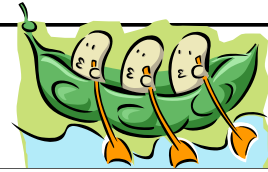


P.E.A. Patch



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WEA 2014 LEGISLATIVE GOALS

Restore the COLA and fully fund education:

Restore the voter approved cost of living salary adjustments for teachers and other school employees. Restore state funded teacher professional development days. Fully fund K-12 public schools, community and technical colleges and four year universities.

Reduce class sizes and increase support staff :

Reduce class size to 17 students in grades K-3 and 25 in grades 4-12. Increase funding for librarians, counselors, psychologists, school nurses and speech, occupational and physical therapists.

Trust and empower educators to define quality and improve their profession:

Provide beginning educators with mentors and other necessary support. Oppose top-down, state-driven, micro-management of teaching and learning. Ensure student assessments improve student learning in a meaningful way.

Jan.Angel@leg.wa.gov

Larry.Seaquist@leg.wa.gov

ESEA Waiver

Supt. of Public Instruction Randy Dorn and some state legislators are proposing legislation to mandate teacher evaluations include state test scores. Current teacher evaluation law allows school districts to use state test scores, but does not REQUIRE it.

Contrary to Supt.Dorn's claims, the loss of the waiver will NOT result in a funding cut. There will be NO loss of federal funding if the waiver is revoked. If the ESEA waiver is revoked. A SMALL amount of federal funding in some school districts will have to be spent on the purpose originally designated by ESEA, such as after-school programs for students.

There is no way to predict what the federal government will do regarding ESEA. However, it is unlikely that any changes will be made this year.

Representative Kilmer will be meeting with area association presidents at the PEA office this month to discuss the ramifications of these rulings and ESEA as a whole.

RESTORE COLA... LOWER CLASS SIZE...HEALTH CARE \$\$\$

Peninsula Education Association – Affiliated with the WEA and NEA

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

Visit Peninsulaea.com for more information

Call...Write...your legislator....Governor..**.... restoring the educator COLA is the fair thing to do**

Make sure your legislators know...

- Washington educators will have lost 16% in the last six years.
- Washington teachers are the lowest-paid teachers in the five Pacific states.
- Nearly 63% of Washington voters approved the COLA
- Restoring the COLA is approximately \$85 million in state funding of our \$33 billion budget...about 1.3% .
- There are forty two (42) cells on the State Salary Schedule that qualify the children of teachers for free and reduced lunch....if the teacher's pay is only what is in that cell.
- The Supreme Court critique states "nothing could be more basic that adequate pay" "The inescapable fact is that salaries for educators in Washington are no better than when this case went to trial."

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS !!! YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!!**CHANGES TO TRS 3**

In 2009, the IRS ruled that the TRS Plan 3 would not be qualified if the rate flexibility currently offered to plan members is retained. In response, the Legislature's Select Committee on Pension Policy has sponsored a bill for the 2014 legislative session that will make the necessary changes to Plan 3 laws to remain a qualified plan.

So what does all of this mean to you? It means that TRS Plan 3 members have January 2014 and one last opportunity in January 2015 to select new contribution rate options. After January 2015, you would only be able to change rates when you change employers.

This change only affects TRS Plan 3-no other plan is affected.

If you need to determine if you should make changes to your plan rate, here is an easy way to calculate what you currently have. Simply divide your contribution by your gross earning to get your percentage.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND THE LAW!**WEA Olympic Council ...Saturday, January 25 8 am to 4 pm****Lunch is provided...clock hours****Molly Baasch, WEA Special Education Coordinator**

**Don't get angry-get curious! WHY are people taking the positions they are?
WHY are they angry? It's a good first step towards a solution.**

Julia Cameron

Congratulations to delegates

The following people will represent PEA at the WEA RA in Spokane.
Please contact them with your concerns so they can better represent your Voice!!!

Karin Ashabraner	Goodman
Carol Rivera	Goodman
Kathleen Perez	Purdy
Glenice Espeseth	Harbor Heights
Teri Hammon	Evergreen
Christine Fuller	Goodman
Debra Brueckner	Purdy
Jim Falcocchio	PEA office

NEA Life Insurance programs can help secure your family's future...

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Call 1-855-NEA-LIFE

**Your colleagues are joining WEA/PAC
Your Voice– Your Vote**

Your colleagues know it's more important than ever to have a strong voice in Olympia. We need to support the elected officials who stand up for public education in Olympia and we need to reach out to those who are reluctant. The only way is to have a robust effort which WEA/PAC provides. Your union dues can not be used in this effort.

For only \$2.25 a month our 80,000 member organization can combat the millions being poured into our state by outside interests. The Freedom Foundation (formerly the Evergreen Freedom Foundation) is being supported by outsiders who want to weaken your collective bargaining rights and have funded anti levy and bond efforts across the state...some close to home.

This is an important Legislative session and we need our VOICE to be heard.

PEA members have joined with other state colleagues. Our local has increased its membership by nearly 20% over the last few years. We are asking all members to join with us in our efforts to reinstate the COLA and get adequate Health Care funding plus lower class sizes. For only \$2.25 per month we can make a huge difference. In our efforts to increase enrollment your building rep will be receiving enrollment forms soon, or you can always contact the PEA office.....851.8710.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Stay caught up on public education issues during the 2014 Legislative Session.

OurVoiceWashingtonEA.org

Facebook.com/OurVoiceWEA

District Association Committee (DAC) Meetings/discussions

- **Co-Curricular Committee**
- **1040/ 1080 hours**
- **Technology**
- **Substitutes**
- **TPEP training**