Dear MIEA Members,

Over the past few months, our Mercer Island Education Association members have been working hard to support our community in all sorts of ways. We have come together to help out in childcare; food services; delivery of school materials; keeping our facilities clean and safe; donations to the food bank and the local blood banks; and supporting our students and families academically and emotionally with innovative teaching, learning grids and live-interactive instruction and classrooms. We have shown our community the fundamental truth that gives us all hope; that together we can do extraordinary things.

This week, MIEA will be making a donation to Mercer Island Youth and Family Services (MIYFS) of \$1,000. This donation is a re-allocation of the funds that would have been spent on the cancelled WEA Representative Assembly in Spokane. Our MIEA Executive Board and Representative Council have unanimously voted to make this donation, along with an additional donation of \$1,000 from our Sammamish UniServ Council, earmarked to support our community organizations during this crisis. It is our hope and intent that this money will go to support our community members in need of food and other emergency support during this difficult time. If you would additionally like to personally make a donation to MIYFS, here is the link: MIYFS Donation.

The remaining balance of our 2019-20 WEA Representative Assembly budget (\$1,000) will be donated to the <u>WEA Children's Fund</u>. The Children's Fund is a charitable fund where WEA members can request assistance in providing basic items such as backpacks, jackets or new shoes for students in need. <u>We can't do this without you!</u> In the 2018-19 school year, the fund helped more than 1,000 students.

If you wish to personally donate to the Children's Fund, use this link, <u>WEA Children's Fund Donations</u>, to continue to help students thrive without worrying about basic necessities. The Children's Fund needs our help to spread the word. Please tell your friends and family why you believe in their work and encourage them to support the WEA Children's Fund, too.

Thank you for all you do to support our students and families every day.

Stay safe, healthy, and informed.

Sincerely,

Sally Loeser

President, Mercer Island Education Association sally.loeser@washingtonea.org

206-550-6853

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