



# 2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

*West Virginia School Service Personnel Association*

Through your hard work and dedication, Service Personnel made tremendous strides last legislative session, however, our work continues. WVSSPA has identified the following legislative priorities for the 2019 Legislative session. Our goal is to continue to educate legislators on important service personnel issues, state employees issues and to protect the rights of all workers. The Association asks for your support of the following priorities during the 2019 West Virginia Legislative Session.

## **Increase Service Personnel and State Employee Salaries**

- Adequate funding for a 4-year salary package for service personnel and state employees with across the board implementation: Year 1-\$2,000; Year 2-\$2,000; Year 3-\$2,000; Year 4-\$4000 (§18A-4-8a).
- Reinstate the holiday pay (§18A-5-2).

## **Provide Funding for WV Public Employee Insurance Agency (PEIA)**

- Earmark a funding source for PEIA with an 2.5% increase in the natural gas severance tax.

## **RIF and Transfer**

- Allow for RIFs and Transfers to be rescinded through October 1 (§18A-2-7).
- Allow RIFed employees to substitute without penalty (§18A-4-8b).

## **Cooks**

- Cook meal ratio mandate providing a formula for staffing kitchens based on the number of meals served (§18A-2-13).

## **Custodians**

- Promotion of Custodian I to Custodian II after 4 years of service (§18A-4-8).
- Square footage maximums
- Extra pay for extra duty assignments that require custodians to leave their scheduled job to perform.

## **ECCATs, Aides, Paraprofessionals**

- Permit Aides to bid on ECCAT jobs, uphold seniority bidding (§18A-4-8b).
- Legislation to add advanced classification and higher pay for “Aide V” for a special education classroom aide who has elected to complete 3 e-learning courses provided through the WV Department of Special Education (§18A-4-8).
- Allow Aides to move after 20 days prior to the start of the school year (§18a-2-7b).
- Compensation for ECCAT, aides and paraprofessionals who work in classrooms where the number of students exceeds 20 in Kindergarten and 25 in grades 1-4 (§18-5-18a).

## **Transportation**

- Introduce legislation that will require five years of experience working in a transportation department, or the requirement of acquiring a National Association of Pupil Transportation (NAPT) certification in order to be eligible to fill a Transportation Director position (§18A-1-1).
- Introduce legislation that will designate substitute retired school bus operators as critical need employees and protect retirement benefits if working days exceed 140.
- Incremental pay raises based on years worked.

## **Seniority Rights to WV School for the Deaf and the Blind Service Personnel**

- Introduce legislation that will provide seniority and due process rights for personnel employed by the WV School for the Deaf and the Blind (§18A-7-9a).

## **WVSSPA will oppose the following:**

- Abolishing service personnel positions for the purpose of using private contractors, e.g., public charter schools.
- PEIA benefit cuts for active service personnel employees and retirees.
- Repealing the intent of the service personnel seniority and substitute provisions of law as provided in §§18A-4-8b, 18A-4-8g and 18A-4-15.
- Merit Pay: providing pay raises based on merit.

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## **Text Alerts**

Throughout the session,  
WVSSPA will call on members to  
take action in order to uphold  
and protect §18-A privileges for  
service personnel.

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\* Standard text messaging and data

