



An affiliate of
the Arizona
Education
Association and
the National
Education
Association

Calendar of
Events



**April 22– Governing
Board Meeting**

**April 23 and 24–
AEA Delegate As-
sembly**

**April 27– Rep Coun-
cil Meeting**

**May 4– National
Teacher Day**

**May 12– 3rd Annual
Literacy Night**

**May 18th—Special
Election on Proposi-
tion 100**

**May 20– WDEA Offi-
cer Installation Din-
ner**

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The Voice

www.wdea.net

Budget Special Edition

Volume 9

Publication of the Washington District Education Association

Board Approved Best-Case Scenario

Due to the K-3 Override and the Title I budgets being maximized, there will be NO salary reduction.

Department Cuts a minimum of.....	\$ 800,000.00
Increasing Class Size by .6.....	\$ 1,900,000.00
Common Dismissal (includes adding additional FTE for Art, Music, and P.E.).....	\$ 250,000.00
Administrative Cuts.....	\$ 300,000.00
Work Furlough Days	\$ 3,800,000.00

193-Day Calendar	7 days	*
208-Day Calendar	8 days	*
220-Day Calendar	8 days	*
227-Day Calendar	9 days	*
261-Day Calendar	10 days	*

- Two Furlough days could be reduced for each employee group if the legislature takes action regarding overrides.

The IBN RIF subcommittee will be meeting again to discuss Governing Board recommendations and IBN will be meeting again to determine a recommendation for the Worst-Case Scenario (if Proposition 100 Fails on May 18th).

This year we have an extraordinary amount of work going on behind the scenes every day. To keep up to date, please visit our website for information, dates, activities, and contact information. To stay in compliance with state law, there are several things WDEA cannot publish and distribute using District Resources. We can, however, use our website to keep you in the know @ www.wdea.net! Don't delay, visit today!!!

The Spring Membership Drive Has Begun!

JOIN US NOW FOR FREE!

As always, the spring is a great time to ask potential members to join our ranks. Now more than ever, we are doing great things for our students, our district, and our profession.

Ask any first, second, or third year teacher you know to consider joining. Tell them all the incredible things our organization has done, is doing, and will continue to do, in spite of incredible state-wide setbacks and obstacles this year.

It's free to join! Remind all potential members that it's free to join now. No dues money will be taken until September. In addition, for every new member you sign up, YOU will receive \$20!

Enjoy all the benefits with none of the cost!

Contact Nancy Putman at Lookout Mountain for membership forms and more information.

Arizona's Budget Deficit

The following is an excerpt from the April AARP Bulletin about Arizona's financial situation.

How bad is it? So bad that the state mortgaged its State and Senate buildings, the Veterans' Memorial Coliseum-home of the Arizona State Fair- and other public buildings for \$737 million. So bad the state took out a \$700 million bank loan-the first time its borrowed from an outside sources since the Great Depression. Even that may not be enough to get through the year that ends in June, and it faces another \$3.4 million deficit after that.

Although 38 other states faced mid-year deficits, Arizona's short-fall, at 20% of the budget, is by far the largest.

"We have defects as far as the eye can see," said Marshall Vest, an economist at the University of Arizona. The state could eliminate spending for every government program except for public education and its version of Medicaid, he said, "and still be unable to close the gap.

The survival of the state's economy depends on an increase in taxes."

Republican Gov. Jan Brewer and Democratic lawmakers have called for new revenue sources. But the Republican-controlled legislature has insisted on spending cuts.

Want to contribute to WEPAC?

WEPAC (Washington Education Political Action Committee)

What does WEPAC do for you?

- We are involved in state-wide and local political races to support pro-education candidates by collecting signatures to get them on the ballot, organize walks and phone banks to inform voters about candidates and issues
- We are involved in supporting overrides and bonds to increase financial resources to the WESD in serving the students of our community .
- We provide materials as well as the care and feeding of volunteers in these endeavors.

Do you want your voice to be heard in state and local elections, including school board members, as well as overrides and bonds? Do you have fresh ideas to improve our efforts? Then join WEPAC! It's easy & here's how. Send your contribution with your name

& address to:
Joslyn Brown (WEPAC Treasurer)
Lookout Mt. School
15 W. Coral Gables
Phoenix, AZ 85023

You must be a member of the WDEA in order to contribute.

Make checks payable to: WEPAC