2016 Legislative Priorities

The WVSSPA works to provide our members with representation at the Legislature and other government agencies. The following legislative priorities were discussed and updated during the 2015 Fall President’s Conference. The goal of the WVSSPA is to educate members on important issues and to protect the rights of service personnel. The Association asks for your support of the following priorities for school service personnel during the second session of the 82nd West Virginia Legislature.

Salary Increase
Adequate funding for a 4-year salary package for service personnel with across the board implementation: Year 1-$2,000; Year 2-$2,000; Year 3-$2,000; Year 4-$4000.
Additional salary considerations:

- Re-instate the holiday pay.
- Automatic cost-of-living increases.
- Providing extra pay for ECCAT, aides and paraprofessionals who work in classrooms where the number of students exceeds 20 in Kindergarten and 25 in grades 1-4.

WV Public Employee Insurance Agency (PEIA)
- Fix and fund PEIA at the 80/20 rule.
- Increase PEIA employer contribution to match employment numbers.
- Stronger healthcare cost containment legislation.

Regional Education Service Agency (RESA)
- Re-Introduce RESA bill-prohibiting the filling of service jobs to RESA employees.
- Accountability to the legislature on all aspects of RESA.

West Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind
Introduce legislation that will provide seniority and due process rights for personnel employed by the West Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Transportation Director Bill
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.

WVSSPA will oppose the following:

- Abolishing service personnel positions for the purpose of using private contractors, e.g., public charter schools.
- PEIA benefit cuts.
- 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.
- Providing pay raises based on merit.

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