



# THE DIALOGUE

## 30th District Democratic Organization

### Executive Board

#### Chair

Tim Burns  
253-874-6292

#### Vice-Chair

Jeff Holden  
253-835-4319

#### Secretary

Linda Gage  
253-838-1163

#### Treasurer

Bob Dickinson  
253-217-0704

#### State Committeeman

Geoffery McAnallo  
253-945-6789

#### State Committeewoman

Ginny Leach  
253-924-0432

#### King County Male Delegate

Dan Turley  
206-819-7397

#### King County Female Delegate

Julie Turley  
206-819-6721

#### Leg. Action Comm. Chair

Keith Tyler  
253-653-6319

#### Hospitality Committee Chair

Jem Wear  
253-838-0182

#### Fundraising Committee Chair

#### Outreach Committee Chair

Cheryl Monk  
253-941-6994

#### Membership/PCO Committee

Richard Champion  
206-724-1506

#### Communications/Parliamentarian

Kurt Peppard  
253-838-8618

Regular Monthly General Meeting: April 4, 2012  
First Wednesday of each month, 7:00 to 9:00 pm  
4016 S 352 St. 98001 - 1/2 mile west of Military Road

### Chair's Report

**Big News—Congressman Dennis Kucinich** (D Ohio) will be the featured speaker at the Social Security forum to be held at Highline Community College on Thursday, April 12. Other speakers will include **Pramila Jayapal**, Executive Director of OneAmerica, **Marilyn Watkins**, Policy Director of Economic Opportunities Institute, and **Magdaleno Rose-Avila**, Executive Director of the Latino Equality Initiative. This forum, titled “The Threat to Social Security-An Issue for All Generations”, will focus on protecting and improving Social Security for current and future recipients. It is the third in a series of forums sponsored by the Social Security Works coalition of Washington ([www.ssworkswa.org](http://www.ssworkswa.org)) and is co-sponsored by the 30th LD Democrats. Starting at 6:30pm in the Student Union Building (cafeteria) of HCC, the forum will explain how Social Security currently operates and how the program can be improved to protect and preserve the benefits for the future. The forum is free and everyone is welcome, especially those not currently receiving Social Security benefits.

**Precinct Caucuses**—On Sunday, April 15, the Democratic Precinct caucuses will be held State-wide in Washington beginning at 1 pm. For the 30th LD, there will be five (5) locations, **Federal Way High School** (30611 16th Ave S, 98003) cafeteria, **Decatur High School** (2800 SW 320th, 98023) cafeteria (previously announced as Lakota Middle School), **Illahee Middle School** (36001 1st Ave S, 98023) cafeteria, **Kloshe Illahee Manufactured Home Park** (2500 S 370th ST., 98003) club house and the **Rainbow Café** (112 E. Main St) in Auburn. The primary purposes of these caucuses are to choose a Presidential Candidate and select the delegates to begin the process of delegate selection for the National Democratic Convention. To find your individual caucus location go to [www.wa-demchairs.org](http://www.wa-demchairs.org), and, from the home page, choose “to find an caucus location with an address...” from the “Updated Maps” box, or contact Tim Burns 253-874-6292 [chair@30thdemswa.org](mailto:chair@30thdemswa.org) or Richard Champion 206-724-1506 [richard.champion@gmail.com](mailto:richard.champion@gmail.com). These caucuses are extremely important, Please plan to attend. Also, we will need volunteers at each caucus location.

**Wednesday, April 4**—At our regular membership meeting we expect to hear from several candidates and make decisions on early endorsements of candidates and/or issues for the August primary election and vote on PCO application(s). Please bring an item for the raffle.

## Mark your calendar--

**Saturday, April 28** Legislative District caucus  
10am at Federal Way High School

**Sunday, April 29** King County Democrats  
convention 1 pm at IAM 751 Hall, 9125 15th Pl S,  
Seattle, 98108

**Sunday, May 20** Congressional District  
Conventions 1pm

8th CD—Issaquah High School

9th CD—TBD

10th CD--TBD

**June 1-3** Washington State Convention in  
Seattle

**Saturday, June 9** South King County  
Democrats' fundraising dinner

**Of Note**—Our Membership/PCO Chair, Richard  
Champion's Doctoral thesis has been accepted at the  
University Of Washington. Congratulations to  
Richard on becoming a PHD.

At the March membership meeting we voted to adopt  
a new logo for the 30th LD. You will see it in the near  
future on our printed material. Thanks to Dan Turley  
and Janet Bentley for their work on this new logo.

## On Education in FW School District

I recently had the wonderful opportunity of  
sharing breakfast with Neil Helgeland at the Pancake  
Chef. Neil grew up in Northern Wisconsin during the  
Great Depression of the 20th Century. He described  
so wonderfully to me the electrification of that region  
during the administration of FDR. Neil related to me  
his experience growing up in a one-room  
schoolhouse.

One of the things that most caught my ear in  
listening to Neil was how the school systems of yore  
were the cradles of democracy. I state this in the past  
tense as this is an aspect of our history that society  
seems to have lost and forgotten.

Back in the day, entire communities took  
responsibility for the selection and care of their  
teachers. Teachers were not separate from the  
community - they were integral parts of the  
communities in which they lived. As Neil mentioned,  
at least twice a year, the teacher was in attendance for  
family dinner.

But this idea that Neil related to me – that the  
schools were the cradle of democracy...

Along the way, populations have grown and  
society has become even more fragmented. As a  
natural course of history, the management of our  
schools has largely been given over to professional  
administrators. While I refuse to go so far as to  
denigrate the inherent humanity of such professional  
administrators, still, the educational outcomes of the  
majority of our children speaks volumes as to the flaws  
of such top-down thinking.

Even the School Boards we elect have forgotten  
their vital democratic role of ensuring equitable  
community participation in the education of our  
children. This problem is especially acute in Federal  
Way Public Schools, where the Board of Directors  
seems more concerned with protecting their own  
position as opposed to engaging the community in an  
effective two-way dialog for the sake of the children.

The epitome of such an attitude could be easily  
demonstrated through the words and actions of School  
Board President Tony Moore. After the Board of  
Education meeting on February 14, Tony mentioned to  
me in discussion that "I'm a politician and so I have to  
constantly think about getting elected to office. So yes,  
I do listen to what people are saying."

First, I would suggest that someone who is  
concerned primarily with being elected to office might  
not be placing the welfare of our children before his  
own personal interests. At the same time, there is  
ample evidence to support the fact that this so-called  
listening is little more than lip service.

One case in point: Former School Board  
member Charlie Hoff has long been pushing for  
greater partnership between the schools and the major  
employers of this region. Such successful partnerships  
can be found at Highline School District's Aviation  
High School, to name but one of many examples.  
Boeing is one of the partners at Aviation. Yet, Tony  
Moore doesn't want to tie anything to Boeing as "we  
don't know how long Boeing is going to be around."

I guess Tony doesn't pay attention to the news –  
such as the new contract with the Machinists Union,  
and the companies stated concern that over the next  
decade some 20,000 Puget Sound area workers will  
retire. Boeing is concerned because our schools aren't  
turning out enough qualified graduates to fill these  
jobs.

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In response to John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas questions about when the School District can expect to see the Opportunity Gap closed, Tony Moore responded in email that "Here is the answer. Projecting a date to close the achievement gap is an unscientific game that politicians and education fundraising organizations play to keep from doing the work while trying to raise money. I'm not interested in playing that game. It is what has gotten us to this place. NOONE can predict when the gap(s) will be closed! Guessing is the best you or anyone else can do."

Such a statement on the part of Board President Tony Moore is nothing short of amazing. As John-Paul stated in response, "I was hoping for something better than a "guess" -- perhaps even some benchmarks and outcomes. As I look at the data "guessing" has not really moved the needle on the achievement gap in the last 12 years."

It's bad enough that we keep electing Tony Moore to the School Board. Imagine how much worse it would be if he's elected to the State Legislature. This, I believe, is a matter that we should be diligent about during the course of the upcoming primary campaign cycle.

- Kurt Peppard, Chair, Communications and Technology Comm.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ?  
IF SO, THANK YOU – IF NOT, PLEASE DO!**

Dues are due in February of each year. PCOs are encouraged to pay dues.  
(If your name is not on this list, please check with the treasurer.)

**President's Club:**

Jonathon/Sara Bristol, Larry/Hideko Coghill, Geoffery/Devin McAnallo, Miles/Elizabeth Drake, Sterling Smith, Jem Wear

**Senator's Club:**

Bob Dickinson, Art/Dee Fluharty, Linda/Elbert Gage, Al/Teya Hillerman, Rick Hoffman,

**Governor's Club:**

John-Paul/Angelica Chaisson-Cardenas, Jacqueline Russo, Dan/Julie Turley

**Family Members:**

Jerry/Mary Clingan, , Roger/Karla Flygare, Carol/Gil Gregory, Miriam/Neil Helgeland, John/Karolyn Hughey, Michael/Mary Kun, Cheryl/Charmaine Monk, Tom/Dorothy Perry, Barbara Reid/Elizabeth Conner, Jim/Nancy Siburg

**Members:**

Patricia Artz, Karen Backman, Dominic Barrera, Tim Burns, Richard Champion, Dan Fisher, Jerry Flynn, Max Hedgecock, Jeff Holden, Susan Knighton, Bernie Knighton, Ginny Leach, Paul Mallory, Jean Matthew, Jean Noe, Mildrend Oil"ee, Kurt Peppard, Steve Sandberg

**Associate Members:**

Jerry Holmes, Patricia Johnson, Beth Zubitis

**Telephone Numbers**

King County Elections:  
206-296-VOTE

Elected Representatives

The White House:  
202 456 1111/202 225 3121

U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
206-553-5545/202-224-2621  
Murray@murray.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell  
202-224-3441/888-648-7328  
Maria\_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov

U.S. Rep. Adam Smith  
202-225-8901/888-764-8409  
www.house.gov/adamsmith

State Senator Tracey Eide  
360-786-7658  
eide\_tr@leg.wa.gov

State Rep. Mark Miloscia  
253-839-7087  
Miloscia\_ma@leg.wa.gov

King County Executive  
Dow Constantine  
206-263-9600

Dow.constantine@kingcounty.gov

WA STATE Legislative toll-free  
Hotline: 800-562-6000

Track WA Bills & Votes  
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature>  
Washington State Democrats

[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)  
Dwight Pelz, Chair  
206-583-0664

K C Democratic Central Committee  
[www.wa-demchairs.org/kcdems/](http://www.wa-demchairs.org/kcdems/)  
Steve Zemke, Chair  
206-366-0811  
stevezemke@msn.com

30th District Democrats Website:  
[www.30thdems.wa.org](http://www.30thdems.wa.org)

Progressive Talk Radio  
KPTK AM1090

Thom Hartmann 9:00 am M-Fri  
Ring of Fire, Sat noon, Sun. 1 P.M.  
OR go to: [www.goleft.tv](http://www.goleft.tv)

**30th District Democrats**  
**P.O. Box 3268**  
**Federal Way, WA 98063-3268**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Home Phone

**GET ACTIVE!**

First Name

City

Work Phone

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date

State

Fax/E mail

**Membership Levels:**

Newsletter Only \$5    Associate/Non Voting Member: \$10    Living Lightly & Students (13+): \$10  
Voting Member: \$25    Family (2 voting members) \$35    Governor's Club (2 voting members) \$50  
Senator's Club: (2 voting members) \$100    President's Club (2 voting members) \$250

Any registered voter residing within the 30th Legislative District who hereby declares him/herself to be a Democrat may become a voting member upon payment of Annual Dues. Dues are payable at time of joining and renewable in February each year.

**CALENDAR**

Wed 04/04 - 30th District Democrats Regular General meeting, 4016 S 352 St 98001 (1/2 mile west of Military) 7-9 PM Doors open 6:30 P.M. 1st Wed of each month.

Fri 04/13 - Newsletter Deadline for the next issue (contact [kurt@peppardfamily.ws](mailto:kurt@peppardfamily.ws) or 253-838-8618)

Sun 04/15 - Precinct Caucuses

Wed 04/25 - Exec Board Meeting, at the offices of Flygare and Associates, 1715 S. 324th Pl. Suite 250, Federal Way 98003. 7:00 pm.

Sat 04/28 - Legislative District Caucus, Federal Way High School, 10:00 am.