

COVID-19 Update

Dear VEA Members,

VEA met with VPS today (Monday, March 16th) regarding needs and impacts on members during the COVID-19 school closure through April 24th. While we were able to agree to some terms, there remain other terms we will continue to negotiate moving forward. As we've already seen, circumstances around COVID-19 are ever-changing, so thank you for your patience as our negotiation proceeds!

VEA and VPS agreed to the following:

- VEA members' compensation will not be adversely affected during this closure.
- VEA members' health benefits will not be adversely affected during this closure.
- Monday, March 16th through Tuesday, March 24th* will be treated comparable to closure due to inclement weather. VEA members are not required to report to their work site(s) and are not required to complete work related to their job responsibilities (neither on-site nor remotely). However, please check your work and home email regularly for ongoing updates from VPS and/or VEA.
- Middle School grade buckets will remain open through Wednesday, March 25th at 11:00 PM.

*These seven days will be made up at the end of the school year as the last day of school will now be Jun 19th, 2020.

VEA and VPS will continue to negotiate the following (in addition to other topics that may arise):

- What enrichment activities VEA members might create and/or provide to students for self-directed study during the closure without violating Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) of all students (including those with IEPs, 504s, EL services, etc.).
- Needs/impacts related to McLoughlin and Marshall building moves.
- Needs/impacts on long-term subs.
- The possibility of paid leave for members with certain health concerns preventing them from working on or beyond April 27th.

VEA will revisit the following with VPS:

- Diagnosis reporting protocols.
- Needs/impacts on casual subs with VPS.
- Impacts on TPEP/evaluation (awaiting further guidance from OSPI)
- Optional professional development for members to access remotely.
- Re-entry terms leading up to April 27th.

We will begin utilizing a VEA communication structure similar to that used during the 2018 Strike, but updated since organizing around the Levy. Please direct individual questions to your Building (ie. Felida) Rep, Reps can direct unanswered questions to their Zone (ie. Skyview Zone) Leader, and Zone Leaders can direct unanswered questions to our VEA President (Kari Van Nostran). Please see the attached document for building/zone structure.

Thank you for checking work and home email regularly. Updates from VEA Leaders may also come through text as well. Finally, if you have not yet joined the VEA Text Blast for the 2019-2020 school year, please text "VEAINFO" to 41411 and respond with your name.