



ACCESS point

newsletter for wpea's members at cdhl and wssb

4.16/110

Get involved in the superintendent search

We need members from the Washington State School for the Blind and the Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss to take part in the WPEA endorsement process for state Superintendent of Public Instruction. Whether teacher evaluation, professional development, or compensation, the work of OSPI can have a direct effect on staff at the WSSB and the CDHL.

Campaigns are a key moment when politicians need us and are especially willing to listen, so this is a great opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions, and get your voice heard.

Candidates include:

- ◆ Representative **Chris Reykdal** (D-Tumwater)
- ◆ **Robin Fleming**, the health services program administrator for OSPI
- ◆ **Erin Jones**, an education administrator with Tacoma Public Schools
- ◆ Former Representative **Larry Seaquist** (D-Gig Harbor)

We are scheduling interviews with the candidates for Superintendent of Public Instruction in late April or early May. To get involved in the interviews and endorsement process, or to learn more, contact Seamus Petrie, your WPEA lobbyist, at Seamus@WPEA.org.



Teachers at Washington State School of the Blind including Doug Trimble, Judy Koch-Smith, and Paul Baldwin.

Learn more about being a shop steward

Hello CDHL and WSSB members! We are in need of shop stewards at both schools. You may ask yourself what is a shop steward, and is being a shop steward something I would like to do.

Being a WPEA shop steward means you are committed to the WPEA contract and helping your fellow WPEA members know their rights. As a shop steward, you work side by side with WPEA to address issues at the work place. You are the person your fellow members feel comfortable talking to and are confident to work with management to resolve issues.

WPEA makes it easy for you to learn more by offering shop steward training, as well as annual shop steward conferences that enhance your skills and keep you informed.

If you are interested, please contact your WPEA Staff Representative Heather Kafton at 360-972-0149 or heather@wpea.org. Remember, YOU are the union!



**140 Percival Street NW
Olympia WA 98502**

Message from WPEA president

Greetings, member! The staff at WPEA is always trying to communicate better with the membership and this newsletter is one of our main ways of letting you know what's happening.

We have been focused on reaching out more to get your thoughts and ideas on how to improve your worksite. Our staff representatives are working full-time to serve you. We are rolling out union education sessions that we want to make part of your union meetings. And we are preparing for this

year's bargaining to strengthen our contract.

Your contract is where your strength starts as a unified group and we want all of the membership to become familiar with it. Please attend the member meetings and participate in these sessions to learn more about your contract. I want our members to know that at any time they call or email us here at your union headquarters to speak to us regarding issues or concerns.

Solidarity,

Kent Stanford, WPEA President

SINE DIE! The Legislature reaches final budget deal

The House and Senate have arrived at a budget deal and adjourned sine die, 20 days into a special session.

What's in:

- ◆ More than \$7 million in new spending for wildland fire prevention and suppression
- ◆ A new wildland fire prevention program at Wenatchee Valley College
- ◆ Funding for the collective bargaining agreement for family childcare providers

What's not:

- ◆ No new money for pay raises for teachers
- ◆ No elimination of tax loopholes on out-of-state sales, bottled water, or corporate jets

