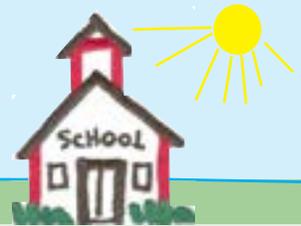


# PERSPECTIVE



Central Valley Education Association

May 2014

12202 E. Main, Spokane Valley, WA 99206 • 509 926-0201 • FAX 509 891-9183 • cvea@aol.com • centralvalleyea-com.webs.com

## The State of CVEA

This is the last issue of the Perspective newsletter that I will prepare before leaving office. Most of the time this part of the job has been a labor of love. I would like to take this opportunity to give a state of our union, the Central Valley Education Association; as a summary of what has transpired over the last four years.

Early on we began and completed the process of reviewing, revising and updating the Constitution and bylaws of our organization. In the process we redefined the Vice President's position to include the Treasurer function. Next we established a mission statement that would help us keep our activities appropriately focused. We also began the ongoing process of developing a policy manual to standardize operational procedures. The policy manual was called for as a result of recommendations from our annual audit.

Shortly after I began my term, we were hit with the effects of the economic downturn. Membership enrollment was down due to staff reductions by attrition. The legislature imposed 1.9% salary cuts on our members. Our sole source of income is dues from members, and that is calculated as a percent of the base, so the Association took a 1.9% cut as well. We began the process of serious cutbacks in operating costs. We changed phone and Internet service, cut back on trainings, moved

from paper to a digital newsletter, changed auditors from the firm that we had been using based in Seattle, to a local CPA (who happens to be a graduate of Central Valley High School), and cut all nonessential expenditures. Even with all of these savings we had to move \$8,000 from our reserve funds into checking in order to maintain operations. With the reinstatement of the 1.9% on the salary schedule, and an increase in membership as a result of all-day K and class-size reduction, we have been able to put the \$8,000 back into reserves during the course of this year. We have also been able to send members to training sessions on bargaining, teacher evaluation, district financial analysis, Association leadership, and several more.

Throughout the four years we have continued to serve our members in bargaining contracts, representation in disciplinary situations, filing grievances, and serving on a multitude of committees, both within the Association and within the district. We have built up our local Association leadership core and have had successful elections each year. Our office building and property has been appropriately maintained and in some ways improved. I am confident that your incoming leadership team is fully competent and will continue the legacy of service our members have come to expect. Thanks for your support.

*Steve*

## NOTICE:

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

A general membership meeting will be held on May 22 at University High School. If we have reached a tentative agreement for a new contract with the district the meeting will be to go over that tentative agreement in preparation for a ratification vote. If we have not reached a tentative agreement, the meeting will be to inform members about where we are in the process. Also, if we have not reached a tentative agreement by May 22, it will not be possible to ratify before the end of the school year, which means bargaining will continue through the summer. When a tentative agreement is reached then in the fall a ratification vote will be taken at that time. These timelines are set by our Constitution and bylaws.



### Free Legal Assistance

One of the many benefits you receive as a member of the Education Association is two 30 minute legal consults each year with a lawyer on non-work related issues. There are two law offices providing this service in the Spokane area.

**Powell Law Office** 455-4151  
**Sheryl Phillibain** 838-6055

## Bargaining Update

The CBA bargaining team has been meeting with the district each Wednesday since returning from Spring break. We will continue meeting on Wednesdays with May 21 being an all day session, in order to try to meet the deadline for ratification before the end of the school year. If we do not have a tentative agreement prepared by the end of the day May 21, we will continue to meet on Wednesdays through June 4. Bargaining will pick up again probably sometime in August. The team of 12 (12 members who are facilitating the bargaining process) has met with the team of 5 (those Team of 12 members chosen to be at the table with the district), in order to establish the bargaining issues and to monitor progress. When we reach a tentative agreement, the team of 12 will review that agreement and then vote on taking it to the members. It takes a two thirds vote to bring it to the members for ratification.

## The CVEA Website



Central Valley Education Association

HOME CONTRACT CVEA OFFICE OFFICERS NEWSLETTERS CALENDAR CVEA ELECTIONS LEGISLATION AFFECTING YOU

We need your help getting signatures:

### Initiative 1351 Class Size Reduction

[More Information Here](#)

END OF SPECIAL SESSION WAS MARCH 5TH

The Washington state legislature's special session ended on Wednesday, March 5th. It continues to be crucial for your local representatives to hear from you about things that will affect your daily working life, such as the new evaluation system, Common Core, and COLA restoration. For more information, and to find out how to contact your local representatives, go to [OurVoice@WashingtonEA.org](http://OurVoice@WashingtonEA.org)

EXTEND THE ESEA WAIVER!

WEA members are urging US Education Secretary Arne Duncan to extend Washington's No

April 2014 Perspective Newsletter

Central Valley Education Association

<http://centralvalleyea-com.webs.com>

## WEA Representative Assembly by David Smith

The WEA Representative Assembly was held in Spokane this year, April 3 through 5. Vicki Arnold, Wally Watson, Keith Hoekema, DM Freed, Brad Thew, Heather Graham, Cheryl Sampson and David Smith were in attendance.

Our representatives worked from early morning until late into the evening for three days. In addition to matters relative to standing rules and union constitutional provisions, twenty three items of new business were debated. We passed resolutions in support of funding our COLA, endorsing an initiative to lower class size in all K-12 classes and to increase substitute teacher membership. The Seattle Education Association presented a resolution to implement later start time in high schools. Our CV membership researched the issue and discovered that recent CDC studies overwhelming demonstrated that later high school start times result in increased academic performance, increased physical performance in athletics, lowered

absenteeism and tardiness, and drastically reduced numbers of traffic accidents involving high school students. The president of the Seattle Education Association thanked our CV delegation for this research which he felt made the difference in passing the resolution. Although start times are a district issue, the WEA will make our research available to all districts along with a recommendation for later high school start times.

Next year the RA will be held April 23-25, 2015, in Bellevue at the Meydenbauer Center.

## CVEA Executive Board

### President -

Steve Lalonde  
Office - 926-0201  
Cell - 842-6768  
email - [cvea@aol.com](mailto:cvea@aol.com)  
fax - 891-9183

### Vice President -

Wally Watson  
University High School  
228-5240

### Secretary -

Vicki Arnold  
North Pines  
228-5020

### Elementary Rep -

Keith Hoekema  
Broadway Elementary  
228-4100

### Middle School Rep -

Monica Larson  
Evergreen  
228-4780

### High School Rep -

David Smith  
University High School  
228-5240

### Special Services Rep -

Heather Graham  
Greenacres MS/Lib. Lake  
228-4860 / 228-4300