

Meesh Vecchio

I am a steadfast advocate for the transformative power of an informed and activated membership.

Together, we have organized members at the JSCEE and fostered connections among jobalike positions across separate departments and worksites. We re-opened paraprofessional positions and are working to protect our classified job titles from bargaining unit erosion. We are committed to enforcing hard-fought gains won in previous bargains to support substitutes and special educators. We have also grown in our capacity to more equitably support and empower our educators through naming and addressing our own complicity in systemic harm.

This is how we will defend our current CBAs, and position ourselves for the 2025 bargain. We know we are stronger together - collectively-built knowledge, collaborative participation, and engaged member leaders are what make us strong.

Beyond contract wins, this is how we will interrupt the divisiveness that prevents us from dismantling the same patterns of harm that disempower us. We can only envision the schools our students, staff, and community deserve when we foster transparency, authentic communication, and trust. This will be especially important given the road ahead. Budget shortfalls and anti-public education legislative efforts will require that we leverage our strength and solidarity to confidently assert our rights, fight for the full funding of our schools locally and in Olympia, and ensure professional pay for all members, in every bargaining unit.

I am committed to the crucial work of growing our membership in both number and strength, to achieve this together for staff and students.