

 <h1 style="text-align: center;">MARCH 2022</h1> 						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	1	2	3	4 	5
Last week's winners are: Sonja B & Kara C						
6	7	8	9	10	11 	12
Last week's winners: Shannon P & Kara B						
13	14	15	16 	17	18 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

Wear **Red** for Ed this month

March 4: for inflation

March 11: for insurance increase

March 16: to maintain & attract highly qualified staff

March 18: for increasing work demands placed on members

March 25: for our mental health

Take a photo of WREA members in red, post on Facebook or email to WREA to enter the raffle! Details in President's Message.

Red for Ed Continues

Dear Fellow Members:

Let me take this moment for a SHOUT OUT! Suzanne Breen, Kate Andrus, Linda Sasso, Sarah Lefebvre, Audrey Fusco-Benoit, Nancy Keaveny, and Bethany Shea have been working as our Contract Action Team (CAT) organizing actions thus far. Let's increase our mojo to celebrate their work by wearing that RED!

Negotiations Update

The WREA negotiation team will be meeting with the district team on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

Solidarity Actions Needed

Here are the winners from last week's Red for Ed: Shannon Payne from ECC (Early Childhood Center) and Kara Bolduc from Paxton Center School,
<https://watch.screencastify.com/v/RQU5nyZaT9w0YR8OtRvS>.

Please join us in continuing to display our solidarity **throughout the month of March**. Join me in **wearing RED for EDUCATION on March 11, 16, 18, & 25**. Wear any red shirt, including but not limited to, your WREA "pink" shirt.

Share your photos with me at presidentwrea@gmail.com or on Facebook. Names of members who submit a photo will be put into a drawing for a Dunkin Donuts or Sweets and Java gift card.

Payroll

Our concerns for payroll are well documented this year and the errors that have been a common occurrence have never been seen by our members who have been in the district for decades. I do not have the answer or solution at this point, but I do continue to get bits and pieces and a fuller picture is coming to light. Continue to cc me if you reach out to HR or payroll.

The EBoard has been discussing payroll errors and the Federal Tax errors. Our MTA representative said we could bring our payroll concerns to the Attorney General's office, but after speaking with the MTA attorney, she thought it would be unlikely the Attorney General would open a case because it would be considered *de minimis*. Another suggestion was going to small claims court, but individuals would need to file, not the WREA collectively, and the filing fees could be more than the error.

As for the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System, Dan Deedy met with representatives on Tuesday, March 8. As soon as I have a recap, which I requested in writing, I will share it with members. Thank you for your patience - something that is wearing thin on this issue. issue for all of us.

For Unit B Members

From Jeff Carlson, "We will implement the second half increase of .05% on 3/18 for these hourly employees. This will include any retroactive payments due."

Superintendent Search

Thank you to Jen Lee and Asia Emerick for sitting on the Superintendent Screen Committee and recommending the four finalists to the school committee. Here is the link to additional information about the candidates: <https://www.wrsd.net/supersearch>

I have attended the interviews for Dr. Marlene DiLeo and Dr. James Reilly the past two days. I also plan on attending the last two interviews - Mr. Timothy LaGrange on Thursday and Dr. Brian Ricca on Monday. The recordings of these meetings will be made public on Tuesday, March 15th. WREA members who watch these recordings can go to the above website and submit feedback via a survey. According to email correspondence, the WRSDSC intends to enter into contract negotiations with the chosen candidate by Monday, March 21st.

In Unity,

Mary Shepherd