Making the most of your membership

By Natalie Blewitt
Growth Team coordinator

Being a member of the State School Teachers' Union of WA is certainly a great investment in your career. Educators work hard to achieve our qualifications and give our all for our students, so it is reassuring to know that the SSTUWA has got you covered.

On one level, union membership offers peace of mind. If a problem ever arises, members know the SSTUWA has got them covered.

But being a member with the SSTUWA is so much more than just a form of work insurance. Have you ever considered what union membership means and how you can make the most of your membership?

It is empowering to know that as a member, you are part of a collective voice, standing in solidarity to ensure industrial and professional rights are upheld at worksites.

Supporting each other through good times and bad, standing shoulder to shoulder, we can collectively make change happen.

You are also the voice for public education. Your passion and dedication to our profession ensures we fight for the students most in need, ensuring proper funding and resources are available for all at public education facilities.

The SSTUWA is part of a larger union voice, the Australia Education Union, with all branches across the country working together to improve public education for the common good.

But on a more individual level, your membership with the SSTUWA provides you with unprecedented support and benefits.

From access to expert advice at your fingertips to fantastic industrial and professional development, whether you are a beginning teacher or a school leader, you cannot afford to be without union membership.

If you have a question or are seeking advice, our Member Assist Team is there for you. Three full-time staff are supported by a team of organisers and legal advocates offering advice to members when you need it.

If your issue is more complex, then you will be referred to a case manager. Our experienced case managers will give your issue the attention it deserves.

As a financial member of the SSTUWA, your membership also provides access to a range of legal services that are provided at either no cost, or with significant discounts on the standard legal fees.

These can include a free consultation, representation in performance and conduct matters, or a free simple will.

If you are looking for high quality industrial and professional development opportunities, look no further than the SSTUWA Education and Training Centre.

Your membership with the SSTUWA means you can access quality learning opportunities developed and delivered by highly-skilled, passionate and experienced educators.

All training is offered at low cost or no cost to our members. Both face-to-face and online options are available so find out what is on offer via the training section on our website: sstuwa.org.au/training

Many other benefits and discounts are also available to members of the SSTUWA. These range across areas such as financial advice to shopping and entertainment. A range of member benefits can be found on page 30 with more details at sstuwa.org.au/benefits

Being a member of the SSTUWA also provides you with the opportunity to join Teachers' Health. Teachers Health provides

cost-effective private health insurance for union members in the education industry and their families. With options for both hospitals and extras cover, they have a reputation of providing excellent benefits at competitive rates. Find out more at teachershealth.com.au

Your SSTUWA membership is tax deductible. You will be receiving a statement of contribution shortly, so don’t forget to include this with your deductions this year.

Remember to make the most of your SSTUWA membership, because after all, we’ve got you covered.

Authorised by Sally Dennis, General Secretary, The State School Teachers' Union of W.A.
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