

Cross Currents

A publication of the Mukilteo Education Association

Important Dates

March 4th

LIT Day

K-5: Employee -Directed

6-12: Principal -Directed

1st Transfer Posting

(Closes March 9th)

March 11th

LIT Day

K-5, 9-12: Principal-Directed

6-8: Employee - Directed

March 18th

LIT Day

K-8: Report Card Preparation

(End of Trimester 2)

9-12: Employee-Directed

2nd Transfer Posting

(Closes March 23rd)

March 25th

LIT Day

K-8: Employee-Directed

9-12: District-Directed

April 1st

LIT Day

K-8: District Directed

9-12: Employee-Directed

3rd Transfer Posting

(Closes April 6th)

April 8th

LIT Day:

K-8: Employee-Directed

9-12: Report Card Prep

April 11-15:

Spring Break

Like Mukilteo Education Association on Facebook!

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MEA Executive Board Election Results

Thank you to the members that participated in the recent MEA election process. These educators will devote their time and talents to represent your interests as elected members of the 2022-2024 Executive Board.



- **Vice President:** Molly Addicott (PI – K)
- **Secretary:** Kari Woodard (FA – 5th)
- **Member-at-Large:** Darcia Ramos (EX – Mathematics)
- **MECU Representative:** Philip Falk (PI – PE)

MEA Election Results for WEA Representative Assembly



The virtual WEA Representative Assembly will be April 7-9. WEA-RA is the highest decision-making body of the Washington Education Association. MEA members have elected the following delegates to represent us:

Philip Falk (PI)

Anna Blankinship (VO)

Colette Dahl (HP)

Molly Addicott (PI)

Nardos Habtemicael (CH)

Angelie Seng (CH)

Susan Cedar (MA)

EunJee Kang (VO)

Cable Smith (SL)

Monica Chamberlain (PI)

Sonya-Prajna Patrick (MA)

Roni Cook (HP)

Mukilteo Voters Pass Two Property Tax Levies!

Mukilteo School District's Educational Programs Levy (Proposition 1) passed by ~57%. The district's Capital Projects Levy (Proposition 2) passed by ~56%

The renewal of the Educational Programs Levy funds critical day-to-day school operations, including educator salaries, substitutes, special education, and extracurricular activities like athletics and music.

The renewal of the Capital Projects Levy continues our investment in student and employee technology. This levy funds student computers and updates to technology programs and systems to ensure district students and employees have the most up-to-date learning supports. It also supports facility needs such as ventilation, security camera updates and other building maintenance to keep schools safe places to learn and work.

Know your CBA: Assignment, Vacancies and Transfer

The 2019 -2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement outlines member rights in terms of Assignment, Vacancies and Transfer Section (Article IV, Sections 11–12, pp. 26-31.) The process for voluntary transfers begins in March and will continue through the summer. A list of known vacancies will be posted on the District's website according to the following schedule:

- (1) **March 4** (closing on March 9)
- (2) **March 18** (closing on March 23)
- (3) **April 1** (closing on April 6)
- (4) **April 22** (closing on April 27)
- (5) **May 6** (closing on May 11)
- (6) **May 20** (closing on May 25)
- (7) **June 3** (closing on June 8)



Summer Vacancies:

Vacancies occurring after the last day of school and prior to July 15 will be posted for transfer. 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 or **no 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 this period 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.

Vacancies occurring on or after July 15 will not be posted for transfer. However, employees who have expressed an interest in specific vacancies as noted in a. above will be eligible for transfer. Procedures b. and c. above shall apply.

Transfer language applicable to ESAs:

ESAs (SLPs, OTs, PTs, Nurses, and Psychologists):

- Prior to hiring any additional ESAs, the District will offer its part-time staff the additional FTE based on seniority unless the specific assignment of the additional FTE results in inefficient use of service time.
- By April 1, employees shall be provided the opportunity to advise the Director of Special Education or designee of employee preferences for assignments.
- The Director of Special Education or designee shall consider employee preferences when an opening exists, and shall notify, in writing, each teacher whose request(s) for a new assignment was not granted and the reason(s) for not granting the request(s).
- One (1) day of released time or additional compensation paid at per diem will be given to the teacher who is making an involuntary reassignment which requires moving their office to a new worksite. The District will provide transportation of an employee's materials for a voluntary or involuntary move to another worksite.

Union Benefit: Helping Your Students in Need



Do you know students whose families can't afford to buy a warm coat, a new pair of boots or basic school supplies? [The WEA Children's Fund](#) can help! The Children's Fund reimburses WEA members who buy items for underprivileged students. [Prior approval is required](#) for reimbursement. Approved requests will be reimbursed provided receipts are submitted within 30 days of your approval and [adhere to the guidelines](#). The goal of the WEA Children's Fund is to help meet the modest and immediate needs of students encountered by WEA members in their daily workplaces. The intent is to ensure that the physical, social and emotional needs of students do not stand in the way of success within the school setting.

MEA also encourages members to support the WEA Children's Fund. For example, if you are shopping at Amazon.com or Fred Meyer, some of your dollars can be sent to the Children's Fund at no extra charge to you. For Amazon purchases, [please use Amazon Smile and select WEA Children's Fund](#) as your charity; the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. [At Fred Meyer, use Community Rewards](#) to select WEA Children's Fund as your organization to support. Fred Meyer will make a donation to the Children's Fund based on the total purchase amount from supporters.

2022 WEA-Retired Scholarships

WEA-Retired is offering [up to ten \\$1,000 nonrenewable scholarships](#) to aid WEA members in enhancing skills in specific education areas and/or attaining or maintaining a teaching certificate. The scholarships cannot be used to pay for incurred debt for past classes or reimbursement for pre-paid classes. To apply, you must be a WEA member. Applications must include two items: a [coversheet](#) and a [letter of application](#). The [completed coversheet](#) and [application letter](#) must be received by **March 10, 2022**.



Member Benefit: Pilchuck Pre-Retirement Seminar

Pilchuck will be offering three pre-retirement seminars (Taking Charge of Your Future) this spring: March 2 and 5, April 20 and 23, and May 12 and 14. Please [download, print, complete and mail the registration form](#), if you'd like to attend.

Our seminars are open to Pilchuck NEA/WEA/Local EA members only, and are held Wednesday or Thursday evenings (5:30-8:30 p.m.) and all-day Saturday (9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. with a lunch break) via zoom.

Some of the subjects covered include Retirement Plans I, II and III; Social Security/Medicare; estate planning; health/medical insurance; PERS and TRS; and transitions (working to retirement).

Each seminar is limited to 25 people. These seminars fill quickly, so please be sure to [register early](#) and indicate your first and second choice for the session(s) you would like to attend. [Download registration form](#) and get started. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [Shelly Lamb](#) at Pilchuck or call 425-258-3697.

Member Benefit: Free WEA Professional Development

WEA's Inclusionary Practices Project (IPP) and Special Education Support Center (SESC) are providing professional development via Zoom ([Flyer with more info](#)). Register for each course ([REGISTER HERE](#)). Select the course you want to register for in the drop down menu. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom pre-registration link. Once registration is full, the course will no longer be available in the drop down menu. We do not maintain a wait list. Courses are available for free to all MEA members. Clock hours will be provided within 5-10 business days.



Synchronous Classes this Month:

- The Parents' Perspective: Teamwork: Caregivers and Educators Working Together (4 Hours)
- Inclusionary Practices Series: The How of Learning: The Action & Expression Network w/Katie Novak (1.5 hours)
- The Attuned K-12 Educator: Accelerating Literacy (6 hours)
- Sensory Strategies in the Inclusive Classroom (6 hours)
- Coaching and Mentoring for Equitable Educational Outcomes (6 Hours)
- Early Childhood and Preschoolers with Autism (6 hours)
- Coaching and Mentoring of Inclusionary Behavioral Strategies (6 Hours)

Asynchronous Classes:

Additionally, WEA's Inclusionary Practices Project (IPP) is providing 51 asynchronous professional development courses with up to 166 hours of professional development credit possible including 60 hours of STEM. These courses were created with flexibility in mind, hence there are no due dates for discussions or assignments, except for the final deadlines each year. You will move through the course at your own pace. Think of the course like a book with some interaction. While there are no due dates for the asynchronous classes, there are some important deadlines listed on the website. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Goldstein, Pilchuck UniServ Council Director.

[Link to WEA Asynchronous Course Webpage](#)

2021 – 2022 MEA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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