

Fall Update

VPS In-Person Learning

In spite of a steady rise in COVID cases across the state of Washington, the four weeks of [statewide restrictions announced yesterday by Governor Inslee](#) exclude schools. You may have seen a [home email from WEA leadership](#) yesterday afternoon that clarified this and that linked a reminder of the state Department of Health guidance that remains in place.

While Clark County's COVID cases remain far above the 75 per 100,000 (postponing the transition to full elementary hybrid), Clark County school districts still have state and local health department support for ["limited in-person learning in small groups, or cohorts, of students for the highest need students."](#) This provision has enabled onsite services for small groups of students with IEPs since September and this provision (coupled with [updated CCPH guidance](#)) has enabled onsite services for kindergarteners to begin this week. VPS' plan to expand in-person learning to small groups of pre-K and 1st-5th graders furthest from education justice is also aligned with this provision. VPS plans are also under development to begin providing in-person learning to small groups of 6th-12th graders but an official start date has not yet been communicated.

While VEA supports creative solutions to better meet the social, emotional, and academic needs our most vulnerable students remotely, we continue to elevate member concerns around the onsite risks to health and safety for students and staff alike amidst an ever-increasing occurrence of COVID in our community.

Thank you for your ongoing input surrounding in-person learning and for your advocacy at the local and state level in the form of email and phone outreach to VPS admin, VPS School Board members, State Superintendent Reykdal and Governor Inslee. VEA will also continue collaborating with other local education associations in an effort to make our collective voices heard!

VPS School Board Meeting: Tuesday, 11/17



Please join us tomorrow, 11/17 at 5 PM for a VPS School Board Workshop.

Requests to make Zoom public comments can be submitted to

VPSBoard.Directors@vansd.org by noon tomorrow/Tuesday. Those wishing to address the Board must submit their full name and address for the record and will have three minutes to address the Board.

To review the 11/17 Meeting Agenda, [go here](#), then select the year "2020," and the "Nov 17, 2020 Special Meeting."

Access the meeting via Zoom using [this link](#) (Passcode: 846059).

Sign the Petition to "Bring Support Staff Back!"

As you're already aware, VPS has furloughed or reduced working hours for over 300 of our classified staff (VAESP members). VEA shares the position of VAESP that VPS has the money to make these staff whole again and never should have disrespected their employees and community in this way - we all know that we need our support staff more than ever!

As a show of solidarity, we encourage you to take a few minutes to please sign this [petition](#) to 'Bring Support Staff back. It takes just a few more minutes to share the link (<http://chn.g.it/chkCVksTNY>) to the petition with other family, friends, and community supporters as well. Thank you!



Each year, VEA budgets for sending a small group of members to participate in the Fall Conference for the National Council of Urban Education Association. Since it will be facilitated virtually AND the cost per participant is significantly discounted this December, VEA would love to over registration costs and send as many interested members as possible!

The conference is spread over three days, Thursday, 12/3 – Saturday, 12/5 and takes place (for the most part) outside of a traditional contract day.

[Check out the agenda for this year's conference](#), titled "Forging a Stronger Civil Society Through Unionism," then email CBrown@washingtonea.org if you're interested in participating! VEA will complete the registration and cover costs on your behalf.

Culturally Relevant Teaching Virtual Workshop Series

VEA is proud to partner with Skyview teacher leader Meredith Wales to share access to online professional development through the World Affair Council of Oregon, for which Meredith serves as a member of their Education Advisory Board! All workshops cost \$15, take place from 4-6pm, are limited to 25 participants, and offer 2 clock hours for Washington educators. Please [see this flyer](#) for further details regarding upcoming sessions.

Dec 1: *Discussing Stories, Scenarios, and Our Symbiotic Relationship with Students*; Registration and more info: www.worldoregon.org/crt_teacher_workshop_2

Jan 19: *Civil Rights and Civil Wrongs: Teaching the Black History of Portland*; Registration link and more info: www.worldoregon.org/crt_teacher_workshop_3

Feb 11: *What's Race Got to Do with Me?*; Registration link and more info: www.worldoregon.org/crt_teacher_workshop_4
Registration link and more info: www.worldoregon.org/crt_teacher_workshop_5

Feb 24: *Using Student Voice to Impact Culturally Responsive Learning Community*; Registration and more info: www.worldoregon.org/crt_teacher_workshop_1