



# Welcome to WEA!



**We are your union.** Welcome to the Washington Education Association (WEA) and the National Education Association (NEA), our state and national public education family. Membership gives you the benefit of strength in numbers and a connection with other educators who believe in the promise of public education. Together, we stand strong for our students and for our profession.

We represent employees in nearly every public school district in Washington. We are the state's largest public employee union and the most powerful voice and advocate for public education. Joining means you have access to ...

## Quality professional development

- We support one another in becoming better educators.
- Whether you are a teacher or education support professional navigating evaluation and certification rules, figuring out how to better implement the Common Core State Standards, wanting to become nationally certified, or wanting to improve your leadership skills, we offer cutting edge professional development accessible all over our state.
- Our WEA Professional Development Network provides trainings for certificated and classified staff on a variety of topics reflecting our members' interests. Our classes are developed, reviewed and led by member educators and staff who know and understand what works in the classroom. Classes and workshops are offered at discounted prices or no cost to members. We offer valuable clock hours and credit to help you keep on top of your game.
- Learn more about the Professional Development Network at [www.WashingtonEA.org](http://www.WashingtonEA.org)

## Better pay and benefits through local representation

- Our pay, benefits and working conditions are bargained into a local contract by members, union leaders and staff. We turn to you to know the issues and concerns you care about to make sure our interests are reflected in our contracts.
- Our local associations bargain hard to meet the specific needs of our members, including benefits like paid time for digging deeper into new requirements, increased compensation, and other working condition improvements.



## Impact on public policy

- Education shouldn't be a partisan issue. We support people and policies that are good for public education and public educators. We are active in supporting levies, issues and candidates at the local, state and national levels to promote pro-education outcomes that improve your life and work.
- One voice can be powerful. Collectively, 85,000 voices are nearly unstoppable. Together, we create a strong and credible voice in debates to advance legislation and policies that benefit our students, public schools and school employees.
- WEA is focused on reducing class sizes, ensuring full funding for public education and improving compensation and benefits for public school employees.
- Learn more at [www.WashingtonEA.org/ourvoice/](http://www.WashingtonEA.org/ourvoice/)

## Stretching your dollars

- Membership includes access to NEA Member Benefits, which offers a variety of ways to help you save money, whether on daily purchases, insurance or supplemental retirement savings. The NEA Member Benefits program works with highly trusted vendors who provide high-quality customer services and products.
- Learn more at [www.neamb.com](http://www.neamb.com)

## Our voice — our priorities

- As members of WEA, we have a voice in running our Association. We engage in decision-making in our buildings, local, state and national associations. Together, we decide the issues our union champions, such as working conditions in our schools and improving the quality of education for all of our students.

## What if?

- Most of us don't want to think about what happens if things go wrong. Joining WEA enables us to have peace of mind. We provide a variety of services to help navigate through difficult times, if the need arises:
  - Attorney Referral Program – two free attorney consultations and discount on personal legal services.
  - WEA Legal Defense Program – pays the attorney fees to defend you if your employer takes action (e.g. discharge, non-renewal) which is not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.
  - NEA Liability Insurance (includes \$1,000,000 of employment liability insurance protection).



P.O. Box 9100  
Federal Way, WA 98063-9100

## We're here for you.

Please feel free to contact us any time with a question, concern, idea or any other feedback. We look forward to working together and encourage you to learn more.

My Building Rep and Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

My Local President and Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

My UniServ Council Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

[www.WashingtonEA.org](http://www.WashingtonEA.org)