

Dear IEA Members,

Below you will find information about the following topics:

- 1) IEA Election Results
- 2) February 11<sup>th</sup> Levy Election
- 3) ISD Calendar Decision
- 4) Regional School Board Listening Sessions
- 5) IEA Happy Hour Events
- 6) Contract information: Reassignment and Transfer Window

- 1) Here are the results of our IEA Elections:

*Officers are elected to two-year terms, which begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020*

IEA President: Derona Burkholder of Sunny Hills Elementary

IEA Vice President: Tori Sylvers of Sunny Hills Elementary

Diversity Representative: Joan King of Liberty High School

Specialist Representative: Emily Combellick of Issaquah High School

Primary Elementary Representative: Nancy Trapp-Chen of Challenger Elementary

We will be sending the following delegates to our WEA Representative Assembly, held in Spokane on April 16-18<sup>th</sup>: Anthony Jackson (IMS); Aubree Clark (IVE); Brandon Clark (Clark); Camille Wright (MMS); Donna Burns (GR/IVE/NC); Gary Arthur (IEA); Heather Schopen (PLMS); Nancy Trapp-Chen (CH); Oracio Valdez (IMS)

IEA will send these five educators to the NEA Representative Assembly, held in Atlanta on July 2-6<sup>th</sup>: Camille Wright (MMS); Derona Burkholder (IEA); Oracio Valdez (IMS); Heather Schopen (PLMS)

Congratulations to all the winners and sincere thanks to all who participate in our elections.

- 2) Levy Election---the levy passed with a 63.5% approval. The McCleary decision (which provided ISD with more than \$40 million for us to bargain improved compensation and some workload relief) has reduced our reliance on locally-derived funding, though the levy still comprises about 13% of the overall budget. We can all breathe a sigh of relief that the levy

has passed! It will bring in about \$104 million over the next two years. MANY thanks to those of you who helped send out nearly 13,000 postcards, sported bumper stickers, helped with sign-waving, and talked to your neighbors about the importance of funding our public schools.

- 3) Calendars---At this writing, we have agreement only about the 2020-21 calendar, and the District has published it on their website. The first student day will fall on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, with the first day for kindergarten students on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>. This means the first PD day (for IEA members in the special education department) will occur on Monday, August 24, with the subsequent days (the 25<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) being five of our seven negotiated non-student per diem days. In December, the District and the Association each sent a team to negotiate potential revisions to the 2020-21 and 2021-22 calendars and we also needed to set the calendar for 2022-23. IEA uses our survey data and member input to determine our priorities, and the District derives its priorities from their own surveys and input gathered from the community. Your bargaining team always strives to represent what the majority of our members tell us matters most to them via our calendar survey. Our membership's priorities have been consistent during each of the past three years, in order of preference---1) keeping spring break at one full week; 2) having two full weeks in December (and consequently three weekends); 3) having a week of February break; 4) finding ways to add some make-up days came in as a lower priority for the majority of our members who responded to the survey. Negotiation involves some reasonable compromise from both parties, and we will let you know when we have reached agreement on the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school year calendars. Please thank our calendar bargainers (Carolyn Santos, Cathy Gilbert, Courtney Teddy, and Greg Harrington) who've spent many hours on this important and complicated issue.
  
- 4) Regional School Board Listening Sessions---the ISD School Board would like time to connect directly with IEA members. This year they have set aside three Wednesday mornings, arranged by High School Feeder Patterns. If you are a middle or high school educator, please consider attending the session that is within your feeder pattern:

- Liberty High School Pattern: Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-9:30 at the Maywood Middle School Library
- Skyline High School Pattern: Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-9:30 at the Pine Lake Middle School Library
- Issaquah High School Pattern (and Gibson Ek): Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Issaquah Middle School Library  
(We shall be looking at a venue to connect with Echo Glen)

The ISD Board will hold similar meetings next year on Wednesday afternoons to engage with our elementary members.

- 5) IEA Member Happy Hours---Please join us at one of our Happy Hour events. This is an unstructured way for us to engage with each other between contract bargains---we will have appetizers and a drink ticket for any IEA member.

*Plateau Area* March 19<sup>th</sup>: 4:00 – 6:30-ish at the Big Block Brewing Company, 3310 East Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE

*Corridor Area* (TO BE ANNOUNCED----we had to reschedule our February HH due to flooding and are working on securing a date and venue)

You are welcome to attend any of the events---the one nearest your feeding pattern or the one that matches your commute home. We hope to see you!

- 6) Article 7 of our contract call out February as the time to complete our reassignment/transfer procedure. Please note that the deadline to submit your request is Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

On Behalf of Our Executive Board,

*Gary Arthur*, President 425-392-2126/office 425-505-3998/mobile [garthur@washingtonea.org](mailto:garthur@washingtonea.org)

*Donna Burns*, Vice President (OT, GR/IV/NC) [BurnsD@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:BurnsD@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Tori Sylvers*, Diversity Rep (5<sup>th</sup> grade, Sunny Hills) [SylversT@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:SylversT@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Katie Carey*, Special Services Rep (LRC1, Cougar Ridge) [CareyK@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:CareyK@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Emily Combellick*, Specialists' Rep (Counselor, Issaquah High) [CombellickE@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:CombellickE@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Kristie Bennett*, High School Rep (Physics and Astronomy, Skyline) [BennettK@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:BennettK@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Courtney Teddy*, Intermediate Elementary Rep (5<sup>th</sup> grade science tech, Clark) [TeddyC@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:TeddyC@issaquah.wednet.edu)

*Nancy Trapp-Chen*, Primary Elementary Rep (Kindergarten, Challenger) [TrappChenN@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:TrappChenN@issaquah.wednet.edu)

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