

NORTHSHORE NEWS

December, 2006

NORTHSHORE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Issue 4



NSEA Calendar

December 2006

- ◆ December 11th: Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm KJH Library
- ◆ December 11th: WA Learns Public Forum, 6:30-8:30 KJH Library
- ◆ December 18th-January 1st: Winter Break; NEA Office Closed

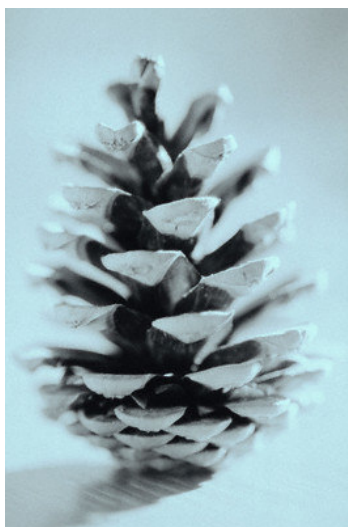
January 2007

- ◆ January 1st: Happy New Year!
- ◆ January 8th: Exec Board Meeting, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm NSEA Office
- ◆ January 8th-11th: WEA-RA & NEA-RA Elections
- ◆ January 15th: No School MLK, Jr. Day; NSEA Office Closed
- ◆ January 22nd: Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm BHS Library
- ◆ January 22nd-February 5th: WEA-PAC drive

February 2007

- ◆ February 5th: Exec Board Meeting, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm NSEA Office
- ◆ February 12th: Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm BHS Library
- ◆ February 19th: No School Presidents' Day
- ◆ February 20th-23rd: Mid-Winter Break No School; NSEA Office

Happy Holidays!



President's Message

Dear Members,

Happy Holidays! I hope this season is full of joy, relaxation, and wonderful family time for one and all. Please take time for just yourself during this break to rejuvenate your soul and prepare for the second half of the school year.

Thanks to those of you who attended the **meetings with legislators** that were held in our area on December 6th and 11th.

It is extremely important for us to keep relaying our message of the dire need to increase school funding! As we move into the upcoming legislative session, I will be seeking the help of all of you to carry this message to our new legislature. The November election has certainly raised my hopes for the beginning of improvement in school funding. The problem will not be solved in a single legislative session, but a solid start can be made to rectify years of neglect. **Please watch for opportunities for you to help carry this message to business leaders, parents, PTA leaders, and our legislators. As Northshore is facing a budget shortfall this year, it is important for all to be involved!**



By the time you read this, the Northshore School Board will have voted on the **school boundary issue**. The vote was delayed at the November 28th Board meeting because of the low public turnout for the meeting due to the snowy weather conditions. Out of respect for the public to again be able to respond to the proposal, the vote was delayed until the December 12th School Board meeting. If you get this message in time and are interested, please attend this board meeting. At the November 28th meeting the School Board eliminated two options, numbers one and three, from consideration. Number one was eliminated due to the impact on junior highs, and number three was eliminated due to cost. I believe the vote will come down to either option two "A" or "B". There is also talk of a phase-in whichever plan is accepted. A decision will need to be made as to whether it is a two or three year phase-in process. This has been a difficult process for all involved, but whatever the decision, we all need to work to make the transition as smooth as possible for all children and staff.

Again please have a safe and relaxing holiday! We will see you next year!

Tim

Imagine Saving a Life



Did you know that every two minutes someone in Western Washington needs a blood transfusion?

Blood and tissue donations can help save a life. To give the ultimate gift this season, please visit the **Puget Sound Blood Center** at www.psbcc.org or call 800-398-7888 for details on donating blood, platelets, and plasma. The Puget Sound Blood Center's website also includes information on how to sign up for the National Bone Marrow Program donor list.

NSEA strongly encourages you to take some time during Winter Break to donate blood, platelets, or plasma if you are able. You may never know the importance of this donation! If you do make a donation, please let the Blood Center know it is in Karen Forsy's name!

Know Your Rights: Student Discipline

Student Discipline

According to state law and Northshore's *Handbook of Rights and Responsibilities*, teachers have the right to exclude disruptive students from their classrooms and students cannot be returned without the teacher's permission or until the teacher and administrator confer and decide otherwise. (This includes *Special Education students*).



Except in emergency situations, teachers must first have tried one or more alternative forms of corrective action before they can exclude a disruptive student. The alternative form of corrective action can have occurred on prior days, however, and does not have to take place on the same day as the disruptive event.

Parent Visitations

Members will have at least 24 hours notice if a parent plans to visit your classroom, and your principal should be notified as well (Article 24.2 of the NSEA/NSD contract). A visitation with less notice can ONLY be arranged with the consent of the principal AND the member.

Harassment & Abuse

Article 24.4 protects teachers from harassment in any form (including e-mail). The contract (in article 22.10) also requires assistance from the District if members suffer insult, abuse, intimidation, or threat of force or violence.

What's Your Number?

What's Your Number stories keep coming in to the NSEA Office. These stories are shared at every School Board meeting and provide the board, the administration, and the community with an insight into the challenges each classroom teacher faces due to inadequate school funding.

Here's a story from Tracey Guyor, a 3rd Grade teacher at Moorlands Elementary:

Number of students in my 3rd grade class: 28.
 Number of bruises on my legs weekly from walking into too many desks: 3-5.
 Number of times a week a given student in my class will have any 1-1 conversations with me: maybe 1-3, depending on if they are persistent.
 Number of minutes to grade one stack of papers: 20 or more.
 Number of stacks of papers to grade a day: 3-5.
 Time I get to bed after correcting papers and planning nightly: midnight.

What's your number? Send your story to the NSEA Office to share with your fellow members in our newsletter.

Classifieds

FEMALE ROOMMATE NEEDED: for 2 bed/2 bath condo, furnished except your room, no pets please, I have a dog and part time cat, non-smoking, and clean. \$700/mo; includes utilities. Contact Lisa Beebe at 206-794-5427.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING SPANISH? I am a certified teacher in Northshore who has tutored all ages in the Spanish language. Your trip to Mexico will be a lot more fun! Please call or email Michelle Ward at 425-894-6216 or wardmeliz@aol.com.

YOUR AD HERE: Email all information to Lydia King at lking@washingtonea.org. Please use your **home** phone number and/or **home** email address. Ads are run on a first come, first serve basis pending available space. Ads may be edited for length.

Have You Joined WEA-PAC?

NSEA's WEA-PAC drive is scheduled for early 2007. As an NSEA member, you are entitled to join WEA-PAC, the political action arm of the WEA. WEA-PAC provides members with a voice in state politics. **Please join WEA-PAC today!** See your Building Rep for a membership form and help us meet our goal of having 20% of our members join WEA-PAC this school year.

Northshore News is a publication of the Northshore Education Association. NSEA is the bargaining agent of the certificated staff of the Northshore School District.

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Member Benefits

Membership has its privileges! As an NSEA member, you are also a WEA and NEA member and are eligible for a number of grants, benefits, and special programs. Find out more at:

- www.washingtonea.org (go to Member/Services and select Member Benefits)
- www.nea.org/member