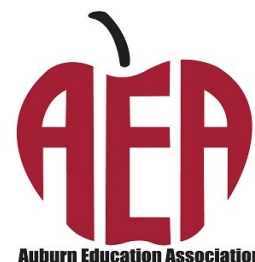


# IN THE KNOW



Auburn Education Association

November 18, 2016

## Pres Says....

Union updates: What does my union do for me?

Local Level:

I am pleased to announce that the volunteer AEA grant committee just finished evaluating the grant requests. I am proud to share that seventy three requests were granted. Teachers asked for such things as: headphones, subscriptions, Spanish readers, SLP/SLC tools, non-fiction books for the classroom, and many other items that will be put to good use. We are in the process of notifying all who applied for grants.

Council level:

Beginning this year, our PSUC staff will periodically provide leadership/topical trainings at our Representative Council meetings. Staff will continue attending Labor Management Team meetings as needed, as well as meet with the AEA president and the Human Resources Assistant Superintendent on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

We have set a huge goal to visit individually with each of you during this year. WEA staff will help Council staff and Local Leadership to conduct these brief meetings. There will be more information on this as plans unfold.

State Level:

Earlier in the year WEA Benefit Services Advisory Board (BSAB) contracted with a local company, Gnosis Research to survey a random selection of WEA plan participants regarding insurance. As a result of the survey, it was determined that the (BSAB) would send out a request to qualified insurance companies (including Premera) to submit an (RFP) request for proposal. The BSAB will meet in January to review the responses and identify finalists to recommend to the WEA Board. It is anticipated that the WEA Board will make a final decision in early 2017 for the 2017-2018 plan year which starts November 1, 2017.

Upcoming opportunity:

AEA is looking into hiring buses for a statewide rally in Olympia. This event will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. As plans develop, I will keep you informed. I envision a sea of AEA members participating to let our legislators know that funding McCleary MUST HAPPEN THIS SESSION.

As we near Thanksgiving, I am personally thankful in my professional life for this wide network of people working for each of us. I wish that all of you find something for which you are grateful.

Dianne

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# WEA, Why be a member?

Your membership in WEA means you have the support of the National Education Association (NEA), our state's Washington Education Association (WEA), your regional UniServ council (Puget Sound), and your local education association (AEA). In addition, members can belong to affiliated groups including WEA-Retired, WEA Higher Education, and Student WEA. Being a WEA member means:

- Accurate information amid a changing landscape in education
- Support in bargaining your local contract
- A strong voice in the Washington Legislature
- Professional development opportunities to help keep your skills sharp
- Eligibility to attend cohorts for obtaining ProTeach and National Board Certification
- \$3 million on-the-job educator employment liability insurance coverage
- Legal assistance from WEA attorneys
- Resources to help in the classroom
- Access to grants from the WEA Children's Fund, which benefits needy children
- Opportunity to attend pre-retirement seminars presented by WEA-Retired
- Money-saving discounts to help stretch your paychecks
- A community of dedicated educators

Don't miss out on these benefits of membership! [Join Today!](#)

## Focus Day 2017

Monday January 16th 2017, Martin Luther King Day, the WEA, AEA and WSPTA are on attending a statewide rally in Olympia.

Auburn Education Association is looking into chartering a bus to join in the days program. This is your chance to stand up and let your voice be heard.

We are looking to fill a bus from Auburn! Join 50-60 of your fellow educators .

***Are you interested in joining us?*** If so please email [office@auburnea.org](mailto:office@auburnea.org)

**AEA Office**

**1802 A Street SE, Suite B**

**Auburn, WA 98002**

**253-804-6010 or [office@auburnea.org](mailto:office@auburnea.org)**

**UniServ Rep: [Debbie Bickert](#)**

**Field Assistant: [Kim Thomas](#)**

**Field Assistant: [Albina Terpay](#)**

## Like us on Facebook!

Did you know that the AEA is on [Facebook?](#) Please take a moment to check us out! .

### Engaging in appropriate conversations.

Sometimes it can be hard to avoid uncomfortable details about current events or stay away from the lurid details of wars throughout history.

However, it's important to keep the classroom a safe haven for your students, as well as build and keep their trust and respect, both in and out of the classroom. Here are some points to consider when you have conversations and discussions with students.

#### Politics and Persuasions

Discussing politics in the classroom requires a careful, light-handed approach. Teachers want to encourage exciting and challenging discussions, but not push their own agenda on the students.

Be sure to use a balanced approach by presenting both sides to your class.

#### Personal Life

- **Online:** Don't "friend" your students and keep your profiles private.

**In person:** Exercise caution in discussing personal topics. Your students don't need to know the details of your night out on the town.

#### Perfect Timing

There's a time and place for private conversations with students. Don't waste valuable class time by engaging in what should be private chats. Bring up the issue before the bell rings or after class is over.

#### Professional Gossip

Don't even think about bad-mouthing other teachers or students to your class. You'll lose their trust and potentially your job.

So, what topics of conversation are appropriate for teacher and students? Topics that take into consideration the ages, sensibilities, and sophistication of your students.

## AEA Officers and

### Executive Committee:

#### President:

Dianne Jordan

AEA Office / 253-804-6010 or  
[pres@auburnea.org](mailto:pres@auburnea.org)

#### Vice President:

Paul Cooper / Olympic MS

#### Treasurer:

Steve Goliff / LeaHill

#### Recorder:

Anne Clark / Mt. Baker MS

#### Member Awareness Chairperson:

Chris Wilson / Rainier MS

#### High School Rep:

Mike Van Eaton / ARHS

#### Middle School Rep:

Aaron Cowan / Mt. Baker MS

#### Intermediate Rep:

Leah McIntyre / Terminal Park

#### Primary Rep:

Sandra Robinson / Dick Scobee

#### Special Education Rep:

Shelley Warner / AHS

#### Career & Tech. Ed. Rep:

Jim Wickens / ARHS

#### ESA Rep:

Verne Qualls / Annex

# December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Exec Board	6	7	8	9 Bios due back	10
11	12 School Board	13 LMT meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19 Rep Council	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## December

5th Executive Board Meeting

9th WEA/NEA Nomination and acceptance and bios due back

12th School Board Meeting

13th LMT Meeting

19th Rep Council Meeting

21st-31st Winter Break (through Jan 3rd)

31st New Years Eve