

COVID-19 Update



K-2 iPad Pick-Up

Today, 4/13 and tomorrow, 4/14, VPS will distribute K-2 iPads. Families can check-out and pick up iPads from their

home school between 9 AM and 12 PM and 1 PM and 3 PM.

VPS will provide personal protective equipment and sanitizing materials and has committed to a process that allows members and families to maintain appropriate social distancing. Thank you to those Teacher Librarians and other VEA colleagues who have volunteered to support this effort.

While VEA continues to strongly discourage members from leaving home and entering school buildings, we also recognize this is an effort to provide access to early learners – an essential service to students and families.

WEA Online PD Continues

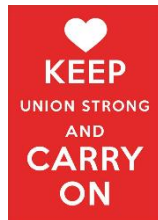


The WEA's Special Education Support Center and Inclusionary Practices Project continues to offer courses online, in real-time, via Zoom.

An updated schedule of courses and registration information for the week of April 13 is [here](#). Clock hours will be provided and courses are free. Registrants will receive the Zoom link at the completion of their registration. Within 24-48 hours of the course start date, participants will receive an email with additional Zoom/Course information.

WEA will provide 3 more weeks of courses in this format, and will possibly extend, depending on the duration of the closures. Weekly schedules will be available [here](#), or by emailing [Annie Lamberto](#).

Report FF and Opt Out Today SPAM to VEA



The Freedom Foundation, an anti-union, anti-public education group, continues to spam VEA and WEA members during this pandemic. However, the FF has lost sight of our union's role in preserving jobs, wages and benefits during these uncertain times as we continue to fight for students and public education.

During the pandemic and related school closures we have advocated for your safety, economic well-being and for taking a flexible approach in how we engage and educate students from a distance. Historically, our union has fought for professional pay, smaller class sizes and the right to negotiate wages and learning and working conditions with our school districts.

On the other hand, the Freedom Foundation, and its mouthpiece, "Opt Out Today" have opposed everything we stand for, including better education funding, smaller class sizes and our collective bargaining rights. The continuing attempts to weaken us have failed, and it's important to remind one another that we are stronger when we are united!

Work (from Home) Wellness Tips and a Free Online Course

This remote work experience is hard! Preparing continuous learning activities takes far longer than prep for traditional instruction. We've connected with some students and families, but not with all of them. And, more than just our work is impacted by this pandemic and the Stay Home, Stay Healthy – our family and personal lives are drastically different as a result!



Consider these [10 Work \(from home\) Wellness Tips](#) from the Kaiser Permanente Labor Management Partnership as you carry out this work week.

In addition, consider participating in OSPI's free [online course with clock hours](#) for Washington school employees to help increase our well-being at work and in life. VEA members can take the two-hour Workplace Wellness Academy course anytime this month, although we must register by April 29. The online course is packed with valuable information about emotional regulation, simple self-care practices, and workplace wellness ideas.

