



# Wachusett Regional Ed. Association



## January 2019 Newsletter - Happy New Year!

### **December HOD Meeting Highlights:**

- **Work of the joint WREA/WRSD PD Committee is ongoing.** Forward questions to WREA representatives on the committee: If you have ideas, please reach out to a WREA member on the committee, Meagan Hughes, at [sixhughes@hotmail.com](mailto:sixhughes@hotmail.com), Kara Buldoc, at [karaibold@gmail.com](mailto:karaibold@gmail.com) or Linda Sasso (in person).
- **MTA statewide petition in support of fully funding public schools** has been distributed to HOD delegates for collection of member signatures. The WRSD School Committee endorsed this petition at their Dec 10, 2018 meeting.
- WREA has successfully advocated for an **increase in sub coverage pay** in hopes of attracting more people and reducing coverage issues.
- The HOD voted to hold a **WREA All Member Winter Social** on a non-half day date in January, date to be determined.
- There was discussion related to the **district proposal to extend two half PD days (Mar and May)** by using an hour of meeting time under Article 13.E.7, for middle school content teachers to continue curriculum alignment work. This proposal creates inequity between the content area MS teachers and other grades/subject areas, and is not the negotiated intention of the contract language. Please see your building/district wide rep for more info. on the status of this issue.

### **Upcoming Meeting, Conference and Workshop Dates:**

- **WRSD School Committee Budget Meeting, 1/7/19**, WRHS Media Center, 7pm
- **WREA Eboard/Superintendent Monthly Meeting, 1/10/19**, 4pm
- **Union Skills Winter Conference, (1/12/19, Saturday)** See below for more information...
- **School Committee Meeting 1/22/19, 7pm WRHS**
- **MTA Next Generation Leadership Program, 1/25-27**, MTA Auburn Office, [massteacher.org/nextgen](http://massteacher.org/nextgen)
- **WREA HOD Meeting, 2/4/19**, Mountview Middle School, Room, 123, 4 pm
- **WRSD School Committee Meeting, 2/11/19**, WRHS Media Center, 7pm
- **MTA Prof. Dev. Conf., 3/2/19, Advocating for/supporting ELL & Spec.Ed. students, Mountview**<<<<<
- **WREA/MTA Member Workshops, 3/12/2019, 4-6pm - Mountview Middle School**<<<<<
  - **Topics:** Getting Professional Status, Advancing to Professional License, Renewing your License, Retirement

### **MTA Union Skills Winter Conference - Sat., Jan. 12, 9-4:30 Sheraton Framingham Hotel**

Join MTA members for a wide variety of 90-minute workshops related to the core activities of local unions. Offerings center on the Fund our Future Campaign, contract enforcement, issue organizing, employee rights, ed policy, professional development, political action and more.

Registration is required and free of charge to MTA members.

**Find the flyer and workshop offerings on the MTA webpage by googling:**

#### **Mta Union Skills Winter Conference**

Session times: 9-10:30, 10:45-12:15, 1:15-2:45, 3-4:30, Luncheon > 12:15-1:15, 4:30-6pm social

**SAVE THE DATE!! 3/12/2019, 4-6pm WREA/MTA Workshops - The WREA is bringing to our district members the following 2 hour workshops:** Getting Professional Status, Advancing to Professional License, Renewing your License, Retirement. The sessions will be going on concurrently, so you may choose what best appeals to you! Mark your calendars now. More information will be coming. Location: Mountview Middle School

## Contract Corner

### ARTICLE - Lane Changes Article 27.E

#### ***What it says:***

All salary schedule placement changes to a higher level of preparation shall be as of September and February of each year.

1. A change documented by October 30th will be effective September 1st.
2. A change documented by February 28th will result in a contract year payment of 50% of the former annual salary and 50% of the increased annual salary.
3. That requests for lane change advancement which include courses that have been taken entirely electronically (i.e., via email and/or the Internet) will include documentation that such course(s) were approved by the superintendent or their designee. Failure to include such documentation may result in such course(s) being disallowed by the district. Members of the association will have the right to meet with the superintendent within ten (10) days of written notification that a course has been disallowed to appeal this decision. It is further agreed that the salary placement of new hires will adhere to this protocol. The parties agree that the superintendent maintains the right to make the final decision and this decision is not grievable.
4. In order to advance to a column beyond the Master's, all applicable credits must be earned after the completion of the Master's Degree.
5. A Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) will only be recognized if the program requires at least thirty (30) graduate credits.
6. Because of the variety of coursework available online, any courses that are submitted for pre-approval will require a comparable amount of coursework/assignments and instructional time when compared to face to face courses. If the Superintendent denies the request, the member will have the opportunity to demonstrate to the Superintendent that coursework does meet conventional requirements by showing syllabi, time spent on the course, assignments completed and other relevant factors.
7. Members who participate in the SEI Endorsement Course as required by the RETELL (Rethinking Equity and Teaching for English Language Learners) will be compensated for participation in the SEI Endorsement Course with three (3) graduate credits (to be used for lane advancement) upon successful completion of the course or successful completion of the online assessment (MTEL). This compensation will be prorated for those taking the "bridge" courses. Members at M/30 or beyond will receive an additional personal day to be used by the end of the following school year.

#### ***What it means:***

**Only courses taken ENTIRELY Online** need to be **pre-approved** by the Superintendent in order for the courses to count towards a lane change. The online courses must require a comparable amount of coursework/assignments and instructional time when compared to face-to-face courses. If the Superintendent denies this request, the member will have the opportunity to prove to the Superintendent that the course was indeed comparable.

**If there are items, articles or topics you'd like to contribute to or see in upcoming issues of this newsletter, please reach out to Stacey Duffy, at [staceyduffywrea@gmail.com](mailto:staceyduffywrea@gmail.com).**