

# WEAC REGION 2 - REPORTER

Volume 4, No.1-October 2017

*WEAC Region 2 - Protecting Rights*

*Providing Professional Growth*

*Promoting Education*



## *From the President:*

Dear WEAC Region 2 Member,

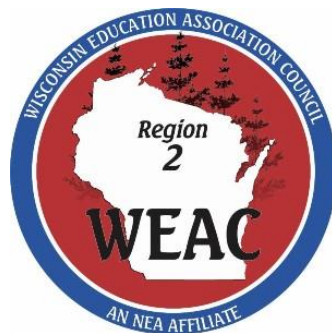
The new school year is up and running! In all the chaos that a new year brings, I'd like to take a moment and say thank you for your continued membership in your local, Region 2, WEAC and the NEA. As members, we share a common vision. We believe that our public schools in Central and Northern Wisconsin must remain strong and thrive in order to provide long-term opportunities and success for our students.

As a region, we are committed to advocacy on behalf of our public schools. We are proud of the work we've done while working with local leaders. We are dedicated to providing the help your local needs to be successful. Whether it's electing pro-education school board members, passing a much needed referendum, or providing professional development, we are here for you. We are also continuing our work with the Wisconsin Public Education Network partnering in statewide grassroots advocacy on behalf of public schools and our communities. We understand that when we work with families and our communities on behalf of public schools, we all win and our students succeed.

Region 2 is here to help and serve but also to engage you in your profession and your organization. If you are interested in becoming more involved in professional development, member engagement or any other aspect of the association, please let us know. We'll be happy to connect with you and engage you in our collective mission for strong public schools for all students in Central and Northern Wisconsin. Don't hesitate to contact our office with any questions you may have. You can call us at 800-472-0010 or e-mail [region2@weac.org](mailto:region2@weac.org).

In solidarity,

*Ann Swenty*





# Round Table Meetings

What's happening in Region 2? Is there a regional or state-wide strategy for bargaining? What are the current trends in schools, state-wide as well as regionally? Has anyone had any success with meet and confer sessions? How did they do that? Where do I get a chance to talk with other Region 2 members about what's happening in their district? Are there any upcoming training opportunities?

All these topics...and more...are discussed and questions answered at Regional Roundtable Meetings.

The first Round Table meeting has come and gone. The next one will be face-to-face in three locations (*The Waters* in Minocqua, Owen-Withee HS, and the Mosinee Office). After that, two more Round Table meetings are scheduled to be held on-line using ZOOM. However, some attendees prefer face to face meetings, and that option will be made available based on the preference of those in attendance at the October meeting. In addition--more meetings may be held if requested or necessary.

**PLEASE NOTE:** These meetings are not only for local presidents, organizers, and negotiators...they are for everyone interested. Often SEVERAL people, from one local or from a combination of locals, will carpool to a meeting and take the information back to their individual local. Check with your local leader if you're interested in attending.



Can't you just send me the info in an e-mail?  
Of Course!

HOWEVER.... People don't always read their e-mail...

Besides, roundtable meetings offer an opportunity to talk with your colleagues.

It's a chance to talk with people in the same profession...and often in the same "boat" you are. It's a way to network...to get ideas...to discuss strategies...and to make connections throughout the Region.

[Click here for a link to the WEAC Region 2 2017-18 Roundtable Meeting Schedule.](#)



Region 2 recorded

113

Additional memberships since August...

**WELCOME!!**



## Teacher Licensure After September 21, 2017

With the signing of the Wisconsin Biennial Budget, sweeping changes are now in effect for teacher licensure. **PDP and credits will no longer be required for license renewal.**

- Current professional educator licenses will automatically be converted to a "life" license with no expiration date. Teachers who hold professional educator licenses do not need to do anything to make this happen. Stop PDP work. Cancel plans to take 6 credits to renew your current license.
- Current initial educator licenses will automatically be converted to "provisional" licenses with a three-year expiration date with unlimited renewal. In order to convert the provisional license into a "life" license, teachers will have to teach successfully for six (6) semesters. It is up to the school district to determine "success" and to report successful completion at the end of each semester to the DPI. Stop PDP work.
  - From the DPI on 10-4-17: NOTE: We are working to get clarification on whether work experience completed prior to the 2017-2018 school year can be used for the lifetime license requirement. We will post that answer on our blog as soon as we know. (See link to the blog below.)

**Here are some materials you can share with teachers:**

A link to a [FAQ page](#) from WEAC.

Get the latest news directly from the WI DPI: <https://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/News>

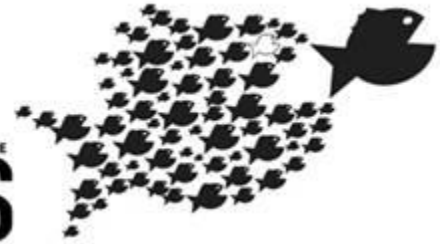
## Union Recertification Elections

The Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC) will begin holding union recertification elections for preK-12 teachers and support personnel in November.

Members of locals that filed petitions by September 15<sup>th</sup> to recertify their unions have from noon on November 1<sup>st</sup> until noon on November 21<sup>st</sup> to vote in their recertification

elections. Act 10 legislation mandates that 51% of the total population of all eligible voters must vote YES...whether they are dues paying members or not...for a recertification election to be successful. Be sure to prepare member and non-members alike. This is an opportunity to have 1:1 conversations. Remind members that the Union works with them for success. (Ask potential members to join the Association NOW! If they do not want to join...encourage them to support their colleagues and vote "YES" for certification.)

RECERTIFICATION IS HERE  
VOTE  
**YES**



There are two ways you will be able to cast your ballot...either online (Voters who choose to vote online will do so by logging on to <http://www.aaaelections.org/WERC> ) or by phone. (Voters who choose to vote by telephone will do so by calling toll free 1-866-458-9862.) Midpoint counts should be [available on the WERC website](#). The total number of votes cast is the only information that may be available at that time.

**1-Prepare for success!** Divide up the names and have a union member personally talk with each eligible voter! Remind your colleagues that **you are counting on them!**

**2-Plan a voting event!** **Be sure to keep a list** and check off people as they step up to vote! Be sure to give them privacy as they vote! Circle back to colleagues that couldn't attend an event to verify that they voted. Remember that any ballots not cast will be counted as voting no.

**3-Draw for a prize!** Have each individual that votes...both members and non-members...turn in a signed card to their building rep. After the vote is over, randomly draw from those turned in to award door prizes.

If you have questions about your local's recertification contact your local leadership or the Region 2 office.



## PAC Contributions Refundable

Region 2-PAC dues are used to make contributions to local referendum committees and the political campaigns of candidates your leaders recommend as pro-public education.

Any member wishing a refund of Region 2-PAC contributions may request one. Full-time teachers contribute \$2, part-time teacher members contribute \$1. Full-time ESP members contribute \$1, part-time ESP members contribute--\$.50 for 26% - 50% or \$.25 for 25% time or less. Refunds must be requested individually and in writing to WEAC Region 2, 370 Orbiting Drive, Mosinee, WI 54455 **no later than October 30, 2017**. Only requests postmarked on or before that date will be honored.

## New Educator Cards...

We are interested in collecting New Educator Cards from all recently hired teachers and support staff. Those cards provide helpful contact information as well as highlight areas of interest for those new to your district. That information helps direct the programming for Region 2. If people are interested in classroom management techniques...we can sponsor a training opportunity for that. Are people interested in social justice issues? If so, we can direct information to them on that topic or invite them to happenings of interest.



Check with your leadership to see if new educator cards have been circulated to new employees. If not—circulate them NOW! That gives you the opportunity to talk with new colleagues. Ask them to complete the sheet while you wait! It will only take a few minutes. Do NOT stuff mailboxes and hope for the best. Engage these new folks in conversation about your union and why you'd like them to join.

Forward all completed new educator forms to the Region 2 office. Bring them to a Roundtable meeting or ask your director to please pick them up if they are in your area.

Need a copy of the form? Click the links below.

[New-Ed-Card-Teacher.pdf](#)

[New Ed Card- ESP.pdf](#)



## Region 2 is working for **YOU!**

### **We're Your National Boards Support System**

Region 2 is again offering National Boards support for members seeking National Board Certification. These "in house" sessions are presented by regional members that have successfully completed their own National Board Certification!

[Click here for more information.](#)

**These sessions are provided at no charge to Region 2 members.**



### **NEED TO GET IN TOUCH??**

The Region 2 office has one telephone number only. You can reach the office in Mosinee by calling 1-800-472-0010.

Staff extensions are:

Sandy Fults	Ext. 1
Larry Holtz	Ext. 2
Josh Skubal	Ext. 3
Tiffany Reindl	Ext. 4

Or you can e-mail: [fultss@weac.org](mailto:fultss@weac.org)

[holtzl@weac.org](mailto:holtzl@weac.org)

[skubalj@weac.org](mailto:skubalj@weac.org)

[reindlt@weac.org](mailto:reindlt@weac.org)