



## How much \$\$\$ Really?



**Levy Swap** The community in Vancouver has been very generous to our schools through passage of levy funding initiatives. The Vancouver community approved levy collection of \$47.3 million for 2018 and \$48.4 million in 2019. In addition, levy equalization dollars from the state were received. Along with the McCleary mandate, a levy swap of money has become a partial roadblock to allow the full pass through of the salary allocations

provided by the state. The levy swap loss for Vancouver Public Schools is \$9.6 million plus an additional \$2.7 million in levy equalization dollars. The VEA current TRI package (~22%) costs \$18.4 million which is only a portion of the local collection of levy funds. The VEA believes that the loss of levy dollars through the swap should NOT be attributed solely to our compensation package.

### The pot of money for salaries is much larger

New Money from the state to Vancouver public schools is just over \$47 million. Even with the loss of the levy and equalization funds, \$35 million remains. The VEA proposal costs \$23.6 million. It is recognized that there are some restrictions on categorical funds such as special education, LAP, and ELL that must be spent in those areas. VEA contends that salaries for members working somewhat in those areas should come out of the categorical funds first, before tapping into the general fund.



**Legislators agree... the billions in appropriations are for YOUR SALARY!** <https://youtu.be/eSUR14hq0wM>

**We must unite to achieve these gains.** We are bargaining for these funds now! With a united membership, VEA has the power to achieve these gains and fight for the needs of students. The court ordered it. The Legislature funded it. Voters support it. Let's do it!!

Make sure VEA has your current home email address on file. Updates were taken last fall through "in the loop" forms. Those have been entered into the system. Send updates to Cindy at [cbrown@washingtonea.org](mailto:cbrown@washingtonea.org) Receive updated bargaining text messages by texting @veame to 81010.