

## 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 37, No. 1 – September 2008



## CWUC Fall Kick-off Event

**Monday, September 22, 2008**

The Plaza of Wausau, 201 N. 17<sup>th</sup> 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, Karen Lach, CWUC Vice President  
and Linda Copas, CWUC Public Relations Chair

Keynote Address by Bob Burke, WEAC Government Relations Director

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.

- Dealing with Difficult Students – Education Support Professionals' Training
- Local Presidents' Training
- November 2008 – What's at Stake in the Election?
- PI 34 and Professional Development Plans 101
- Public Relations is Important Before, During, and After the Bargain
- School Funding

Register for Door Prizes – Drawings will be held from name tags collected in the breakouts.

This is a member-only event and there is no cost to CWUC members. Mileage will be reimbursed for one car per local if up to 4 members attend or two cars if more than 4 members attend. Please coordinate registrations in your local and fax them to 715-693-1751 or call the CWUC office at 715-693-1740 or 800-472-0010.

**Registration is required to attend this event. Deadline: Tuesday, September 16, 2008**

## A Message from CWUC's President...

"2008-09... A New Journey" is the theme for the *CWUC Fall Kick-off Event*. I encourage all locals to send members to attend our kick-off event and to attend the sessions that will be offered. The Planning Committee took great care in making sure that a variety of informational topics would be available for members.

The Executive Committee has already begun work on its new journey. We met over the summer to organize, update policies, and to begin working on our goals. So far we have one short-term goal and two longer-term goals.

Our short-term goal is doing what we can to help elect pro-education candidates in the upcoming November elections. Once we know the results of the elections, more planning will be done to help promote WEAC's legislative agenda – issues that affect all education employees and students.

Our first long-term goal is to set up a new standing committee for our technical college members with assistance through WEAC. Our second long-term goal is to improve communications with CWUC members. We surveyed all local presidents for their input on issues facing our area and will branch out to include surveying members to include their opinions.

I see this year as an uncharted, exciting journey with many "unknowns" ahead of us. It is my hope that we can meet any challenge head on, work through any difficulties, and celebrate our accomplishments along the way. When we look back at the end of the year I would like us all to feel that we did our best to promote our great students and our great schools!

– Michelle Frola  
CWUC Executive Committee President

## CWUC Calendar



Tues., Sept. 9	PRIMARY ELECTION - <b>Vote</b>
Thurs., Sept. 11	CWUC Executive Committee Mtg. – 6:00 pm
Fri.-Sat., Sept. 12-13	WEAC Board/Committees – Madison
Mon., Sept. 22	CWUC Fall Kick-off Event – 4:45 pm The Plaza of Wausau – <i>Registration Required</i>
Thurs., Sept. 25	CWUC-Retired Fall Meeting & Seminar 8:00 am – 3:30 pm – CWUC Office, Mosinee
Tues., Oct. 7	PDP Goal Writing Workshop – 5:30 pm – CWUC Office – <i>Registration Required</i>
Fri.-Sat., Oct. 10-11	WEAC Board/Committees – Wis. Dells
Thurs., Oct. 16	CWUC Board of Directors Mtg. – beginning with a meal at 5:30 pm – CWUC Office
Sat., Oct. 18	PDP Goal Writing Workshop – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – CWUC Office – <i>Registration Req.</i>
Tues., Oct. 21	Contract Maintenance Workshop – 5:30 pm CWUC Office – <i>Registration Required</i>
Thurs.-Fri., Oct. 30-31	WEAC Convention – Madison

## Scholarship Committee Vacancies...

If you are interested in serving on the **CWUC Scholarship Committee**, contact Sandy Fults, Staff Liaison to the Scholarship Committee. There are openings for a teacher representative and a technical college representative for 2008-09. The committee is composed of 3 teacher members, 1 technical college member, and 1 education support professional member from the at-large membership of CWUC. Committee members can hold no elected CWUC position and may serve no more than six consecutive years on the committee. Members whose children apply for the scholarship shall be ineligible to serve on the committee during the year their child applies.

## Are you a Cooperating Teacher?

Help your practicum student or student teacher take his/her first step into their professional career...

- *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 State-wide Professional Association*

Share with your future colleague the benefits of joining **Student WEA for less than \$35\*... and encourage them to join!**

Online membership sign-up at [www.weac.org/Student-WEA](http://www.weac.org/Student-WEA)

Join online and get a free subscription to "Instructor" Magazine as a first-time member

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



**If your local association elected new officers** for the 2008-09 year and you have not submitted those names to the CWUC office, call 715-693-1740 or 800-472-0010 to

update the contact information. A form was sent to all local presidents in early summer and less than 50% of the locals have responded. You do not need to return the form – just give us a call!



Are you an Initial or Professional Educator renewing your license under PI 34? Do you need assistance maneuvering your way through PI 34 and learning how to put a professional development plan together? Do you need assistance writing your professional development plan? Have you been asked to be a mentor but have never been trained?

The **CWUC Professional Development Center** offers training and workshops to help you meet the requirements of PI 34 at no additional cost to you.

**The Center offers:**

- ➔ PI 34 and Professional Development Plans 101: Understanding the basics of PI 34 and PDPs
- ➔ PDP Writing Sessions: Assistance in writing your PDP
- ➔ Goal Approval: Providing a verification team to work with you to have your PDP approved on site
- ➔ Mentor Training: Getting the basics of mentoring and applying it to PI 34

**REMEMBER:** You **do not have to pay** to get help with writing a PDP, to have your PDP goal approved, to have your completed PDP verified, or to be trained as a mentor. **CWUC offers these services at NO CHARGE and its trained professionals are ready to help you achieve your goals.**

Watch the Connection for upcoming workshops and training times and dates. Also, visit our website at [www.weac.org/cwuc/](http://www.weac.org/cwuc/) for updates or ask your local president for more information.

**Workshops coming this Fall...**

- **PI 34 and PDP 101** – Monday, September 22 at the Fall Kick-off Event; registration deadline: September 16.
- **PDP Goal Writing Workshop** – Tuesday, October 7; 5:30 at the CWUC office (light supper served); registration deadline: October 3.
- **PDP Goal Writing Workshop** – Saturday, October 18; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the CWUC office; registration deadline: October 14.
- **Goal Verification** – Saturday, November 15; 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m., and 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. (by appointment only); registration details will be announced in the October issue of the **Connection** and on the **CWUC website**.

Call the CWUC office at 715-693-1740 or 1-800-472-0010 to register for workshops you wish to attend. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get the help you need to complete your requirements for your license.

**WANTED: Technical College Representatives for new committee**

Are you a technical college member of CWUC? Are you looking for ways to have an impact on your union and would like to share your ideas with others? Here's your chance to make a difference for the members of your local and our UniServ.



CWUC is forming a new Standing Committee for Technical College members. If you are interested in helping to form this new committee and you are a technical college member, please contact your local president or Michelle Frola, CWUC Board President at [mfrola@tds.net](mailto:mfrola@tds.net). You may also contact the CWUC office to indicate your interest or to request more information at 715-693-1740 or 1-800-472-0010.

**Hot off the press... PDK Gallup Poll highlights to be released in September**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Phi Delta Kappa Gallup Poll results will be published in the September issue of *Kappan* magazine. A few of the highlights of that poll are included for your information.

- ✓ Americans view Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama as much more supportive of public schools than Republican presidential candidate John McCain.
- ✓ Americans support an increased use of federal funds to maintain local public schools.
- ✓ Fewer than 2 of 10 Americans believe the No Child Left Behind legislation should be continued without significant change.
- ✓ Lack of funding for schools tops the list of "biggest problems facing schools" for the sixth year in a row.
- ✓ In a change from nine years ago, Americans believe written observations by teachers, as opposed to scores on standardized tests, are a superior way to document student academic progress.
- ✓ Almost three of four Americans believe teachers should be paid higher salaries as an incentive to teach in schools identified as "in need of improvement."

If you would like to view additional background, visit the PDK website at [www.pdkeducationpoll.org](http://www.pdkeducationpoll.org)

– Source: Phi Delta Kappa International, Bloomington IN

**The *Connection*, your CWUC UniServ newsletter, will no longer be published due to lack of interest!**

Did that get your attention? Unfortunately the need for an editor has been published throughout the past year, but a replacement has not been found.

The **Connection** is published one time per month from September through June. CWUC is looking for a member who is interested in writing the articles that are needed for its publication each month. This is a volunteer position and requires a few hours of time to gather information and write the articles for our publication. The newsletter is a critical tool for getting information to our membership and is a job that should be done by membership. Current issues, upcoming workshops, reminders about contract issues, celebrating the successes of professionals...these are just a few of the highlights that the **Connection** provides to all of CWUC's members.

In reality, the **Connection** will continue to be published, but a new editor is needed in order to allow for more changes in the organization of the Public Relations Committee.

If you are interested in taking on a new challenge or for more information, please contact Linda Copas, current editor of the **Connection** and CWUC Public Relations Chairperson, at 715-366-2734.

**Who are WEAC's recommended candidates in the upcoming election?**

If you haven't checked out the [www.weac.org](http://www.weac.org) Members Only site lately, you'll want to keep informed about candidates and their positions on education, health care, economics, and other issues in the upcoming weeks leading up to the election. WEAC has a list of recommended candidates for state and national elections. Please consider these candidates as ones that support public education and the WEAC legislative priorities. It's up to you to stay informed, get the facts on all of the candidates, get involved in supporting candidates through distribution of literature or making phone calls, and **VOTE!**

**Election 2008 WEAC/CWUC Recommended Candidates**

**U.S. President**

Barack Obama (D)

**U.S. Congress**

Congressional District 6 – No Recommendation

Congressional District 7 – David Obey (D)

Congressional District 8 – Steve Kagen (D)

**State Senate**

Senate District 12 – Jim Holperin (D)

Senate District 14 – No Recommendation

Senate District 24 – Julie Lassa (D)

**State Assembly**

Assembly District 35 – Jerome (Jay) Schmelling (D)

Assembly District 36 – Stan Gruszynski (D)

Assembly District 37 – Andy Jorgensen (D)

Assembly District 40 – No Recommendation

Assembly District 41 – Scott Milheiser (D)

Assembly District 67 – Pending

Assembly District 69 – Pending

Assembly District 70 – Pending

Assembly District 71 – Louis Molepske (D)

Assembly District 72 – Marlin Schneider (D)

Assembly District 85 – Donna Seidel (D)

Assembly District 86 – Nate Myszka (D)

Assembly District 87 – Judy Reas (D)

Posted August 22, 2008

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**CWUC Contract Maintenance Committee sponsors workshop...**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008

CWUC Office, 370 Orbiting Drive, Mosinee, WI

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. – Dinner and Registration

6:00 – 7:30 – Program

**Session Description:** Could your employer be spying on you? The answer is increasingly a resounding "yes!" Many of the basic rights we all take for granted are not protected when we go to work. It used to be easy to tell if your boss was watching you; you just looked over your shoulder. Now you can never be sure. The use of new information and communication technologies at the workplace has exploded in recent years. As a result, more and more employers are monitoring their employees. This raises numerous issues for employees and their union representatives, especially in terms of balancing the relationship between workers' privacy and the employers' desire to control the use of this technology.

This session will focus on the techniques your employer may be using to spy on you, what your employer can legally do and how you can use collective bargaining to protect yourself.

Register by calling the CWUC office at 715-693-1740 or 800-472-0010. Registration deadline: Thursday, October 16, 2008.

*Did you know that...*

◆ **Wisconsin's 2008 graduates outperformed their peers nationally**, posting a composite score of 22.3 on the ACT college admissions test. This score ranks third in the nation among the 26 ACT-taking states.

◆ **The IRIS Center, located at Vanderbilt University and an active partner with NEA**, has announced the re-launch of the IRIS Online Dictionary. This glossary of terms related to special education has been fully updated. To get started using the IRIS Online dictionary, go to [www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/onlinedictionary.html](http://www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/onlinedictionary.html) or visit the IRIS Resource Locator at [www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources.html](http://www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources.html) and click on the dictionary icon.

◆ **"Doing What Works" is a new Web site sponsored by the U.S Department of Education.** It is dedicated to helping educators identify and make use of effective teaching practices. Go to [www.dww.ed.gov](http://www.dww.ed.gov) for Practice Guides and to [www.t2tweb.us/doingwhatworks](http://www.t2tweb.us/doingwhatworks) for a teacher-to-teacher digital workshop specifically geared to techniques and practices of teaching reading to English language learners in elementary grades.

◆ **NEA is a partner with the Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM) Exchange**, supporting the Gateway to 21st Century Skills Web site. This site combines state-of-the-art search technologies and a complete database of state academic standards for core subjects. The Gateway links to the resources needed to make learning meaningful and fun for students. To check it out go to [www.thegateway.org/](http://www.thegateway.org/).

◆ **You can nominate a custodian for a special award.** The national C.L.E.A.N. Award will recognize the contributions that custodians make to public health in their schools, communities, and their profession. The award will be presented to a school custodian who demonstrates outstanding leadership to school cleanliness, and reflects the contributions that education support professionals can make to public health. Five awards will be presented with the first round of awards being presented at the 2009 NEA National ESP Conference in Orlando. Prizes include an all-expense-paid trip to the National ESP Conference, cash award, a year's worth of NEA dues, and more! Applicants are eligible to apply beginning September 1, 2008 and the deadline is December 10, 2008. For more information go to [www.neahin.org/programs/cleanaward.html](http://www.neahin.org/programs/cleanaward.html).

◆ **CWUC has its own website.** Keep posted on events happening in our UniServ by visiting [www.weac.org/cwuc/](http://www.weac.org/cwuc/)

◆ **The technical colleges have been hard at work for months developing their 2009-11 budget request.** The budget request, built around the *Next Generation Workforce* initiative, will be sent to Governor Jim Doyle within weeks for his consideration. Faculty and staff are asked to take a moment to engage in budget advocacy. Legislative contacts in support of the technical college budget request will be critical, as will be outreach to generate support from business and community leaders.