

CONNECTIONS

WEA-SAMMAMISH
UNISERV COUNCIL

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: NEW YEAR'S PREDICTIONS

Here are my predictions for the new year:

*WEA-Sammamish UniServ Council will continue to be the most politically influential council in the state.

* Several of our locals will bargain competitive contracts, helping members be more effective educators and improve compensation in the highest cost of living region in the state.

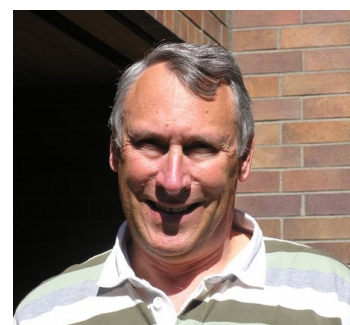
*There will continue to be a lot of "talk" from state education leaders (governor/legislators) about the need to move Washington from 47th in class size and dead last in compensation in the western states.

*WASL tests will continue to cut away valuable class time and student learning opportunities for a comprehensive education.

*More and more association members will stand up and be heard since they are the people that the public trusts the most on education issues.

*One year from now WEA will be the voice of *Taking the lead* as we head into the next state biennium and the subsequent long legislative session.

* The state constitution will continue to proclaim education as the paramount duty of the state. The State Supreme Court will be closer to a decision that by any measure the state is not living up to that duty.



ART GALLOWAY
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Learn About Pro Cert and National Boards

Are you contemplating the Professional Teacher Certificate (Pro Cert) program or becoming a National Board Certified Teacher? Please join us on Tuesday, Jan. 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. for an evening with Jim Meadows, WEA instruction, certification and higher ed specialist, as he explains the process of obtaining these certificates.

The New Educator Caucus is geared toward new teachers, librarians, counselors, psychologists, and specialists in the first five years of their careers. The monthly sessions provide the opportunity to meet others who are in similar situations, to discuss issues that are of concern to you, to learn from the pros, and to have a great dinner.

All of this is available at no cost, while allowing you to earn clock hours for a \$5 fee as long as you attend at least 2 sessions. Please contact Charlotte Cole at ccole@washingtonea.org if you would like to register.



Join us on January 15
New Educator Caucus
and
Jim Meadows

We will meet in the
cafeteria at Sammamish
High School in Bellevue.

E-mail
ccole@washingtonea.org
if you are interested in
attending.

NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to these teachers, who have successfully completed the rigorous requirements to earn the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certificate:

Bellevue EA—Jean Bolivar, Susan Challancin, Marisa Corso, Lisa Dossett, Nicole Drinkwine, Sarah Fletcher, Daniel Gallagher, Laura Ann Gardner, Christina Goebel, Sharon Henry, Hope Isitt, Jennie Johnson, Jung Ah Johnson, Andrea Keenan, Barbara Kelly, Karin Klein, Pamela Lawlor, Nicole Lijegren, Kimberly McClanahan, Bryce Mercer, Andrea Newell, Michael O’Byrne, Janie Okawa, Alison Pendlebury, Susan Peterson, William Rahr, Lori Renner, Jeffrey Rierson, Andrew Rubesch, Stacia Shafor, Lashone Singleton, Jennifer Sorenson, Jillian Sorenson, Elizabeth Walker, Jennifer Wikrent; **Issaquah EA**—Stephen Darnell, Angela Hammang, Sarah Saredidine, Benjamin Sorenson, Gretel Von Bargaen; **Lake Washington EA**—Shelly Bean, Katherine Berten, Cynthia Cantwell, Marc Clauson, Linda Dauer, Debra Ellis, Kathleen Fleming, David Friedman, Christine Gentes, Ryan Gilbert, Laurie Gogic, Carol Hinrichs, Stephen Hynden, Shannon Leonard, Mary Lewis, Marion Mays, Paul Miller, Erlend Peterson, Kristin Ramey, Gerald Romano, Ruth Schemmel, Gregory Shelton, Brian Wikrent; **Mercer Island EA**—Stacy Cho, Rose Gifford; **Riverview EA**—Janet Laverne, Teresa O’Shea, Lisa Powers-Hwang; **Tahoma EA**—Pauline Seger.

Lake Washington Educational Support Professionals (LWESP) Receives WEA Grant for Living Wage Campaign



One of our locals, Lake Washington ESP, is one of three local associations chosen by WEA to receive a special grant supporting its campaign for a living wage for its members. Sadly and surprisingly, ESP members, even at the top of their pay scales, make too little to afford even the most basic expenses of living in the area near where they work. The Living Wage Campaign is a multi-year project requiring significant commitment from both the leadership and the membership.

Take the lead.
Restoring Washington’s Commitment to Great Public Schools

LWESP will be going to the bargaining table in the spring of 2009. The campaign will educate its members, fellow staff, and the local community about a Living Wage and what it means to our ESP colleagues.

Special Ed Online Courses

WEA is offering two 10-hour special education courses from Feb. 4-18 on “Legal Issues in Serving Students with Special Health Issues” and “Overview of the Adult Services Systems.” The cost of each course is \$60 with the option of 3 college credits from Seattle Pacific University or 10-clock hour credits.

To download the registration form, go to the WEA website at www.washingtonea.org and pull down Quick Links to Special Education. The deadline for registration is February 1.

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Council Calendar

Sammamish Unified Bargaining (SUB) Meeting	1/7
Presidents and Council Meeting	1/7
New Educator Caucus	1/15
Pre-Retirement Seminar	2/1 2/2

WEA-SAMMAMISH

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Executive Board

President—Art Galloway Vice President—Neva Luke
Treasurer—Mike Blodgett Secretary—Michele Miller