



Dear Fellow Members:

Hope you are well. Many of us are at our breaking points and February vacation cannot come soon enough. Here are several updates.

### **Negotiations Update**

WREA was assured we would hear from the district attorney on Thursday, February 10th following our meeting on February 3rd when we countered their offer of 1%. On Monday, February 14th, our VP of Negotiations reached out to find out why we haven't heard from the attorney. He did respond and said they were waiting for the full school committee to meet. On Tuesday, February 15th the full school committee did meet and discussed the proposal. As of Wednesday, February 16th we have no update from the district.

### **Solidarity Actions Needed**

Please join us for our first action to display our solidarity on this **Friday, February 18th**. Join me in **wearing RED for ED**ucation. Wear any read shirt, including but not limited to, you WREA "pink" shirt. (Updates on the new shirts after vacation.)

Share photos with me at [presidentwrea@gmail.com](mailto:presidentwrea@gmail.com) or post on our Facebook page. Names of members who submit a photo will be put into a drawing for a Dunkin Donuts or Sweets and Java gift card.

### **Payroll Changes**

- **.5% increase**

Our 2/18/22 paycheck is our 13th pay period of 26, our increase is expected in the following paycheck on 3/4/22. If I remember correctly from the last time we did a split like this one, the district was a paycheck late and there was a retroactive payment made for one pay period. Here are the pay changes. Again

divide annual total salary on the grid by 26 to get amount listed on your paycheck.

Effective on the ninety-first (91st) teacher workday of 2021-2022 school year, the salary grid shall be increased by one-half (0.5%) of one percent							
Step	BA	BA+15	MA	MA+15	MA+30	2MA/CAGS	PhD
1	50054	52330	55574	57666	59817	61729	63640
2	51921	54219	57659	59828	62061	64045	66027
3	53856	56177	59820	62074	64388	66446	68504
4	55863	58205	62064	64399	66910	68939	71074
5	57945	60308	64391	66815	69307	71523	73738
6	60106	62486	66806	69320	71908	74205	76505
7	62346	64742	69311	71920	74602	76988	79372
8	64670	67080	71912	74616	77400	79875	82349
9	67081	69503	74608	77379	80303	82872	85437
10	69581	72012	77405	80318	83314	85977	88641
11	72175	74612	80308	83330	86440	89204	91966
12	74866	77306	83320	86454	89681	92544	95415
13	77656	80098	86445	89698	93043	96017	98991
14	80552	82991	89685	93060	96533	99620	102703

- WREA dues withdrawals  
For most WREA members our 2/18/22 paycheck will be our last dues withdrawal for the 2021-2022 school year. There are exceptions, so please reach out with any questions.

## MTA Upcoming Trainings

Loan Forgiveness Our friends at Cambridge Credit Counseling offer a webinar on how to qualify for loan forgiveness. Sign up for the date and time that works best for you. (90 minutes)

- 2/23/22 10:00am  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_RgMKTv5GQaO4U1gTgCl8Vg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RgMKTv5GQaO4U1gTgCl8Vg)
- 3/7/22 4:30pm  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KSSBsludQ8ONdD-2dDIFNQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KSSBsludQ8ONdD-2dDIFNQ)
- 3/23/22 6:00pm  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_nRbnqzrTQKC5nhUerFCYmQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nRbnqzrTQKC5nhUerFCYmQ)

Professional Teacher Status (PTS) This training gives you all the information you need to understand how to get PTS, as well as a primer on your rights before you earn PTS. (60 minutes)

- 2/7/22 4:00pm  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErf-yhpiMqGND6gyhttyeDA6GromUj9\\_vh](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErf-yhpiMqGND6gyhttyeDA6GromUj9_vh)
- 2/22/22 10:00am  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtde6qrTMiHtaKcPKFckmYRV2lexltQFXU>
- 3/2/22 5:30pm  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pdOipqz0jGdHQfxlZvfahoi7Llt1LtB0k>

UNIT B - ESP (Paraprofessionals) Rights on the Job Though ESP do not get Professional Teacher Status, they have other job rights. This training focuses on those job protections for ESP members. (60 Minutes)

- 2/22/22 11:30am  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvdu6prTwHtfyigE2uhRlplOEAK1p7hcp>
- 3/15/22 4:30pm  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkcOCuqD4jGNX1R1IFbeuAMnqsGmrH5hv2>

Licensure for New Members This workshop covers the general requirements to obtain, advance and maintain for DESE Educator licensure. Educators will learn more about the requirements to obtain a license, how to satisfy requirements to advance a license and work with ELAR system. (90 minutes)

- 2/15/2022 4:00pm  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zdHeseKcTy6YPo43wLj8rQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zdHeseKcTy6YPo43wLj8rQ)

#### Fairshare Amendment

MTA, together with other unions throughout the state, are starting the campaign for a ballot vote next November 2022. The vote is to amend the Massachusetts Constitution to create a progressive tax for those individuals making an annual income of over \$1M. Here is a link to more information about the [Fairshare Amendment](#). There will be paid and volunteer opportunities this summer from MTA to work on this campaign. How many of you remember phone banking for “No on 2”? Central Massachusetts MTA members had the most volunteers!

Wishing you all February vacation memories that will fill your heart and soul.

In unity,

Mary Shepherd