

Greetings,

I hope that you can join us for a general membership meeting/lunch on **April 16 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Royal Star Buffet** (across from the Mount Vernon WalMart). Your unit will pay 1/2 of your meal including whatever you want to eat, beverage, tip, and tax. That means you will pay \$5, and we pay the other \$5.

Liz Jennings from Community Action of Skagit County will be our main speaker. I think you will appreciate hearing about the many ways that Community Action is working throughout our communities. When setting up this event, I was surprised to learn that 85% of the people they serve are either employed or are on a fixed income.

Your legislative team of Barbara Robinson, Diane Visten and I will also give a short summary of this legislative session and share what we plan to be doing this upcoming fall election to help maintain/improve your hard earned retirement benefits. This year we were part of an effective state-wide team that worked with state legislators to “win” an increase in your Health Care Benefit from \$150 to \$168 per month (starting July 1, 2018), you TRS and PERS Plan 1 members will receive a 1.5% one time COLA (up to a \$50,000 pension), and your minimum benefit levels will increase by 3%. The Alternative Minimum for retirees who have been retired for at least 20 years (with 25 years of service) will increase to \$1901 per month. Those of you who are Plan 2 and 3 members will receive a yearly inflation based COLA.

Hope to see you there. Your attendance will be our guide to scheduling more general membership meetings in the near future.

Bruce Boyer
Skagit-Island-San Juan Unit 21 President
Washington State School Retirees

PS—A reminder: whenever we meet we do accept food and personal hygiene items which we then take to the Skagit Valley Food Distribution Center.



Skagit-Island-San Juan Unit 21
Washington State School Retirees
P.O. Box 66 U.S.
Burlington, WA 98233

PRSR Auto
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Permit No. 5

Please join
us for lunch
and a fun
informative
meeting.

