

CWUC Connection

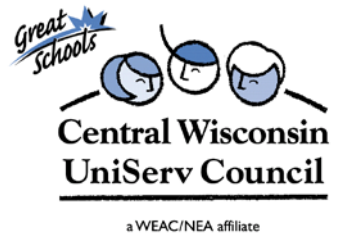
The Connection is a monthly newsletter written and published by the Central Wisconsin UniServ Council. This is an 11.29 communication with WEAC members, Federal Statute CFR 100.8 (b) (4)

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CWUC Connection

CWUC is committed to organizing for strong locals, protecting members' rights, and advocating for strong public schools



Volume 38, No. 1 – September 2009

News and Notes from the CWUC President...

I'm not sure where summer has gone! The past three months have been very busy at the CWUC office. June brought developments in the state budget and the major changes it means for everyone in education. The UniServ Directors and I attended a day-long meeting that provided highlights contained in the state budget and how we will move forward as a state organization. The budget brings both opportunities and challenges for all of us.

Also in June, I had the privilege to be part of a group of educators who attended a Health Care Reform session in Washington, D.C. with some of Wisconsin's legislators. What an experience it was to be involved in the process on how a bill becomes a law – high school government class revisited!

July brought work with the CWUC Executive Committee on action steps towards CWUC's long-term goals. Our three long-term goals are:

- develop high quality and relevant professional development opportunities for all members;
- support the economic advancement and collective bargaining rights of all members;
- improve the organizational capacity by increasing member engagement and by supporting the development of current and future leaders.

Each goal has several action steps to accomplish. With input from the CWUC-RA delegates, we have narrowed the focus to one major action step for each goal this year. I will provide updates as work on the goals advances.

Now, it's time for school to begin and membership materials are available. Locals can arrange to pick up the materials at the CWUC office or ask your UniServ Director to deliver them if they have meetings scheduled in your area. Information regarding Bargaining Training, dates for PI 34 and PDP Workshops in 2009-2010, and announcements for the Fall Kick-off Event have been mailed to local representatives. We are pleased to have Senator Russ Decker as the keynote speaker at the Fall Event. Visit www.weac.org/cwuc for additional meetings and events throughout the year.

As you head back to your worksite, I hope that things go smoothly and that you have a great start to the school year. I look forward to another year as your UniServ president and I plan to devote time to meeting as many CWUC members as possible. When you attend CWUC events, be sure to introduce yourself – I'd love to meet you.

~ Michelle Frola



CWUC CALENDAR

Mon., Sept. 7	Labor Day CWUC & WEAC Offices closed Professional Staff Mtg. - Madison
Thurs. & Fri., Sept. 10-11	
Wed., Sept. 16	CWUC Bargaining Training - 4:30 - 9:00 pm - Westwood Conf. Center, Wausau
Fri. & Sat., Sept. 18-19	WEAC Board/Committee Mtgs. - Sheraton, Madison
Mon., Sept. 21	CWUC Fall Kick-off Event - 4:45 pm The Plaza Conf. Center, Wausau Breakout sessions begin at 7:00 pm
Thurs., Sept. 24	CWUC Retired Fall Mtg. 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at Treehaven in Tomahawk
Thurs., Sept. 24	CWUC Executive Committee Mtg. - 6:00 pm - CWUC Office, Mosinee
Sat., Sept. 26	PDP 101 - Intro. to Prof. Development Plans and PDP Writing Workshop - <i>Time & Location TBA</i>
Sat., Oct. 3	WEAC Regional Local Presidents Mtg. - Westwood Conf. Center, Wausau
Tues., Oct. 6	PDP Writing Workshop - 5:30 pm - CWUC Office, Mosinee
Wed., Oct. 14	CWUC Bargaining Training - 4:30 - 9:00 pm - Westwood Conf. Center, Wausau

State Technical Colleges are featured on a new blog on WEAC online...

With a new blog, new resources and updated news, WEAC's online page for Wisconsin Technical College System employees has been given a lot more content. WEAC WTCS Consultant Andy Lyons, in a new blog post, talks about current issues affecting tech schools. You will also find Web links to related stories, new contact information, and new resources such as handbooks. Check out the new page by visiting www.weac.org

Paul Bierbrauer nominations due October 1

The Paul Bierbrauer Commemorative Award was created to recognize sustained excellence or innovation in bargaining. Any WEAC member, bargaining team, or UEP staff is eligible to be nominated. Nominations should be sent to the WEAC office by October 1. The nomination must be typed on the designated form which is available online or by contacting the WEAC office in Madison.

The award seeks to recognize both teacher and ESP bargainers and exemplary bargaining. Here's an excellent opportunity to highlight the efforts of members in your locals who have made a significant contribution to the negotiations process in your schools.

CWUC Fall Kick-off Event

Monday, September 21, 2009

The Plaza of Wausau, 201 N. 17th Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin

Registration ~ 4:45 p.m. in the **Crystal Foyer**

Buffet Dinner ~ Buffet line opens at 5:00 p.m. in the **Crystal Dining Room**

Introductions and Presentation of Awards

By Michelle Frola, CWUC President, Julie Bratina, Vice President and Linda Copas, P.R. Chair

Keynote Address by Senator Russ Decker

Breakout Sessions begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude between 8:30 – 8:45 p.m.

Participants will have the opportunity to attend one of the following sessions after the Keynote Address. When you pre-register, please indicate which session you plan to attend.

1. **Health Care Reform**
2. **Introduction to the PI 34 Licensure Process**
3. **Public Relations**
4. **School Funding**
5. **Retirement Savings: The Keys to Success**

Drawings for door prizes will be held from name tags collected in the breakouts.

Registration is required to attend this event. Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2009

CWUC BARGAINING TRAINING

for **ESPs** and **TEACHERS**

Wednesday, September 16 and Wednesday, October 14, 2009

(See Registration Deadline for each meeting below)

WESTWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER

800 Westwood Center Blvd., Wausau, WI 54401 ~ Dinner & Training will be held in the Main Dining Room

Registration begins at 4:30 p.m.

The registration table and buffet line will stay open to accommodate participants who have greater travel distance to attend the meetings.

Buffet Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m.

Bargaining Training from 5:45 – 8:45 p.m.

Negotiators and other local leaders from K-12, Technical College, and Education Support Professional local associations are invited to attend both of these very important meetings. The workshops will be conducted by staff from the WEAC Collective Bargaining and Research Department. Topics for the two meetings will include:

September 16

- *Understanding the new bargaining law – what's new, what's the same*
- *How the new law will change what we do (strategies and tactics)*
- *Coordinating bargains and member involvement*
- *Forging effective arguments in light of the new law and school budget pressures*

October 14

- *The basics of how interest arbitration works*
- *The importance of crafting a winnable final offer*
- *Framing issues outside of arbitration*
- *Bargaining support and negotiation guidelines*

NOTE: Depending on how quickly the agenda moves on September 16, the presenters may adjust the topics as needed. The material presented at each meeting will be different, so please make every effort to attend **both** sessions. At least one member from every CWUC local is encouraged to attend.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: Call 715-693-1740 or 800-472-0010

Registration deadlines: Wednesday, September 9 and Wednesday, October 7

THIS IS A MEMBER-ONLY EVENT & THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPANTS FOR THE DINNER.

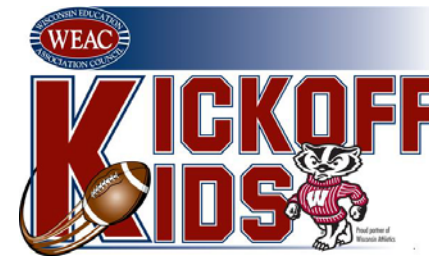
MILEAGE WILL BE REIMBURSED – PLEASE CAR POOL WITH OTHER MEMBERS FROM YOUR LOCAL.

Student “Outreach to Teach” Project...Applications due October 1

The Student Wisconsin Education Association is devoted to public education. Each year Outreach to Teach volunteers help schools fill the gap that state-imposed revenue caps have created. Students volunteer a weekend of their time, energy, and talents to advocate for students who deserve to have classrooms that are efficient and safe, quality staff, and an involved community. The Outreach to Teach program helps give future educators real experience and opportunity to work with current educators, association members, and involved parents, while helping to create a bright and pleasant learning environment.

Each year approximately 150 to 200 Student WEAC and WEAC Retired volunteers help spruce up a school during a weekend in April. Limited funding is provided to assist the volunteers in their projects. Schools are chosen as work sites based on location, need, evidence of community support, impact of revenue controls, and other factors.

If you would like to apply for this opportunity or would like more information about the program, contact Erin Flanagan, Outreach Coordinator, at flanagee@uwec.edu, or Paula Voelker, Student WEAC Organizer, at 608-276-7711, Ext. 274.



WEAC and UW partner to promote outstanding students

Did you know that you can nominate an outstanding student from your school or family to be a WEAC Kickoff Kid? WEAC invites families, teachers and school staff from across the state to tell us why your student stands out in your community or school and should be a WEAC Kickoff Kid for Badger home games.

The WEAC Kickoff Kid will be recognized during the first quarter of each home game. The student will receive tickets to a designated game, access to the field prior to the kickoff, and an autographed item signed by head coach Bret Bielema.

A Kickoff Kid will be selected for Badger home games on September 19, October 17, October 31, & November 14.

How can you nominate someone for the WEAC Kickoff Kid? Here are the guidelines...

- The student must be age 8-13.
- You need only nominate a student once.
- Describe what the student has done in your school and/or community that distinguish him or her from their peers.
- The person who nominates the chosen WEAC Kickoff Kid will be notified by e-mail if his or her student is selected. The nominator must respond within three days after notification. If not, another honoree will be selected.
- Guardians will need to sign a release allowing WEAC to use photographs and video footage of the student in our publications and on the Internet.

For more information, e-mail or call WEAC Media Relations Specialist Anne Egan-Waukau at waukaua@weac.org or 800-354-7816, extension 1109.

Are you a Cooperating Teacher?

Help your practicum student or student teacher take his/her first step into their 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 Winter Academy

OnWEAC Savers Club Card for discounts nationwide

And membership to your Statewide Professional Association

Encourage them to join!

Online membership sign-up at www.weac.org/Student-WEA

* State and National Dues are \$26. Local chapter fees vary.

Rebates on dues available for new teachers...

Are you a new teacher this year? You may be eligible for a cash rebate on your dues from NEA. Former Student WEAC members or NEA student members who have started their first public school position as an NEA/WEAC Active Member in CWUC schools for the 2009-2010 school year are eligible for an NEA dues rebate of \$20 for each year of NEA student membership for up to four years.

New hires must send in a rebate application between now and May 1, 2010 in order to receive their rebate in August of 2010. Application forms are available from the CWUC office or by contacting Paula Voelker, WEAC Organizer, at 1-800-362-8034, ext. 274.

CWUC Retired hold annual fall meeting

CWUC Retired will be holding its fall meeting at Treehaven in Tomahawk on Thursday, September 24. Many activities are planned for the day at the UW-Stevens Point Natural Resources Education and Conference Facility.

Sessions include: “Retirement Money: Friends and Bogeymen;” “Acupuncture;” and tours of the facility. For more information and to register for the event, call the CWUC office at 715-693-1740 or 800-472-0010.

NEA Attorney Referral Program update

The Herrling Clark Law Firm has been added to the NEA Attorney Referral Program. This firm has offices in Appleton, Green Bay and New London. They provide legal services in a variety of areas, including real estate, wills/estates, domestic relations, consumer protection, copyright/trademark, libel/slander actions, personal injury and other tort actions.

Detailed information regarding the Attorney Referral Program and a list of Wisconsin participating law firms can be found on the WEAC website (WEAC.org, “Member Benefits” area).