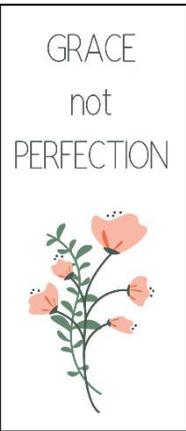


Spring Break Edition **COVID-19 Update**

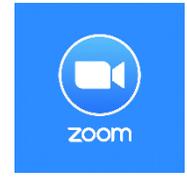


Monday will mark the beginning of a new chapter in our service in public education. We will have little time and training to prepare the first week of distance learning for students and their families. Be kind to yourself, to your colleagues and your students; ask for grace from admin, teammates, and parents – this learning curve is steep! Do your best with what you have, reach out to colleagues and admin for support, and have compassion for yourself –

it won't be perfect and it doesn't have to be.

**YOU'VE GOT THIS!**

**Zoom Dos and Don'ts**



Zoom is a new and **optional** video conferencing platform for VPS. **If you choose** to use it with students,

please do:

- use a district-issued device (for Zoom and any other school-related communication)
- use headphones to limit background noise
- consider what background of your home is best to display
- use these best practices from Zoom for securing your "classroom"**
- remember you are a mandatory reporter if you suspect child abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Please don't:

- record video sessions that include your students (FERPA).

**Interpreter/Translation Update**



Yesterday VEA shared a link to the VPS website where **families** can identify names and contact information for VPS interpreter support. If **families** reach out to you requesting interpretation support, feel free to direct them to [that same VPS webpage](#) and/or to provide **families** with the name and contact information for an interpreter who can provide support in their home language.

As **VPS staff**, we may also have need of interpretive services to connect with families, but please be patient as **we await further guidance from our amazing VPS Categorical Programs staff; a temporary plan with accompanying guidance documents and links will be forthcoming!** It will include options for oral interpretation services as well as written translation support, relying primarily on services and resources outside of our VPS Interpreter Staff (to avoid over-inundating them and to better avail them to direct family support). Thanks for your patience and for your willingness to be creative and flexible as we meet the unique needs of our students and families together!

♥ Please consider supporting [\\*these local businesses](#) ♥ who supported VEA members during the 2018 Strike!

\*If we missed one, share it with your Building Lead to send up the communication chain and we'll do our best to update this list!

**Freedom Foundation's Newest Campaign**



While we are all rising to the challenge and working to support our students and community, the anti-public education Freedom Foundation is beginning to spam us with anti-union propaganda. It's an incredibly insensitive and cynical move, even for the [Freedom Foundation and its wealthy, anti-union corporate funders](#). Targeting WEA members' personal email and home addresses, the Freedom Foundation is misrepresenting student health curriculum legislation that recently passed the Legislature.

Especially during this crisis, please be assured that the [WEA is advocating at the state level to protect our jobs and our health](#) -- and advocating for our students as well. The VEA continues to do the same here locally as well.

Like its previous attacks, this latest Freedom Foundation campaign will fail if we band together and stay #UnionStrong. If FF contacts you, please reach out to Rick, Kari, or Cindy as soon as possible.

