The Southwestern Region’s 2020 Spring Leadership Development Conference (LDC) will be held on Saturday, March 21st. The Southwestern Region Spring House of Delegates (HOD) will be held March 20th.

Friday, March 20, 2020 (HOD)
and
Saturday, March 21, 2020 (LDC)

**DoubleTree by Hilton - Meadowlands**
340 Racetrack Road, Washington, PA

**Lodging Deadline**
March 6, 2020

**Conference Registration Deadline**
March 13, 2020

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION ENCLOSED**
Bet on Public Ed -
It’s a Sure Thing!

PSEA SWR

NEW LOCAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

All first-time attendees participating in the New Local Leader Training are entered into a drawing for a $200 Giant Eagle gift card.

All presidents who attend with their new attendee will be entered into a drawing for a $100 Giant Eagle gift card.
AGENDA

Friday, March 20, 2020 (HOD)
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  Registration
8:00 p.m.  House of Delegates
10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.  Hospitality Event
(Following HOD)

Saturday, March 21, 2020 (LDC)
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  Registration
                         PACE Collection
7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.  Breakfast Buffet
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  Welcome
                         Large Group Session
                         Coordinated Bargaining
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  Break
9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.  Breakout Session 1
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  Break and
                         Take Me Out to the Ballpark Snack
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Breakout Session 2
12:00 p.m.  Conference Conclusion

The Southwestern Region House of Delegates will be held Friday, March 20 (prior to the LDC hospitality event).

IF YOU ARE NOT A DELEGATE, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE HOD AS A GUEST.
**Large Group Session - 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

**Coordinated Bargaining**

*Presenters: Craig L. Apessos, PSEA Region Field Director  
Fritz Fekete, PSEA Region Advocacy Coordinator*

Achieving our goals at the bargaining table is not simply the result of intensive bargaining. Our success at the bargaining table depends on our strength as a union. One of the best ways that we can increase that strength across our Region is to engage in coordinated bargaining. This session will discuss how we can build solidarity and coordinate bargaining efforts between local bargaining units and across locals and throughout the region. We will review how to begin setting up a coordinated bargaining program, developing cooperation between bargaining units of similar type, setting of common bargaining goals, establishing set timelines, and sharing of information across locals.

**Breakout Session 1 (9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.)**

**Know Your Contract**

*Presenter: Lori A. Stripay, PSEA UniServ Representative*

This introductory session will explore the terms and conditions covered by a contract. Participants will gain a better understanding of the following: Where do I find my contract? What is covered by my contract? What is a grievance procedure and why is it important? What are salary schedules? Why is this provision/language/issue in or not in my contract? Who is responsible for the contract’s enforcement? How can I help my union police the contract?

**Attendees must bring a copy of their contract.**

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**Ball Park Break**

Look for the Ball Park Break between Sessions 2 and 3 at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy tortilla chips, warm cheddar cheese, salsa, jalapenos, and sour cream, peanuts, popcorn, and crackerjacks served with ice-cold soft drinks and bottled water.
**Workshop Descriptions**

**Breakout Session 1 (Continued)**

**Financial Trivia for Educators**

Presenter: Rich Locher and Nick Wyzkiewicz
Kades-Margolis

Learn about saving for retirement, social security, and savings basics in this trivia-style presentation. The session will cover a variety of financial topics that will aid you no matter where you are in your career.

**Student Achievement & Poverty (Act 48/Chapter 14)**

Presenter: Mary Ellen S. Jones, PSEA UniServ Representative

This session examines socio-economic status and student achievement in Pennsylvania and looks at approaches and interventions that are being implemented to help “close the achievement gap” for students around the country. Participants will leave the session with a better understanding of the facts and helpful knowledge and resources related to poverty and student achievement.

**New Leader Track (Session 1 of 2)**

Presenter: Maria C. Degnan and Nicole L. Popelas
PSEA UniServ Representatives

The new local leader training will cover a wide range of issues that a new leader could potentially face in his/her position. Participants will be given a crash course in topics including advocacy, handling difficult members, grievances, and bargaining. Participants should bring a copy of their current local contract, as it will be used to give them some hands-on experience with the types of issues that leaders face within their locals.

**PLEASE BRING A COPY OF YOUR CONTRACT WITH YOU.**
**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

**Breakout Session 2 (11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)**

**Benefits of Membership in a Post-Janus World**

Presenter: Valerie L. Shuman, PSEA UniServ Representative

PSEA members enjoy tremendous rights and benefits that aren’t available to non-members. Together, our local and state associations have the power to secure the salaries, benefits, and protections every member deserves. The comprehensive insurance and legal protections, professional development opportunities, and wide array of high-quality member benefit programs and services offered to PSEA members are second to none. Join this session to learn why it is so important to be part of an Association that protects you, speaks up for you, fights for you, and saves you money.

**Different Types of Leave**

Presenter: Mary Ellen S. Jones, PSEA UniServ Representative

This session will primarily focus on the federal and state laws governing the Family Medical Leave Act and Sabbaticals and how your contracts may interact with or expand on the rights granted by these laws. The session may also touch on other leaves of absence such as unpaid personal and Workers’ Compensation leaves. The goal of the session is to familiarize you with the basics of the laws to help protect your members and enable you to negotiate enhancements to the laws in your local contracts.

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**Never been to the Region House of Delegates?**

Here are some reasons you should attend as a guest:

◦ Observe your Southwestern officers lead the room of Southwestern Region Delegates in conducting the business of the Region and organization.

◦ Get a ‘front-row seat’ to watch the democratic process of electing the Region Officers-President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

◦ Hear updates of what is happening within PSEA from a PSEA State Officer.

◦ Listen to a Region Field Director and Legal Update from PSEA Staff.
**Breakout Session 2 (Continued)**

*Section 1122 - The 11 Sins of the School Code (Act 48 Only)*

Presenter: John Paul Jones, Esquire, Region Attorney

Section 1122 of the Pennsylvania School Code delineates the 11 statutory reasons a school employee may be disciplined or discharged from employment. The sessions will discuss the ban on corporate punishment, self-defense exceptions, social media issues, and child abuse reporting requirements.

**New** *leader Track (Session 2 of 2)*

Presenters: Maria C. Degnan and Nicole L. Popelas
PSEA UniServ Representatives

The new local leader training will cover a wide range of issues that a new leader could potentially face in his/her position. Participants will be given a crash course in topics including advocacy, handling difficult members, grievances, and bargaining. Participants should bring a copy of their current local contract, as it will be used to give them some hands-on experience with the types of issues that leaders face within their locals.

**HOSPITALITY EVENT**

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Fireside Room

**GIVEAWAYS, MUSIC & DANCING**

Join us for an opportunity to get to know Region Staff, Region Governance, other leaders, and members.

Music will be provided by...
Register online at:  www.psea.org/SWRLDC320
Any questions, please call Valerie Jones at: 724-696-3100

LODGING

Please contact the DoubleTree directly for room reservations at:
724-222-6200   Indicate Group Block for PSEA LDC

Room Rates:
Regular Room - $120.99 per person   Suite - $143.19 per person

The room rate includes lodging and breakfast on Saturday morning, all taxes, and gratuities.

Southwestern Region Staff

Steve Wilson, Region Field Manager
Craig Apessos, Region Field Director
John Paul Jones, Esquire, PSEA Region Attorney
Fritz Fekete, Region Advocacy Coordinator

UniServ Representatives
Craig Apessos
Maria Degnan
Mary Ellen Jones
Nicole Popelas
Dawn Shodi*
Valerie Shuman
Lori Stripay

Associate Staff
Valerie Jones*
Nicole Mullins
Michelle Stonebraker

*Denotes SWR LDC Staff