

Washington Education Association Political Action Committee
2010 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire



Candidate: Judy Clibborn

Office Sought: State Representative, 41st #2

These are my official positions in seeking state office.

Candidate Signature: Judy Clibborn

Date: 5/17/10

Candidates: Please return your completed and signed questionnaire to your local WEA council office.

WEA-PAC 2010 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire

Washington Education Association members advocate for our students and the education profession. We have three legislative priorities:

- Education funding, including educator compensation
- Commonsense education reform and accountability
- Protecting workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively

Please indicate whether you support or oppose the following WEA positions, and explain why.

Education Funding, including educator compensation

Washington Education Association members believe the State of Washington must fulfill its paramount duty to amply fund our public schools.

The 2009 Legislature passed SHB 2363, which suspended the annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for education employees for two years. The COLAs were mandated by voter-approved Initiative 732. SHB 2363 requires the Legislature to reinstate educators' annual COLA in the 2011-12 school year AND incrementally restore the COLA percentage educators lost during the two-year suspension. After four years, educator salaries will be what they would have been without the suspension.

WEA supports current law (SHB 2363), which reinstates the annual COLA for educators in the 2011-12 school year and incrementally restores the lost COLA percentage over four years.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose

Please explain your position:

I have had to vote twice in 8 years to suspend the I - 732. I will support its re-instatement and the increases even though i feel the initiative was faulty in that it did nto provide the funding for this effort. I still support the COLA in principle. I also am well aware that we will have another shortfall in the next biennium and as such we may have to prioritize how soon we can do this.

WEA supports a minimum starting salary of \$45,000 for teachers and other certificated education employees. We also believe education support professionals deserve at least a living wage as starting pay, and we support salary increases that exceed the cost of living for higher education faculty and staff.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose x

Please explain your position:

I do not know enough about how the state sends these mandates to the districts. If we have negotiations that set salaries then I am not sure we should be setting these at the state level. There are unintended outcomes if we set the negotiation requirements without the other issues on the table.

Higher ed has taken a back seat to K-12 for a number of sessions. For the state this is bad for business and for the educators it is insulting. That said we need to look at how the state is going to fund higher-ed in a more comprehensive way, not just on compensation.

The 2009 Legislature passed ESHB 2261, which sets out to “enhance the current salary allocation model” through deliberation and input from “teachers, administrators and classified employees. WEA members oppose tying teacher pay, in whole or in part, to student achievement or test scores.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support ___ Oppose x

Please explain your position: We are at a point where the whole nation is looking at this issue. We need to be a part of the conversation. Working together we should be able to come up with a way to start using measurements to enhance salaries. If we continue to leave this conversation to others, we fall behind.

WEA believes any alternative compensation system must be subject to local collective bargaining, fully funded, available to all and based on objective criteria.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose ___

Please explain your position: If we are working on a way to enhance salaries there is nothing that makes these criteria wrong. What we need is to have the criteria laid out for measurement and usefull in negotiations.

WEA opposes differentiated pay based on the subject taught.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support ___ Oppose x

Please explain your position: We are in need of teachers in special places and the pay may need to be an incentive.

WEA supports the current practice of providing salary bonuses and other support for teachers who achieve certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose ___

Please explain your position: This is consistent with what I have said to other questions. We incentivize what we need in the system.

Washington educators currently are required to work until they reach age 65 to qualify for their normal retirement pension, regardless of the number of years they serve. Some educators must work more than 40 years before earning their normal pension. WEA supports legislation that allows educators to retire with their full normal pension based on the number of years they work rather than requiring them to reach an arbitrary age of eligibility.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: I think the pension should be based on the years worked.

The 2009 Legislature passed ESHB 2261, which changes the definition of basic education and makes other changes to the K-12 school system. WEA members called ESHB 2261 a "false promise" because it ignored the current underfunding of basic education and did not include new funding. WEA members believe the state Legislature should keep its promise and fully fund the programs called for by this bill, which is estimated to cost an additional \$3 billion annually.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: We cannot do this all at one time and the state will not be able to fund that big of a jump until we both increase our underlying costs and identify new revenue. Doing this at the same time is impossible. I am not afraid of voting for new revenue when it is identified. I also think education is the first priority for new revenue.

The 2010 Legislature passed SHB 2776, which promises to reduce the average K-3 class size to no more than 17 students per teacher by the 2017-18 school year. Washington currently has some of the nation's largest average class sizes, and the Legislature recently eliminated Initiative 728 class-size-reduction funding. WEA believes the Legislature must restore funding for Initiative 728 and provide the additional state funding to reduce class sizes as promised by SHB 2776.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: Although this too is an initiative that I have voted against twice in 8 years, I still find it a compelling issue. Class size is about capital costs as well as operational costs. In a time of cutting budgets all these things had to be cut. I still think this is where I would put my priorities. I am still unsure that using an initiative that had no funding is a strong case but I do agree with the effort.

Commonsense Education Reform and Accountability

In the 2010 legislative session, WEA helped draft and pass SB 6696, a research-based approach to improving student achievement. This legislation was forged between the Governor, the Legislature and education stakeholders, and it represents a major step forward in reforming teacher evaluation, assistance to struggling schools and teacher certification. SB 6696 establishes statewide criteria for teacher evaluations and allows local school districts and education associations to develop their own local evaluation systems. The legislation was tailored to the needs and conditions of Washington State and will allow our state to compete for federal Race to the Top funding.

WEA supports SB 6696 as passed by the Legislature in 2010 and opposes further changes to the law.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose

Please explain your position: This new way of looking at funding and evaluation is what comes from working together.

WEA opposes linking teacher evaluations to student test scores.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose

Please explain your position: Test scores are not the only way to judge a teacher. In today's school room you can have many needs and if one year a teacher does a good job but the starting point was so low, it might not show up. We need various evaluation tools.

ESHB 2261 established the Quality Education Council (QEC) and individual workgroups on issues such as educator compensation. WEA believes the QEC and related workgroups should solicit the professional input and judgment of public education employees. Any final recommendations should be based on sound research and the expertise of Washington educators.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support x Oppose

Please explain your position:
I support the QEC approach.

WEA opposes linking the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) to student graduation. (Passing the HSPE is currently a graduation requirement.)

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose x

Please explain your position: If not this than what?

Protecting Workers' Rights

WEA strongly supports the right of public education employees to organize, bargain collectively and engage in the political and legislative processes. WEA believes commonsense education reform can be developed effectively and collaboratively at the local level through the collective bargaining process. WEA supports legal protections against discrimination or intimidation for workers who exercise their right to organize.

WEA supports workers' rights to due process.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: I have always supported teacher's right to bargain and organize.

WEA supports the right of public school employees to engage in the political process, both individually and collectively.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: I supported the teachers in their suit against EFF.

WEA supports giving community and technical college faculty the right to bargain salaries at the local level, a right enjoyed by all other education union members in the state.

Do you support or oppose WEA's position? Support Oppose

Please explain your position: I will continue to support this.

Education Experience

Who was the most influential teacher you had in school and why?

Kathryn Barnard, recently from the U of W School of Pediatric Nursing. She was my "Growth and Development" teacher in nursing school. She believed in me in a way no one ever did and

helped me turn around my education. One teacher can do a lot to make a person believe in themselves and it can last a lifetime.

Campaign Plans

Please describe your campaign plan for fundraising and doorbelling.

Please list endorsements by noteworthy elected officials.

Tell us about your plan for getting your message out to voters.

I have not set up a campaign and have not decided yet whether to hire staff since I have an opponent from the Common Party that has limited himself to a small campaign. I do have a consultant, Christian Sinderman who will do mailings and give advice. If I get another opponent after filing I will revisit this. I have raised \$52,000+ to spend on getting the message out. I have not asked for endorsements from anyone except Women's Political Caucus and NARAL.

As Chair of the House Transportation Committee I find that I get out into the community and interact with voters on a personal level. I will do this more often and try to expand my activities to non-transportation activities this interim.

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME Judy Clibborn

HOME STREET ADDRESS

CITY & ZIP Mercer Island, 98040

CELL PHONE

HOME PHONE 206-232-8941

<i>Family Members</i>	<i>Relationship</i>	<i>If school age, what school do they attend?</i>
<u>Bruce Clibborn</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	

CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

CAMPAIGN MANAGER

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS PO Box 808 Mercer Island 98040

CAMPAIGN E-MAIL

jclibborn@comcast.net

OFFICE PHONE 206-232-8941

CAMPAIGN MGR CELL PHONE

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

(Church, community, service, social, union, professional, etc.)

Rotary International – Mercer Island

EDUCATION

Graduated in 1965 from U of W School of Nursing BS/RN

BRIEF EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Worked at Harborview Hospital until 1970.

Various part-time Nursing jobs in clinics 1973-1975

Spent 12 years as a Mercer Island Citycouncilmember 1990 – 2001(4 years as Mayor)

Part-time Executive Director of Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce 2001-2003

Elected to the House in 2003.