

Council #10



CUDAHY • FRANKLIN • GREENDALE • GREENFIELD • OAK CREEK • ST. FRANCIS • SOUTH MILWAUKEE

Welcome Back...

I'm sure everyone has enjoyed a jam packed summer vacation and if you're anything like me there are still a few things left unfinished on your to do list.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Nancy Koeckenberg and I am the new President of Council #10 and your representative to the WEAC Board of Directors. I am a Special Education Teacher in Greenfield and President Elect of the Greenfield Education Association. I look forward to meeting you as I attend local meetings, Council #10 events, and at WEAC sponsored activities. Please feel free to contact me at (414) 546-1679 or by calling the UEP office at (262) 789-6000 ext. 103 and leaving a message with Shorty our Administrative Assistant. I will do my best to return your call in a timely manner. I can also be reached by email:

nkoeckenberg@wi.rr.com.

Get to know your Council #10 staff and local leaders.

Val Gabriel Executive Director, Ted Kraig Executive Director, Shorty Ott Staff Assistant, Nancy Koeckenberg Chairperson/WEAC Board Rep., Linda Riesen Alternate Chairperson/Alternate WEAC Board Rep.

Local Presidents: Don Albee Cudahy EA, Sue Mischler Franklin EA, Kurt Susek Greendale EA, Doug Perry Greenfield EA, Gail Shellestad Oak Creek EA, Trudy Hundt St. Francis EA, and Eric Van Ert South Milwaukee EA.

Chief Negotiators: Bob Sedlacek Cudahy EA, Richard Gould, Franklin EA, Debby Weyer Greendale EA, Debbie Mitchell Greenfield EA, Terry Grogan Oak Creek EA, Mike King St. Francis EA, and George Olson South Milwaukee EA.

Battle Over the State Budget Why Should We Care?

Through the dog days of summer and into the fall, state legislators in Madison have been engaged in the worst state budget fight in the nation. It would be easy to write the struggle off as just so much partisan bickering. But our jobs and the schools we teach in are very much at stake.

For the past decade and a half, teachers and schools in Wisconsin have been targets of discriminatory public policy designed to restrict our pay and limit the services we can provide. Now, the current majority in the State Assembly, led by Mike Huebsch (R-West Salem), is now looking to make matters much worse. Among other proposals, the State Assembly majority would:

- Cut school district revenue increases to well below the rate of inflation by lowering the already overly restrictive "revenue cap" to still lower levels.
- Cut our pay and benefits by giving school districts the right to impose package settlements at the level of the revenue cap, rather than the 3.8% qualified economic offer.

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OFFICERS

Nancy Koeckenberg
Chairperson/WEAC Board
Representative
Linda Riesen
Alt. Chairperson/Alt. WEAC
Board Representative

STAFF

Val Gabriel
Executive Director
Ted Kraig
Executive Director
Sharleen "Shorty" Ott
Staff Assistant

Council #10 Website
www.weac.org/council10

MAKE CONNECTIONS

WEAC Convention October
25 and 26, 2008

Thanksgiving Holidays
November 22 and 23, 2008



- Give districts the right to unilaterally change our health insurance plans and providers.
- Make new employees pay the first 3% of earnings into the retirement system by forbidding school districts from paying.

Our analysis of the impact of these changes indicates that many staff would face layoffs and those who remain would receive small, lower than inflation wage increases or even have their pay cut. For example, Franklin School District employees, even with no health insurance cost increase this year, would receive no general wage increase and a reduction in step increases.

Governor Doyle and the State Senate, led by Judy Robson (D-Beloit) are pushing for the exact opposite of this madness. The Senate budget would allow school district revenue to increase at or above the rate of inflation, plus add \$85 million worth of revenue “outside the cap” for programs like SAGE, school security, 4K education and the school breakfast program.

You can make a difference by sending a quick email to your legislators. Just visit the OnWEAC Cyberlobby web page. To find it, visit www.weac.org and login to the members only web site.

Improvement of Education

Donna Cuyler has been awarded (by the Board of Directors of the NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education) a Learning and Leadership Grant for \$2,000. The grant will support learning the traditional Japanese printmaking process of Moku Hanga. With this experience, she will integrate the process and history into the “Turning Japanese” course. During the week of July 22, she traveled to New Mexico and participated in a 5-day workshop at the Institute of American Indian Arts. Please congratulate her.

Are you a Cooperating Teacher?

Help your practicum student or student teacher take his/her first step into his or her professional career...Share with your future colleague the benefits of joining Student WEA for less than \$35*... Personal Liability Insurance (\$1,000,000) while student teaching in your classroom (the same that YOU have!). Online Mini-Resume' Service for finding a job. Rebate off of NEA dues as a first year teacher. NEA Teacher Toolkit Access (Free!) Access to Student WEA and WEAC Conferences, including WEAC Convention. OnWEAC Savers Club Card for discounts nationwide. And, membership to your State-wide Professional Association. Encourage them to join. Online membership sign-up at www.weac.org/Student-WEA. Join online and get a free subscription to “Instructor” Magazine. *State and National Dues are \$26. Local chapter fees vary.

Convention

Are you interested in participating in the WEAC Blood Drive at the WEAC Convention? For more information please go to <http://www.weac.org/AboutWEA/2007-08/convention07/blood.htm>

Member Ads

Door County Cabin for Rent. Accommodates up to 12 people. Cabin is near Baileys Harbor in a rural, woodsy setting. Available year-round. Electric heat, many amenities, fireplace, open concept living, dining, kitchenette, sleeping loft with 4 beds, large deck with furniture, gas grill. Call (414) 427-8420 or (920) 839-2715 for additional information and educator discounts.

Sun City AZ Condo for Sale. 105310 W. Granada Dr. Two bedroom two bathrooms, fully furnished, ceramic tile floors, enclosed patio, attached garage. Asking \$149,900. Contact Del Jenson from Ken Meade Realty, Inc. at (623) 974-1776.