

COVID-19 Update

Certificated Evaluations Update



VEA and VPS have collaborated around a [local update](#) to certificated evaluation processes, in accordance with guidance from OSPI (found [here](#), under the Teacher & Principal Evaluations dropdown).

Three guiding principles from OSPI include:

- using **good judgment** regarding evaluation,
- **honoring work that has already been done** by the evaluatee and the evaluator to provide and/or substantiate evidence, and
- ensuring the absence of evidence for a particular indicator, component, or student growth component **should not be cause for lowering a score.**

If there are changes in guidance from OSPI, VEA will work with VPS to update our local plan for evaluations as well. Per the VEA-VPS COVID-19 MOU, evaluations must be submitted electronically by Monday, June 15th.

Office Hours Clarification



It has been conveyed to building principals that VEA members have **the choice** of setting office hours for the benefit of students and families to know when they can most easily be contacted. This has NOT been required, but has been provided as **a choice**. VEA has advocated against the requirement for office hours because of the rigidity in schedule it creates for members – especially those who are managing home and family needs alongside their remote work responsibilities! Being available and ready to work during your typical contract hours is what was agreed to in the VEA-VPS MOU.

District admin have spoken to several principals directly regarding this topic. Please work with your building principal to clarify any confusion staff may have around this topic. If after collaborating with your building principal you are in need of VEA support, please have your Building Lead reach out to their Zone Leader to bring it VEA's attention.

New Groupwise Icon

Thanks to the VPS IT Department, you can now access the normal GroupWise email client from home! The blue "Groupwise at Home" icon pictured here should have appeared on your VPS laptop. This is a cleaner way to access your work email while you're **not** connected to the district network.



If the icon has not yet appeared, right click on the blue Zenworks icon, pictured here, located in the bottom right corner of your laptop and select "Refresh". If you still don't see the icon, please follow the guidelines sent out by your building tech for support.



As a reminder, **VEA strongly discourages you from using a personal device for remote work purposes.**

NEA Member Benefits Webinars!

VEA has partnered with NEA Member Benefits to offer two informative webinars to our members!



[Make the Most of Your Union Membership](#) will take place April 30th from 4:30-5:15 PM. Join us to learn how to

access the 75+ programs and services developed specifically for members to save them time and money, including the newest COVID-19 financial resources as well. RSVP [here](#).



[Federal Student Loan Debt](#) will take place May 7th from 4:30-5:30 PM. Join us to learn how to take advantage of

Federal Loan Forgiveness Programs and the new NEA Student Loan Forgiveness Navigator. This will also cover the latest on federal student loans coming out of the CARES Act and the COVID-19 crisis. RSVP [here](#).