

Eau Claire's Bold Resolution

By Chris Perillo, Interim Executive Director

The Eau Claire Board of Education recently passed a resolution on school funding. They are calling for a one cent sales tax increase to help make up the funding for public education that has been re-allocated in recent years.

Some of the problem goes back to the revenue caps that were put in place during the 1993-1994 school year. These caps limit the funding that schools can collect in state aid and property taxes combined. The net effect is a severe limit on school spending that occurs regardless of the changing needs of a school district.

In the case of Eau Claire, this cap trapped the district in a revenue limit below the state average for per pupil spending. Since the implementation of the caps, Eau Claire school district has changed, and now 40 percent of students rely on wrap-around services provided by the district.

Because of the revenue limits, any additional state dollars coming in to Eau Claire for preK-12 general education aid goes directly

to reducing property taxes instead of to the classrooms.

The Eau Claire Board of Education had enough and passed a resolution on September 12 calling for additional funding through a one cent sales tax increase to generate an additional \$850 million dollars state-wide. This money would be allocated annually for public schools and is a part of a plan to reform the funding formula.

This school year, the general equalized aid will be less than it was in 2010. When adjusted for inflation this is a 12.5 percent cut in support per pupil since 2008. Even with the new non-compounding additional per pupil categorical aid, students are receiving fewer actual dollars than they did in 2010, far less than needed to keep up with the cost of living.

Kudos to the Eau Claire Board of Education for taking a stand against the continued inequities in the formula, and pressing for change for the benefit of Wisconsin's future and for the benefit of all public school students and their families.

Ratification Meeting Set For October 25

The KEA Teacher Bargaining Committee reached a tentative agreement with the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education.

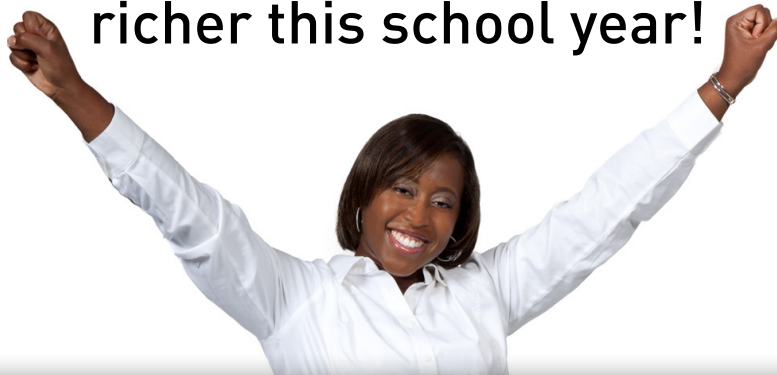
The terms of the agreement are a wage increase for the cost of living effective July 1, 2016. This is the maximum amount allowed by law. Members are encouraged to ask questions about the agreement and will be asked to vote to ratify at the meeting on **Tuesday, October 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the UAW Local 72.**

It is expected that the KUSD School Board will ratify the agreement later that night. The KEA will be continuing discussions with KUSD regarding the salary schedule and other items at meet-and-confer sessions beginning on December 1.

Free Financial Consultations for KEA Members!

Need a financial check up? WEA Member Benefits will be at the KEA to answer questions on a wide range of financial topics. Get more information and RSVP for a slot here: <http://bit.ly/2dvpyQv>

Let us help you
make your students' experience
richer this school year!



WIN \$100!

Enter our drawing for a check to purchase supplies
for your classroom.

This is an exclusive opportunity for
KEA members only!

Deadline to enter is December 1, 2016.

To enter, visit
weabenefits.com/keaclassroomsupplies.

Rules and eligibility for classroom supplies drawing can be viewed at weabenefits.com/classsupplies1116.

*If you choose to invest in the WEA Tax Sheltered Annuity or WEAC IRA program, fees will apply.
Consider all expenses before investing.

The Trustee Custodian for the WEAC IRA accounts is Newport Trust Company. All investment advisory services are offered through WEA Financial Advisors, Inc. The 403(b) retirement program is offered by the WEA TSA Trust. TSA program registered representatives are licensed through WEA Investment Services, Inc., member FINRA. Property and casualty insurance programs underwritten by WEA Property & Casualty Insurance Company. Certain policy exclusions and limitations may apply. The terms and conditions of your coverage are exclusively controlled by your written policy. Please refer to your policy for details. All discounts current as of July 2016 and subject to change at any time. Long-term care (LTC) insurance products are underwritten by multiple LTC insurers. Program administered by LTCi Marketing Administrators Inc. (LiMA).

1-800-279-4030 Retirement
1-800-279-4010 Insurance
weabenefits.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar of Events

Ratification Meeting

Tuesday, October 25
(4:30 p.m., UAW Local 72)

Recertification Election Begins

Thursday, October 27

Standing Committee Meetings

Tuesday, November 1
(5:30 p.m., ESC)

Individual Financial Consultations

Tuesday, November 8
(RSVP Required, KEA Office)

Degrees Not Debt Workshop

Wednesday, November 9
(4:30 p.m., KEA Office)

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, November 10
(4:30 p.m., KEA Office)

WRS Seminar

Tuesday, November 15
(5:00 p.m., KEA Office)

Regular School Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 15
(7:00 p.m., ESC)

Association Representative Assembly Meeting

Thursday, November 17
(4:30 p.m., KEA Office)



KEA Recertification Election Begins October 27 at Noon

The teacher unit, which includes all KUSD teachers (it does not include ESPs), are eligible voters in this election. You **DO NOT** have to be a KEA member to vote.

A YES vote means the KEA will continue to represent you in collective bargaining with KUSD (this includes teachers that are not KEA members).

To win this election, 51% of ALL employees in the unit must vote YES. If you do not vote, it counts as a "No" vote.

Vote by phone or online! It takes a minute or less. Starting October 27 at noon, the voting phone number and link to vote online will be available at kea.weac.org.

**VOTE YES to support your colleagues and RECERTIFY the
Kenosha Education Association.**

KEPAC and WEAC-PAC Rebates

This is the one-time annual notice to members who desire a rebate of their KEPAC (\$5.00 – full-time Teachers, \$2.50 full-time ESP, \$1.25 Noon Hour Supervisors) dues deductions. A written request must be sent to Anne Knapp, President; KEA; 5610-55th St.; Kenosha, WI 53144, by October 31st.

Those members wanting a rebate of their WEAC-PAC (\$19.99 – full-time Teachers, \$10 full-time ESP) dues deduction must contact Ron Martin, President; WEAC; P.O. Box 8003; Madison, WI 53708, before October 31st.

(And, no, this date was not selected because of the increased likelihood of being haunted by bad government if you file for the rebate!)

WEAC Savers' Club Now Has an App!

Visit the App Store from your phone and search for "My Deals Mobile" by Access Development. Download it. When setting up the app, your mobile password must be 8757- then enter your WEAC ID number here, after the hyphen. For example, 8757-0000000000.

Once the My Deals app is set up, you may directly access the app in the future to use the Savers' Club.

If you don't have your WEAC ID number, please email membership@weac.org or call 1-800-362-8034 x. 507 for assistance obtaining your WEAC ID number. For technical assistance with the app, please call 1-800-331-8867.

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Coursework!

The Kenosha Unified School District sent out a memo notifying all teachers to turn in any new credits earned that have not been previously submitted to the Office of Human Resource. This is an effort from the District to update their records regarding your educational credits and degrees on file.

You will have until close of business on Friday, October 28th to provide the Office of Human Resources with original transcripts for any new credits earned. Business hours will be extended through October 28th.

Extended business hours are as follows:

Monday: 6:45 am to 5:00 pm	Wednesday: 6:45 am to 5:00 pm	Friday: 6:45 am to 4:30 pm
Tuesday: 6:45 am to 4:30 pm	Thursday: 6:45 am to 5:00 pm	

Earned credits and Masters Degrees are a part of the current salary schedule even though lane movement has not been implemented. While the schedule is being examined the District will need to calculate potential costs for implementing the current schedule lane movement. This will be a part of ongoing discussions with the KEA through the meet and confer process.