

# NORTHSHORE NEWS

February, 2007

NORTHSHORE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Issue 6



## NSEA Calendar

### February 2007

- ◆ **February 12<sup>th</sup>:** Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm BHS Library
- ◆ **February 13<sup>th</sup>:** NSD School Board Meeting, 4:00 pm Admin Center
- ◆ **February 19<sup>th</sup>:** No School Presidents' Day
- ◆ **February 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>:** Mid-Winter Break!
- ◆ **February 27<sup>th</sup>:** NSD School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm Admin Center

### March 2007

- ◆ **March 2<sup>nd</sup>:** NEA's Read Across America! See [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org) for more details.
- ◆ **March 5<sup>th</sup>:** Exec Board Meeting, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm NSEA Office
- ◆ **March 5<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>:** Nominations open for NSEA Office. *More info coming soon!*
- ◆ **March 12<sup>th</sup>:** Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm BHS Library
- ◆ **March 13<sup>th</sup>:** NSD School Board Meeting, 4:00 pm Admin Center
- ◆ **March 14<sup>th</sup>:** Mock Rep Assembly for NSEA WEA-RA Delegates, 5:00 pm-8:00 pm Shoreline Center
- ◆ **March 27<sup>th</sup>:** NSD School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm Moorlands Elem
- ◆ **March 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>:** WEA Rep Assembly, Tacoma Convention Center

### April 2007

- ◆ **April 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Exec Board Meeting, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm NSEA Office
- ◆ **April 9-13<sup>th</sup>:** Spring Break!
- ◆ **April 16<sup>th</sup>:** Rep Council Meeting, 4:00-6:00 pm BHS Library

## WEA-PAC Update

Though final numbers are being calculated, NSEA's WEA-PAC drive is shaping up to be a success! NSEA's WEA-PAC membership has already surpassed last year's total number of members. Our WEA-PAC membership has consistently increased over the past three years and we are well on our way to reaching our goal of having 20% of our members join WEA-PAC. If you still haven't joined WEA-PAC, please see your building rep today! Remember: **school funding is a political problem that requires a political solution.**

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Before I talk about the work on the calendar, I want to welcome our new member to the NSEA team. Kraig Peck officially became the WEA UniServ Rep for NSEA on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am SO HAPPY to have the opportunity to work with Kraig. His most recent experience involved working on the WEA Take The Lead Coordinating Team. Please see information about Kraig in the article below. You can contact Kraig at 425 486-7101 x17 or at [kpeck@washingtonea.org](mailto:kpeck@washingtonea.org).

I want everyone to know that if it snows again this month to the degree that we have to close school, I am going to cry! I don't care who witnesses this display of raw emotion, but this has almost become too much to handle! The NSEA and NSD have spent several days discussing the options for making up missed days. Our members responded in large numbers to our calendar survey and that information was forwarded to the bargaining team. A compromise was reached and approved by the NSEA Executive Board. It is anticipated that the school board will approve this compromise at the February 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting. As you have probably heard, the non-student day on March 16<sup>th</sup> will remain a non-student day, non-student days on April 6<sup>th</sup> and May 29<sup>th</sup> will become student days, the last day for students will be June 22<sup>nd</sup>, teachers will report to work on June 25<sup>th</sup> and make up 7 additional hours in teams on days and times of their choice, and June 26<sup>th</sup> will be the final G day. NSEA leadership felt this compromise addressed many of the concerns expressed about make up days. I would like to thank all of those members who expressed gratitude for this creative solution to the rescheduling problem!

The WEA Board of Directors has been busy getting ready for the upcoming Rep Assembly and the opening of the legislative session. The focus is to secure a sizable down payment to improve funding for public education. This is a down payment only and will represent a multi-year effort to move Washington to the top nationally in per student funding. NSEA has a full contingent of representatives for WEA-RA and NEA-RA. NSEA has also met the 20% requirement of ethnic minorities on our team.

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, I traveled to Olympia with Assistant Superintendent John Bond and NSD School Board President BZ Davis to lobby our local legislators. This was done as part of our coordinated work with the Common Ground Alliance. Our message: Fully Fund Education! We spoke to many legislators about the cuts facing all of our districts due to the funding crisis.

If you have not yet joined WEA-PAC this year, I strongly encourage you to do so. The problems we are experiencing with school funding will only be solved with a political solution. If you have never been a WEA-PAC member, today is the time to join! WEA-PAC is the political action committee of WEA. To continue the pressure on our legislature next year will take money. Please help us with the struggle to secure adequate and stable funding for the children of Washington.

Tim

## Welcome, Kraig Peck!

We are pleased to announce that NSEA has a new staff person, Kraig Peck, who came aboard as our UniServ Representative this month. Kraig will be working closely with our leaders and members in bargaining, problem-solving, organizing, political action, and our Take the Lead efforts.

Kraig was part of the WEA's Take The Lead Team for the past year, assisting locals with their TTL efforts. Prior to that, he worked for the Seattle Education Association for 14 years. He also worked for the Service Employees International Union for 11 years, and was a community organizer for 4 years before that.

"My mission is to help NSEA become a powerful advocate for our members, for our students, and for our schools. There is so much to be done. Our compensation, class-sizes, and school funding in Washington are pathetic—even tragic. We have the power to change that if every member participates and we build strong community support. I'll be asking for your participation to make that happen."

Kraig lives in Woodinville. His two grown sons, Louis and Russell Caditz-Peck were educated at Woodmoor Elementary, Leota Junior High, and Woodinville High School.



*NEA's Read Across America is March 2<sup>nd</sup>. See [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org) for details!*

## Rep Assembly Delegates Elected

The ballots have been counted and here are the results of your voting.

The NSEA delegates to the **WEA Rep Assembly**, held March 29-31 in Tacoma are:

Tim Brittell	Steve Johnson	Larry Nakatsu	Julia Smith
Bruce Cameron	Brian Jones	Barb Pope	Peggy Sherman
Greg Domingo	Christy Michaelis	Kathy Rose	Marcus Steele
Katie Drov Dahl	Ken Mortland	Lisa Santee	Patty Trovato
Lynn Emerson	Waneta Larios	Jennifer Schroeder	Michelle Ward

The NSEA delegates to the **NEA Rep Assembly** held in Philadelphia June 30-July 7 are Lynn Emerson, Katie Drov Dahl, and Kathy Rose. Tim Brittell and Steve Johnson will also be at NEA-RA as state delegates. Congratulations, delegates!

## Now Is The Time!

Did you know that our Legislature is making decisions about your work and students right now, as you read this?

For the next 2 ½ months, we have a **window of opportunity** to make real gains. The state has a surplus of \$1.9 billion, large numbers of pro-ed legislators whom we helped elect, and a Governor who has proposed increases in funding (though not nearly enough). **This is our chance to win a substantial down payment on the compensation and funding investments we desperately need.**

### TELL THEM: INVEST IN EDUCATION!

Our building reps and other leaders will be asking you **again and again** to contact your legislators: to write a postcard, send an email or a call, come to a meeting with your legislators (probably Saturday, March 17...hold the date!), and share your "What's My Number" story. **Our power is in your brief participation in these repeated efforts.**

With 80,000 other WEA members, parents, and community supporters, we are seeking these priority investments:

- **Compensation:** Getting a COLA is not enough when we are over \$10,000 behind the West Coast salary average. Time for a raise! And we will not accept the Governor's proposal to cut our pensions, and to increase our share of medical benefit costs.
- **Class Size:** How can we succeed with ALL of our students when we are 46<sup>th</sup> in class size? We need a substantial down payment in reducing class sizes.

### IT TAKES ONE MINUTE!

Don't even wait to be asked. You don't even need to know who your legislators are to tell them what's needed (above).

- **Call the Legislative Hotline: 1-800-562-6000.** Give them your address, and they will tell you who your legislators are. Give them a message (above). Call M-F between 8 AM to 8 PM, or Saturday 9-1. Idea: Call them from your cell phone during lunch. (Don't use school phones.) Takes 1 minute.
- **Email them from [www.washingtonea.org](http://www.washingtonea.org).** From your home computer, go to WEA's website. On the right side, click on "Speak Out For Our Students." This will take you to the automated WEA site that tells you who your legislators are, and let's you send them a pre-written message. Takes 1 minute.

For more information on political issues, use your home computer to go to the Under the Dome section of the WEA website ([www.washingtonea.org](http://www.washingtonea.org), under the Issues/Advocacy/Politics button on the menu bar).

## Classifieds

**SUMMER FUN!** For sale: 1999 18 foot Bayliner Capri Bowrider, one owner, always garaged and winterized. 4.3L Mercruiser engine (190 hp), 171 total engine hours, galvanized trailer, includes full cover, bumpers, life jackets, ropes, and all the water toys. Asking \$9,900. Call Cathy or Todd at (425) 485-3607.

**FOR SALE:** 1972 Triumph Daytona T100R motorcycle. Runs well, recent work, have receipts, 10K original miles, 99% untouched. Pictures on Craig's List. \$3,750 OBO. Call Eric at (206) 634-1831.

## CEA Account Reminder

Please remember that your CEA account cannot be used to purchase classroom supplies. According to our collective bargaining agreement, CEA accounts can be accessed up to three times a year for fees, registrations, sub costs, and materials related specifically to a workshop. See page 94 of the NSEA contract for more information.

Northshore News is a publication of the Northshore Education Association. NSEA is the union and professional organization of the certificated staff of the Northshore School District.

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## Take 5 Campaign

As part of the Take the Lead campaign, you've shared your number story with us, and now we want you to **Take 5!**

In order to move the Legislature, we must educate the public about the need to fully fund public education.

Please talk to five friends, family and community members about what it will take for public education to help every child succeed. Fill out a Take 5 form (available at [www.weacascade.org](http://www.weacascade.org) or from your building rep), send it to the Cascade UniServ office and you will receive a treat!