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# WACTE Day on the Hill 2023

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## Mechanics:

WACTE “Day on the Hill” for 2023 is going to be mostly-virtual, although you have the option of coming to the legislature in person, should you choose, this year! And we encourage you to join with your nearby colleagues for group meetings, which emphasizes how WACTE institutions cooperate & support each other.

So as you prepare to participate, here’s some resources and information to help you do your best.

First, if you do not know who your Senator and Representatives are, you can find out here:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Keep in mind that, especially in more urban areas, you may have two sets of legislators — one set that represents you, personally, where you live, and another that represents the land on which your institution sits. If that is the case, please try to reach out to both sets as constituents.

Once you find your legislators, contact information is here:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/Members>

Be sure to clic the drop-down box on the right so you can also reveal their legislative assistants and those emails, too. You need to email both the member and their LA to make sure your message gets seen.

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## Messaging:

Education is not a marquee issue this session (overshadowed by drugs, law enforcement, workforce shortages, homelessness, guns, economic recovery, and abortion).

That’s not to say there are not education issues, especially around fully funding special education. But it is not the deluge of issue we’ve seen over the last decade.

One issue that may gain traction is teacher residencies. The governor has put some significant funding in his proposed budget, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction wants even more. WACTE has not formulated a collective response to these proposals, although WACTE representatives were involved in the OSPI discussions (Tara Haskins).

You should formulate messaging to legislators around what the state can do (or not do) to help you attract and graduate more candidates — especially candidates from underrepresented populations. This could include more, or more targeted, conditional scholarships, or post-graduation mentorships and other support for your candidates.

If you have questions about how to do this, please ask either Joyce or Bob, or ask colleagues who have done this before. And even though there is not a collective ask from WACTE this year, it is important to show up. As the old bon mot says: Must be present to win. Thanks, and good luck.