Membership Matters Book Drive

MEA’s “Membership Matters” Committee, has begun its 2nd Annual Spring Book Drive. You can help! As you are cleaning out your classroom this spring, please contribute to the MEA book drive box located at your school. The committee will coordinate a book “shopping” day in the fall to help our new hires build a classroom library. If you have questions about this book drive you may contact our MM Committee Chairperson, Heather Craggs at craggshl@mukilteo.wednet.edu.

MEA Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of Mukilteo Education Association’s 2018 scholarships! There were many outstanding applicants. From Mariner, Jesus Carrillo Lerma is the recipient of the 2018 Joanne Brennan Memorial Scholarship for $1,000 and Mey Ly is the recipient of the 2018 Brad Agerup Memorial Scholarship for $1,000. From Kamiak, Brooke Burns is the recipient of the 2018 Lois Jamieson Memorial Scholarship for $1,000 and Hailey Mukai is the recipient of the 2018 Michelle Reichenbach Memorial Scholarship for $1,000.

Thank you to the members of the MEA Scholarship Committee: Phil Falk (PP), Melissa Dahl (VO), Michael Peña (MA), Stephanie Horrocks (MA), Alexandria Johns (KA), and Michelle Harris (Aces). It is exciting to be able to help these Mukilteo students begin their post-secondary education!

Retiring or Leaving Mukilteo?

If you know that you are retiring at the end of this year, or plan on resigning from Mukilteo School District, please let the District know as soon as possible. Informing the District early about your plans will make the staffing process easier for all. If you are retiring, be sure to visit the DRS site at http://www.drs.wa.gov/retirement-planning/nearingretirement.htm to make sure you’ve remembered to do everything necessary to ensure a smooth, successful and secure retirement.
WEA Representative Assembly – Spokane, Washington April 19-21, 2018

Fourteen delegates from Mukilteo attended the WEA Representative Assembly in Spokane. This annual meeting, which has a look and feel similar to a major political convention, provides a forum where WEA members can collaborate, debate and vote. Individual members and local associations submit New Business Items (NBIs), New Resolutions or Amendments to Continuing Resolutions, Standing Rules, Bylaws, and the WEA Constitution, which, when passed, set the organizational priorities for WEA for the coming year. It was one of the longer lasting assemblies in recent years, ending just after 2:30 a.m. on April 22nd. Your delegates debated 69 New Business Items (items directing the work of the WEA), and 21 resolutions (belief statements). Please make sure to thank them for this commitment. Below, they reflect on some of their favorite moments from this year’s WEA-RA.

Michael Peña (MA)

Speaker that moved me:  Washington Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote (speaking about what teachers do and how we affect the lives of our students): “You are at the intersection of so much possibility.”

Favorite NBI:  22 (Let’s Talk About Mental Health). Calling for qualified mental health supports for students in our schools is critical, and to see unanimous support for it at RA was amazing.

Report I found most interesting:  WEA Membership Report. WEA grew by more than 2,000 members last year-excellent!

I was moved by: The collective response by our educators of color who spoke out on their experiences around the debate on NBI 41(State-Wide Educators of Color Conference). It was amazing.

Best experiences when RA was at recess: As always, it’s spending time with friends and colleagues from across the state. Working on NBIs, sharing ideas and experiences, and strengthening friendships make each RA an amazing experience.

Natasa Brooks (MA)

Speaker that moved me: National Teacher of the Year Mandy Manning. Quote: “I believe all educators should be heard... I don’t agree with the accolades that come with getting an award, but because I’ve been given this platform, my voice can be heard.”

Favorite NBI:  41 (State-Wide Educators of Color Conference). It is important to create safe places for educators of color to feel supported which will encourage them to stay in the profession. This is paramount since our schools are so incredibly diverse and our students need to see themselves in the adults in their lives as positive role models.

Best Report: WEA Children’s Fund Report. I learned that we raised money quickly to help the children who struggle to have their basic needs met.

Most touching moment at the microphone: Kailani Tibayan, who is a college friend and ran for Minority-At-Large, spoke about how her grandpa led by example and helped develop her as a leader and gave her confidence in her own competence regardless of discrimination or any internal value issues that she faced.

Greatest experience when RA was at recess: I loved all of the new connections I was able to make. Also, Leslie Dodson is HILARIOUS.

On visiting Spokane: I enjoyed the popcorn and conversations at The Volstead Act.

Sobia Sheikh (MA)

Speakers that moved me: Students from the rally. Quote: (referring to gun control): “If we weren’t thought of as a powerful group of reformers, there would be no reason to fight against us.”

Favorite NBI:  18 (Ethnic Studies). I know that Michael Peña has been pushing for Ethnic studies at Mariner and some districts have also been working on that. I’m proud that WEA will advocate to bring to light the true histories of marginalized communities. Ethnic studies is what our students want!

Best Report: WEA Children’s Fund Report. We have assisted over a 1000 students alone this year!

Most touching moment at the microphone: When Peña shared about his daughter to pass NBI 22 – Let’s talk about Mental health. Left everyone emotional.

Best experience when RA was at recess: Hanging out with Mukilteo Family.

Best experience when RA was at recess: I had a great time at RA! Can’t wait to come back again.

Tory Kartchner (MA)

Mukilteo had a great group of educators representing MEAs interests!

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Her life history is so interesting and highlights the important role we have as educators in shaping the lives of our students.

Favorite NBIs: Three that were referred to committee: 15 (No Longer Fair: The Janus Ruling and Non-Member Representation), 30 (Post Janus Organizing) and 62 (Post-Janus Funding Recommendations). There were many important and meaningful NBIs this year around several issues. Because of the upcoming Janus case, I was most interested in NBI related to preparing the association for that decision.

Report I found most interesting: WEA-PAC. The WEA-PAC report was very informative—Mukilteo is doing awesome on WEAPAC membership, but we still have room to improve!
Carlee Savage (LS)

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote: “Teachers are the intersection between here and the future.”
Favorite NBI: 25 (School Psychologist Recommended FTE Ratio of 1 FTE for every 500-700 students, Based on District Needs). With so many emotionally impacted students at our school, we desperately need more than a part-time psychologist.
Report I found most interesting: WEA-PAC. Our Pilchuck UniServ Council is #1 in the state, but there are still many members to approach and recruit in order to continue our successful political presence in Olympia.
Most poignant moment: We had an amazing opportunity to rally on 4/20 with local high school students, as well as hear emotionally-charged speeches by a teacher and a student survivor of active shooter attacks in public schools.
Final thoughts: I am returning from the WEA-RA a changed person in so many ways. Professionally, I’ve become energized, more motivated, appreciated, empowered, and dedicated to being the best teacher and advocate for my students. Having a direct impact on which issues will be the priorities of WEA is a powerful experience.

Molly Addicott (PP)

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote: “We are better than our divisiveness. We are better than our differences. We have more in common than ever before.”
Favorite NBI: 5 (WaKIDS Support). WaKIDS almost killed me this year! Kindergarten teachers need more support!
Favorite Continuing Resolution Amendment: I-1 (Control of Deadly Weapons and Firearms Safety). I do not want to carry a gun at school. Schools should not feel like prisons.
Most interesting report: WEA-PAC. Mukilteo and Pilchuck are at the top! Most memorable speaker: Glenn with two “Ns”.
Best experience when RA was at recess: Getting to know my fellow delegates.
Most memorable moments: The rally led by Spokane students, and hearing from Kai Koerber, a Marjory Stoneman Douglas student. These students are very well-spoken.
What I learned about my MEA President: Dana always tries to have the smallest head in group pictures!

Fiona Rimstad (PP)

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote: “You are trusted and speak the truth. The time is now!”
Favorite NBI: 5 (WaKIDS Support). As a Kindergarten teacher teaching all-day Kindergarten and doing WaKIDS for the first time was completely stressful. Something needs to change!
Favorite Continuing Resolution Amendment: I-1 (Control of Deadly Weapons and Firearms Safety). We must make schools safe again.
Most interesting report: WEA-PAC. Mukilteo EA and Pilchuck rocks! WooHoo!
Most touching remark: when Kai Koerber, a Marjory Stoneman Douglas student from Parkland, Florida, said, “Our generation will change the future.”
Best experience when RA was at recess: Bonding with other WEA delegates; especially my fellow delegates from MEA!
One final thought: I enjoyed attending the End Gun Violence rally and listening to all the young speakers.

Leslie Dodson (PP/SL)

Speaker that moved me: WEA President Kim Mead. Quote: "No student at any age should feel anything but excitement and awe when they enter a public school.”
Favorite NBI: 34 (Educators Need Trauma Support, Too). Educators that work with physically aggressive, and/or emotionally/mentally challenging students need assistance and encouragement. Going to happy hour to vent after work simply isn’t enough. Teaching can be exhausting and stressful. I really like the idea of having support to deal with on-the-job physical and emotional trauma in order to increase job satisfaction and personal well-being.
Favorite Continuing Resolution Amendment: I-1 (Control of Deadly Weapons and Firearms Safety). #Enough Report I found most interesting: WEA-PAC. We’re 19 people away from having 75% membership – not too shabby!
Best experience when RA was at recess: I really enjoyed spending time with the middle school and high school teachers. They were super fun and kept me entertained!
Reflections as a new delegate: This was a great experience! It was enlightening to see how/what we vote on. I’m hoping to come back again!
Kaley Mitchell (VO)

Speaker that moved me: WEA President Kim Mead. Quote: “Students have the right to go to a school that does not look like, sound like, or resemble anything like a prison.”

Favorite NBI: 22 (Let’s Talk about Mental Health). We need mental health therapists in my building to support our students; counselors are not mental health therapists. I also spoke on the microphone in favor of an NBI that is quite important to me personally: NBI 54 (Student to School Counselor Ratios and Overage).

Most interesting report: WEA-PAC. I never realized how high MEA support for WEA-PAC was when compared to other locals. I also learned how important elections are for our state. And, WEA-RA helped me understand the Janus case more clearly.

Most touching moment at the microphone: When WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu talked about how educators were the first gay couple to be married; so interesting!

Best experience when RA was at recess: Our delegate dinner at Steam Plant was awesome! I was so happy that Dana organized this special bonding time.

As a first time delegate to WEA-RA: I had so much fun and learned so much. The highlight for me was speaking at the microphone as an individual in support of student-to-counselor ratios and overage pay.

Afterward, the WSCA (Washington State Counselor Association) President approached me and asked if I could help her lobby in Olympia and give testimony to the work we are doing as school counselors. I am excited to continue my work as a social justice advocate in the field of education… specifically around school counselors. My experience at RA reignited that!

Anna Guy (VO)

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote: “The law does not care what you believe…the law is the great equalizer.”

Favorite NBI: 1 (Protecting Educators Who Use LGBTQ Content). This is personal. There is a lack of content, be it YA novels, learning about Stonewall…or having classroom discussions around discrimination and educating kids and adults around gender expression and identity as well as pronouns. Having LGBTQ+ or questioning students be able to see themselves in the texts…to have visibility is very important.

Report I found most interesting: WEA-PAC. This is all new to me…I am really seeing the need for political action.

Best experience when RA was at recess: Dinner at Stacks at Steam Plant. I enjoyed the time spent with fellow Mukilteo delegates.

As a first time delegate to WEA-RA: Having no expectations for this event, I just walked in ‘wide-eyed’ and in some respects, overwhelmed with what was going on. Reflecting on the weekend, I learned what it must be like to work in a legislative setting (in government). The structure…the debate…the amendments… I feel honored to have been entrusted to be part of this event. To lend my perspective, to engage with my colleagues in the work of our union and our profession – as educators (and anyone who works in a school is an educator). The bonding with my fellow educators is invaluable, as well. I would love to return. I would love to take part in this event on a national level. Fantastic and humbling experience.

Phil Falk (PP)

Speaker that moved me: WA Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu. Quote: “The base of power is in local communities. I began to understand power. Power is nothing more than the ability to act.”

Favorite NBI: 58 (Real Class Size Accountability). Currently real class sizes do not match 1351/McCleary levels. This NBI directs WEA to continue to advocate for class sizes that truly reflect I-1351/McCleary levels without the factors that cause ratios to appear artificially low, and explore ways to advocate for state laws that hold districts accountable to count class size in a manner that reflects the daily experience of teachers and students. (i.e., student in the class to the classroom teacher).

Most interesting report: WEA-PAC. Pilchuck (that’s us!) is number one in membership across the state. Mukilteo is currently fourth in standing compared to the other Pilchuck locals.

Most touching moments at the microphone: It’s a tie between two people who are both Mukilteo delegates. Anna Guy and Michael Peña sharing their personal experiences speaking in support of important NBIs.

Best experience when RA was at recess: Sharing time with other educators and eating incredible food at Blackbird in Spokane. If you can go there have the Filthy Fries and the Wings. MMMMM Good!

Something I learned: While having a discussion with a friend from Shoreline EA on the day of the Rally for Sensible Gun Control he mentioned a conversation he had recently had with his mom. She told him that the process of change is difficult and takes time and can even seem hopeless. She said that the gun control argument reminded her of two occasions from her youth that were incredibly disputed and created great divides among people. The first was seatbelts in cars, which now is like a no-brainer. The second was the argument that smoking was hazardous to your health and should be regulated. It gives me hope for the argument for sensible gun control.
Bargaining Support Team

Thank you to the members that have volunteered to represent their buildings as a member of the MEA Bargaining Support Team! Please thank them for their contributions to MEA. The BST will meet next week, where they will get an update on MEA’s demand to bargain. They will also help determine plans for communicating with members throughout June and the rest of the summer. If you would like to pitch in and join the cause as an additional BST member for your building, email Dana at dwiebe@washingtonea.org.

Important: make sure you have updated your contact information with your BST representatives so they will have your most accurate contact information. Also, you will have the opportunity to opt-in to text updates!

Once again, please take a moment to tell your representative(s) “thank you” for representing you!

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<th>2018 BST Representatives</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACES</td>
<td>Heather Collins</td>
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<td>CH</td>
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<td>Fiona Rimstad, Phil Falk, Molly Addicott</td>
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<td>Heather Dolan</td>
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<td>VO</td>
<td>Jessica Gamet, Anna Guy</td>
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Save the Date!

BST MEETING:
Tuesday, May 29th
4:00 – 5:00
TLC Room 134

General Membership Meeting:
Kamiak PAC – June 11, 4:00 p.m.!

More information will be forthcoming…
Procedures for Transfers During the Summer

If the District has continuing positions available for transfer during the summer, they will be listed online as they become available. Employees wishing to apply for any of the posted vacancies must apply online no later than three (3) work days after the posting date.

When vacancies occur during the summer months, the following procedure, in addition to the other procedures outlined herein, shall be observed:

(a) Employees with specific interests in possible vacancies must notify the Human Resources Office of their interest in writing during the last regular week of school and in no event later than June 30. The notice shall include a summer address and telephone number as well as an alternative phone number where the employee can be contacted.

(b) When a vacancy occurs during the summer and an employee has expressed a transfer interest in a position similar to the vacancy, the Human Resources Office shall make all diligent efforts to notify the employee.

(c) The employee shall indicate to the Human Resources Office whether they are interested in the specific vacancy when notified. All interested employees will be considered for the position pursuant to the criteria outlined in this section.

Membership Matters: MukRoe at the Mariners!

Monroe EA and Mukilteo EA are excited to announce our first joint Membership Matters event: Mariners vs. Tampa Bay Rays on Friday, June 1st, at 7:10 p.m.

The first 10,000 fans receive Mariner Pajama Bottoms!

SEE YOUR BUILDING REP TO FIND OUT HOW TO GET TICKETS AT $13 PER SEAT!

**$14.43 with taxes and fees

Arrive early to take advantage of extended happy hour in The ’Pen, Edgar's Cantina, Edgar's Home Run Porch presented by Sol & View Level concession stands until first pitch.

2017 – 2018 MEA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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