stakes testing, a new evaluation system and totally disregards our professional expertise.

**WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DO!!! TOGETHER WE ARE POWERFUL!!!**

#### Calendar

2/2 Executive Board	February/ African American History Month	2/16-20 Presidents Birthday Break
2/9 Rep Council	2/18 Ash Wednesday	2/19 Chinese New Year 2/24 DAC

**Peninsula Education Association – Affiliated with Washington Education Association & National Education Association**

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**email [president@pea.comcastbiz.net](mailto:president@pea.comcastbiz.net)**

President	Jim Falcocchio	851-8710
Vice President	Carol Rivera (Goodman Middle School)	530-1600
Secretary	Jennifer (Prince) Bookman (Gig Harbor High School)	530-1400
Treasurer	Karin Ashabraner (Goodman Middle School)	530-1600

**Visit [Peninislulaea.com](http://Peninislulaea.com)**

**P.E.A. Officer Election:  
Nominations for the P.E.A. officers will be open in March!**

It is time to look around your buildings and acknowledge those leaders in your building. As we move into the years to come; your association will only play a more crucial role as it defends your right to organize, advocate for members rights, focus on Olympia, and build capacity for the challenges and successes yet to come.

**Who will be your association officers?**

**Scholarships for you.....WEA-Retired**

WEA –Retired is offering up to five \$1,000 non-renewable scholarships for the purpose of assisting WEA members to enhance skills in specific education areas and/or attain a teaching certificate. Go on line to WEA-Retired for details.

If you are not a member of WEA-Retired you should really think of joining.

**Deduct you dues**

You can deduct your association dues from your income tax!

You can also deduct most of your out of pocket \$\$ you spend on your classroom.

**TPEP**

The process and procedures from building to building should be consistent. The association and the district have a mutual interest in this area. Please contact the PEA office if needed.

**Congratulations New National Board Teachers**

Sarah Mattson  
Jennifer (Prince) Bookman  
Melissa Dower  
Amanda Naylor  
Chris Covert  
Kathryn Portteus  
Patty Fisher  
Karen Kent

**Huge achievement!!**

**Health Car Funding  
A Slap in the Face**

State K-12 funding per FTE

\$768.00

State funding per eligible state employee, which includes legislators.

\$947.00

**Call your legislators!!**

**Catching up with COLA**

According to WEA research, the Legislative freezes in pay increases continue to cause significant losses to educators each year. In order to catch up to the buying power you had in 2008-2009, experienced certified staff would need to receive \$26,943 in back pay and an \$8,503 increase in base pay. New certified staff would need to receive a \$4,511 increase in base pay.

Think how this has affected your retirement. Our legislators need to hear from YOU!

**WEAOurVoice....call your legislators TODAY!**