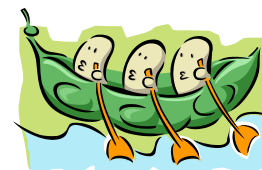


# P.E.A. Patch



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## Why did your ERS look like it went down on your pay stub???

This office had many inquiries this week about the discrepancy. Here is what happened. When the Legislature reduced our pay by 1.9% , which equals about three ERS days, we came to an agreement with the district that our three BPD days would be put into our ERS days so we would not have to really work more for less pay. Now that the 1.9% came back our temporary three extra BPD comes out of ERS and are stand alone giving the impression in our paychecks that our ERS has declined. Not so. We do have two more ERS days coming our way one in the spring and one as a flex to be used in the buildings as decided by your Site/Sip Teams. Hopes this answers some of your questions.

## School Board Endorsement

The Peninsula Education WEA/PAC Committee after hearing both candidates speak at the Building Rep meeting on September 16, 2013 and reviewing the written statements ,provided by the three candidates ,who participated has endorsed incumbent **Rick Jones** . Rick is a strong leader and supporter of the district and our collective bargaining rights. We encourage all members to remember this when voting...always **vote pro education!**

## Registered to vote?

The election is a little over a month away and we want to remind everyone to make sure their voter registration is up-to-date. We have discovered there are staff who are not registered voters. It's not that they did not intend to register when they moved, or missed that last election – it's just that life is so busy and they forgot.

## WEA Children's Fund

Do you know students whose families can't afford to buy a warm coat, a new pair of boots, or basic school supplies? The WEA Children's Fund reimburses WEA members who buy items to meet the modest, immediate needs of their students. Go to " How to Access the Fund" WEA.

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|                |                                           |          |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| President      | Jim Falcocchio                            | 851-8710 |
| Vice President | Carol Rivera ( Goodman Middle School)     | 530-1600 |
| Secretary      | Jennifer Prince ( Gig Harbor High School) | 530-1400 |
| Treasurer      | Karin Ashabraner ( Goodman Middle School) | 530-1600 |

## Big changes coming for National Board certification!

There are significant changes coming next year for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification, so you may want to consider attempting certification this year instead of waiting.

First the good news:

- The new certification process will cost less. The current \$2,500 fee will be reduced to \$1,900, with an option to “pay as you go”.
- Candidates will be able to complete any of the four components in any order.
- Candidates will no longer be required to complete all components within one school year.
- The new process will be more flexible and streamlined, and will reflect the latest research of the teaching profession. Certification was last updated in 2001.
- Washington State is still offering an annual \$5,000 bonus for those who are National Board Certified.

Now the bad news:

- The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards plans to phase in NB 3.0 over the next three school years. This means after this year, **no one will be able to achieve certification until the fall of 2017, and the first \$5,000 bonus check won't be paid until June 2018.**
- Candidates who wish to go through certification in one school year will not be able to do so until 2016-17.

WEA, the Office of Superintendent of Public Education, and the Center for Strengthening the Teaching Profession are gearing up to support the expected influx of new candidates this year once teachers realize they won't get another chance at the \$5,000 bonus until **June 2018.**

**If you are interested in beginning the certification process, the website is [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org).**

### You MUST report suspected child abuse

It is important to know that under Washington state law you are required to report any suspected child abuse or neglect to Children's Protective Services. District policy directs Principals or their designees to make the report, but under the law, employees are not relieved of their responsibility to report if the Principal does not act upon the employee's request. It is important that teachers obtain documentation that a report has been made. Forms should be in the office.

### NEA Member Benefits

1. NEA Auto Insurance
2. NEA ID Theft Protection
3. Home mortgage or equity loans
4. Discount on home and auto purchases.

The legislature has suspended **voter-approved** salary COLAs for school employees for **SIX** years straight.....the result, beginning teacher salaries are \$5,382 less than what they could be.

All certificated salaries are **16.1 % less** than they should be.

**JOIN WEA/PAC HELP ELECT PRO EDUCATION CANDIDATES!**