



Wachusett Regional Ed. Association



April 2019 Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE!!

Fund our Future Community Forum

Thursday, April 11, 2019 at WRHS auditorium, 6:00-7:30 pm, with light dinner
Local Legislators will be in attendance.

Discussion will focus on educational funding needs and two pieces of legislation, being brought forward by the Mass Teachers Association:

- o the **PROMISE Act** (K-12 funding)
- o the **CHERISH Act** (Higher Ed. funding)

These bills support students and communities across the Commonwealth. Their focus is to address **shortfalls in funding** for special education, health insurance, low income and ELL students, funding that is owed to school districts, based on the **lack of updates to the Foundation Formula**, and they do so **WITHOUT adding additional educator accountability parameters**.

Share the importance of these bills with families and friends and keep pressure on the legislators who represent YOU. Let's get the right bills passed! **Rep. Kim Ferguson** sits on the committee, hearing these bills, and has not yet signed on with her support. Please join the WREA and other concerned community members at this IMPORTANT event! (Sen Chandler and Sen Gobi are attending our forum to hear your concerns)

.....

Renewing Professional Licensure Workshop

The WREA is once again bringing the following free 2-hour workshop to our members: 4/9/19 4-5:30pm, WREA/MTA Workshop - (Mountview) (rescheduled from March)

Please sign up at <https://goo.gl/forms/yUpzNwV3IMQotR0H2> to reserve your seat.

Any **proposed WREA bylaw changes**, to be considered at the WREA Annual Membership Meeting, on June 3rd, should be submitted to Tracy Kasparian (tracyfieldwrea@gmail.com) by May 13. To access a copy of the current WREA Bylaws, go to our MTA website, at <https://wachusett.massteacher.org> and click on the "Bylaws" link, under the members tab.

HOD Seat Elections - May 2019

If you are interested in becoming more involved in the business of the WREA, why not consider joining the House of Delegates? Any member interested in becoming a delegate should notify the executive board in writing at WREABoard@gmail.com by Mon., 5/13/19. Each building or district wide department has a number of seats available, based on the number of members in the building or department. If applicant numbers exceed positions available, the Election Committee will conduct an election by May 31st, to determine who is elected to the available seats. Stipends apply. Delegate responsibilities can be found in the WREA Bylaws on our MTA website, <https://wachusett.massteacher.org>. Click on the bylaws link, found under the members tab.

March HOD Meeting Highlights:

- **MTA “Fund Our Future” Campaign Update and Forum - April 11, 6-7pm, WRHS**
- **MTA Annual Meeting** is being held on **Friday and Saturday May 3 & 4** at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. WREA is allotted 11 seats. Important items, issues and policies are considered by the annual meeting body, including MTA’s budget, dues, MTA’s priorities for the coming year, and MTA board elections. The MTA deadline is April 16, therefore, **the executive board communicated to the HOD membership, at the March HOD meeting, that we would accept names for our 11 MTA delegate seats until March 20th**, in order to allow adequate time to follow our bylaws, regarding elections, if needed. As we do not yet have 11 people going, please reach out to Tracy Kasparian (tracyfieldwrea@gmail.com), if you are interested in attending. Be involved in state-wide MTA matters! Expenses related to attendance are paid by WREA, including hotel, food and parking.
- See your HOD Building Rep(s) for additional information on the following topics also discussed or to request access to the full March HOD Meeting Minutes.
 - **Sped Task Force Update**
 - **WREA/WRSD PD Committee Update** - If you have ideas, please reach out to a WREA member on the committee, Meagan Hughes, at sixhughes@hotmail.com, Kara Bolduc, at karalbold@gmail.com or Linda Sasso (in person).
 - **PEC Meeting**- potential for negotiation of changes was proposed by the district

You are the Union! The HOD meeting topics are Your Business!

Upcoming Meetings, Workshops, Forums and MTA/NEA Event Dates:

- **4/8/29** **School Committee Meeting**, 7pm, WRHS Media Center
- **4/9/19** **Renewing Professional Licensure Workshop**, 4-6 pm, Mountview
- **4/11/19** **Fund our Future Forum**, 6pm, WRHS Auditorium (with light supper)
- **4/29/19** **School Committee Meeting**, 7pm, WRHS Media Center
- **5/3-5/4/19** **MTA Annual Meeting**, Boston
- **5/6/19** **HOD Meeting**, 4pm, Mountview
- **5/13/19** **WREA Social following full May PD day, more info to follow**
- **6/1/19** Any remaining WREA PD funds become available for additional applications
- **6/3/19** **WREA Annual General Membership Meeting**, 4pm, Mountview
 - (HOD Reps should plan to attend)
- **7/2-7/7/19** **NEA RA**, Houston, TX