

## COVID-19 Update



Just as we strongly discourage you from entering school buildings, the WEA has provided guidance to keep our staff safe. As of Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> the WEA Office will be closed, and we have suspended the interim bargain for the time being. **Rick, Kari and Cindy will continue to be available to members remotely during normal business hours:** Monday – Thursday 8 am – 5 pm and Friday 8 am – 4 pm. Our contact information is included at the bottom of this newsletter.

*Stressed??* Members are provided free confidential counseling sessions with Solutions Employee Assistance program for help with mental and emotional stress. **Contact Solutions for an appointment 360-836-8260 or [www.solutionemployeeassistance.com](http://www.solutionemployeeassistance.com).**

### FREE On-Line PD Offerings

The WEA's Special Education Support Center and Inclusionary Practices Project will be offering online courses, in real-time, via Zoom beginning 3/23! [Check out the course schedule and registration information!](#)



Registration is open now, clock hours will be provided, and courses are free. For the first week, the courses are capped at 40 – but capacity and options may expand if response is high. Six (6) weeks of courses will be provided in this, which may also extend depending on closures.

\*Once registered, within 24-48 hours of the course start date, participants will receive an email with the Zoom link. Please test your computer's video and audio before the course start. Technical assistance will not be provided.



### Certificate and STEM Hours Extensions!

WEA advocated for extensions on your behalf. We received notice that the Professional Educator Standards Board has provided:

- **One-year extension on certificate expiration dates for educators;**
- **this includes the new 15 STEM clock hour requirements**

**Educator TPA: Currently reviewing possible use of coursework, field work and other experiences for issuing the residency certificate.**

This is a great relief for many of our members and potential members! Here is a [PESB bulletin](#) providing further details.

### WEA President Larry Delaney's Address



Please watch this [video message](#) to clarify priorities for our members during the COVID-19 school closures.