



Action Line

Vancouver Education Association

February 2018



Ready, Set, Go...

As you know we are in a bargaining year with the comprehensive agreement expiring on 8-31-18. The membership responded very strongly to the bargaining survey. Survey results were presented at the all member meeting on January 22nd. A copy of the power point presentation from the meeting is available on the VEA website <http://vancouverea.org/bargaining/>. A copy of the data was sent to your building for building reps to share with interested members.

VEA shared the impact that the legislature has on our bargain with you in the Winter Break edition of The Action Line. Compensation continues to be a top priority of our membership. The state shift in funding salaries continues to be discussed in the current legislative session as many fixes are still needed to comply with McCleary. They need to help district's like Vancouver who retain employees so that our staff mix is very top heavy with seniority and an average teacher allocation falls short. They need to remove the limits on salary increases in the transition year (2018-19) and make more progress in truly funding special education. VEA has proposed SB 6397 that would:

- Provide full funding of McCleary compensation levels in the 2018-19 to comply with the state Supreme Court ruling.
- Create an "experience mix" factor for districts with above-average salary costs.
- Improve the regionalization pay to address border effects caused in the new law.
- Phase in the remaining 1-1351 class size and workload reductions.
- Increase local levy funding and flexibility to meet local needs beyond state-funded basic education.
- Modify the funding formula to ensure special/high needs students receive the support they need to succeed.
- Ensure districts receive enough funding to meet ongoing salary needs.

Day of Unity

January 10, 2018. VEA leaders started the conversation with legislators on your behalf.



Cam Swarts, Kara Lefebvre, Natasha Medina, and Kari VanNostran met with legislators from SW Washington along with representatives from other local unions to provide a balanced expression for all education employees. While VEA continues to have a presence in Olympia, collective voices have a much greater impact. Even if you live in Oregon, you work in Washington and legislative decisions impact you! VEA is back in Olympia next week with PoliSparks and Lobby Day with additional voices from VEA. Please visit <https://www.washingtonea.org/ourvoice/take-action/> for ways you can have a voice too! Wear red on January 31st to emphasize our Unity.

Specialty Group Bargaining Input

Another opportunity for members that work in specialty assignments to provide individual or small group input to VEA regarding bargaining needs and solutions will be on February 5th. The format is open house style – drop by during the timeframe. You will be asked to codify your concern and proposed solution for reference by the bargaining team.

When: February 5
Who: Special Education
Where: VEA Office (2509 Broadway)
Time: 3:30-5:00 pm

WHAT
DO
YOU NEED?



CONTRACTS 101

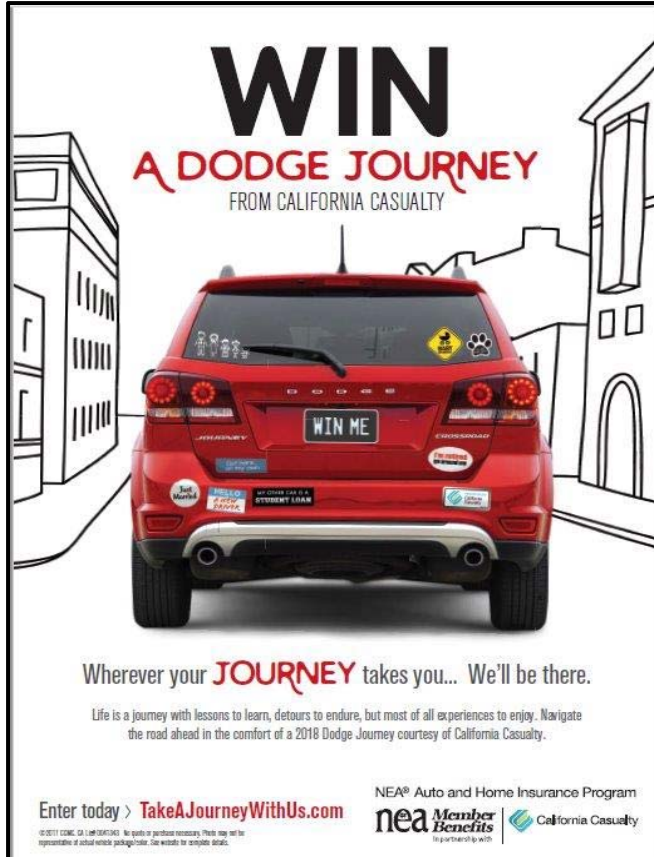
What is the difference between one-year, provisional and continuing contracts?



Non-continuing, one-year contracts are offered to first year teachers to balance with teachers on leave. A district-wide balance is maintained in order to guarantee positions are available for teachers when they return from leave. Mid-year, principals are required to evaluate one-year teachers and make recommendations for their conversion to provisional status.

Provisional status includes three years of satisfactory performance in Washington Public Schools. One-year contracts are converted to a provisional and fulfill the first year of provisional (if greater than 90 days) employment for new teachers. After a third successful provisional contract year, teachers receive a continuing contract. One-year contracts are converted to second year provisional contracts if the teacher new to Vancouver has had one-year of teaching experience in another Washington Public School. One-year teachers with additional Washington Public School experience are converted to a continuing contract. Conversions are based upon recommendations from the principal to candidate day and capacity to staff at the school.

NEA Member Benefits



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VEA Timbers Tickets



Once again VEA has secured group tickets for the Portland Timbers! There are limited tickets available on a first come-**first paid** basis for the

May 19th match against Los Angeles FC at noon. This is a Saturday game and the tickets are \$29.50 each. Seats are in the Timbers Army section.

To secure your tickets, please pre-order by providing your name, building, phone contact number, and a check payable to VEA for \$29.50 per ticket. Send in your request and payment to VEA at 2509 Broadway – Vancouver, WA 98663.



Read Across America

VEA is still looking for participation in the Read Across America Book Fair on February 28 and March 1. The goal is to have 100 percent participation from all the schools and special programs in the Vancouver School District.

Contact Bjorn (Shawn) Sorensen at CRM2679@bn.com or 360-260-3854 to sign up for a performance time or to provide art work for the event.

Is your certificate expiring?

Did you know that maintaining your certification is your responsibility? That also means that you are also responsible for the renewal of your teaching certificate.

OSPI has set up a new online procedure where educators can manage their certifications and endorsements. The OSPI e-Certification service enables educators to:

- Apply for credentials online
- Monitor application status
- Receive expiration and renewal reminders
- Print certificates
- Update contact information

Anyone renewing their certificates are to maintain required certification/endorsements completely online.

Certificated staff with an expiration date of June 30, 2018 on their certificate must start the renewal process ASAP to guarantee maintenance of a valid certification before the certificate expires. Do not wait until the last minute as you might not be able to complete the requirements prior to the expiration date. **YOU MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT PAY IF YOUR CERTIFICATE EXPIRES.**

Certification 101 - WEA PD

VEA is bringing a new WEA professional development to you at Bates CEL on March 8th from 4:30 – 7:30 covering teacher certification. With all of the recent policy changes affecting certification, we will explore new renewal requirements, review professional growth opportunities and the new National Board process, review how to move from a residency to a professional certificate, renew a continuing certificate, or add an endorsement, timelines and support options. 3 clock hours will be provided through WEA. Direct Registration Link: <http://forms.washingtonea.org/forms/pdregistration?cevid=3561>

Note: National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) are still required to renew their certificates prior to the expiration date. Being a NBCT does not change your responsibility for renewing your certification.





VEA and the district have collaborated to bring the WEA Culturally Responsive series to Vancouver. CRS 4 covering Culturally Responsive Classroom Behavior Interventions is scheduled for February 15th. Classes are held at Bates from 4:30-7:30. VEA provides a light meal. Registration is through the district: PD#3823. There is no prerequisite for this class. #MembershipMatters

NEA Human and Civil Rights Circle Keeper Network



VEA leader, Carol Patrick attended the NEA Human and Civil Rights Circle Keeper Network in Denver, Colorado. Carol was

accompanied by VPS parent, Kristy Sibley to continue to learn more about Restorative Justice issues and ways to address it both in the classroom and the community. This training was the follow up to the previously attended Circle Keeper training in Chicago. Also pictured is Dwanna Nicole from the Advancement Project, who works closely with the NEA to offer these opportunities.

Did you VOTE?

The VEA elections for Executive Board and WEA/NEA Representative Assembly Delegates closes on February 2nd and will be ratified at Rep Council on the 6th. Please make a quick check of your email for the link to vote. Log in is your user name on the district email system – first name dot last name and your password is your district ID number. Please let Cindy know if you have any difficulties.



WEA Select Contact Information



If you are experiencing any difficulties with the new health insurance or have questions about coverage, please see contact information below.

Customer Service Centers

Aetna 1.855.878.4101 (M-F 8am-6 pm)
United Healthcare 1.844.219.3630 (M-F 7am-8 pm)

Account Management Teams

Aetna: Daniel Strickland, Acct. Manager 1.206.701.8074 stricklandd@aetna.com
 United HealthCare: Matthew McClintock, Field Account manager 1.206.926.0292 matthew.mcclintock@uhc.com

AON Consulting – WEA Brokerage

Jennifer Weddle 1.206.467.4647 jennifer.weddle@aonhewitt.com
 Kathy Delano 1.206.467.4605 kathy.delano@aonhewitt.com
 Meg Paul 1.206.467.4622 meg.paul@aonhewitt.com

