First and foremost I would like to send a special Thank You to Local 1253 for their support at the Board Of Regents meeting in the Tri-Cities the first weekend in March. Speaking with the BOR was just the beginning of our efforts to get our message out. We need to keep this momentum going.

Which brings me to our contract campaign. It is more important now than ever that we recognize that WE are the Union. We are Local 1066. We need to stand and be heard. It’s us (the members) that create a strong Union. Our activism is a loud sign that says we care about our present and our future.

If you have ideas please bring them to the table. Let’s show WSU that we are STRONG, UNITED and GROWING with an undeniable presence. This is our fight against the tyranny. Our opportunity to create a better, safer, working environment and we need to be present in the moment. Be mindful of each other and all that we are accomplishing by being united.

Solidarity,
Michelle Edenso President Local 1066
Contract negotiations are just around the corner. Now is the time to plan how you will stay informed. Local 1066 has many avenues for you to access news and information. Including signing up for the Hotline emails at wfse.org, a Facebook page for Council 28 and a separate one for our own Local, and a new website specific to WSU: wsu.wfse.org. This is where you can find our bargaining timeline and contracts, plus lots of other information.

Remember, it all comes down to the basic fact that if you don’t know what’s going on, you can’t take action. Our officers and WFSE staff are committed to making information available to all, but it’s every member’s job to step forward and stay informed. We need volunteers in each shop and dining location to help build the communication network. Please let any of our officers or stewards know if you are willing to help – this is not a big time commitment and will help increase the power of our union.

Start by taking the bargaining priorities survey! This is how our team can be sure that our priorities are the focus at the bargaining table.

Ask a Local Steward or officer for a copy or go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wfsewsu19_21

BIG WIN FOR WSU- Puyallup Members

Members of the new WFSE/AFSCME bargaining unit at Washington State University’s Puyallup Research and Extension Center today (March 7) voted unanimously to immediately come under the current, 2017-2019 union contract for WSU members.

WSU-Puyallup members Beau Porter and Ron Froemke and WFSE/AFSCME Labor Advocate Mark Hamilton yesterday (March 6) negotiated the memorandum of understanding with WSU management. The MOU brings the employees in the recently certified WSU-Puyallup Bargaining Unit 20 (Farms and Maintenance Operations) under WFSE/AFSCME’s current contract.
PARKING

On March 3rd 1066 officers attended the Board of Regents’ meeting in the Tri-Cities to let them know our thoughts about WSU raising parking rates! There were a number of VIPs in the room, including President Schultz. Our officers talked about how unfair and even dangerous the changes are.

We gave the Board the parking petitions most of us signed, as well as about 1000 emails from the University community explaining why increased fees are just plain wrong for workers at WSU. We pointed out that the emails contradicted the University’s claim that the feedback they got about raising fees was positive.

The Board of Regents thanked our speakers for bringing the issues forward. Many of them said they had no idea of the problems the parking increases have caused. And many of them said that the stories we told were very moving. But talk is cheap, and our parking isn’t, and we need to see action from this Board and President Schulz.

This was an important meeting. We need to keep the Board of Regents, and other members of the public, informed about how the university treats its workers, students and the community. We will have many chances during our contract campaign to do exactly that, beginning with the BOR meeting in Spokane on May 3rd & 4th. Stay tuned to see how you can help. A better workplace and a better contract are within reach, if we all work together.