

VEA Update

OSPI Reopening Schools Workgroup



OSPI has convened a stakeholder workgroup to inform recommendations and guidance for school districts as we plan to reopen schools in the 20–21 school year. Among those contributing to the workgroup, there are a number of educators from WEA locals, including Amy Campbell, the 2020 WA State Teacher of the Year. Campbell, an educator in Camas, brings perspective from our region of SW Washington.

More details related to what’s been considered thus far can be [found here](#), including some potential [models for reopening](#). This group is expected to conclude their work in June 2020.



Interim Bargain: Ratified and Validated

Thank you again to VEA members for voting on the 2020 Interim Bargaining package earlier this month! Our VEA Elections committee and VEA Executive Board have validated the results – **98.9% of those voting voted yes to ratify**. You can now access the [ratified language](#) updates from the VEA website for your reference. If you have any remaining questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to one of your Building Reps or your Building Communication Lead!

***MEMBERSHIP MATTERS *UNION STRONG**

Unemployment Claim Fraud



VEA and VPS want to keep you up to date on the rise in fraudulent Unemployment Insurance claims occurring across the state, already impacting some of our members. **If someone has filed a fraudulent claim in your name:**

1. Report it to the Employment Security Department (ESD) by phone (800-246-9763) or email (esdfraud@esd.wa.gov).
2. Report it to VPS at hrbenefits@vansd.org with “unemployment” in the subject line.

Further steps to protect yourself can be [found here](#) in today’s update from VPS.

Best Use of your Kaiser Plan Webinar

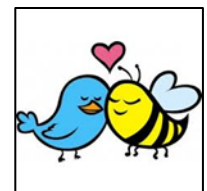
VEA is proud to partner with the Labor-Management Partnership at Kaiser Permanente to offer a free webinar to help members make the most of their Kaiser health care plan and save money too! On **Wednesday, May 27th, starting at 4:30 PM**, learn about a variety of services and programs at Kaiser Permanente, all dedicated to helping you discover your total health and thrive. To better understand your health plan and all the benefits available to you, please [register here](#) for the free webinar.



Planning to Start a Family Workshop

Monday, June 1st from 4:30-6:30 PM, VEA is excited to host a free [workshop](#) for members and their significant other on how to prepare and plan for pregnancy and maternity/paternity related leaves. This will also cover information about other available resources you may want to consider when starting a family!

Workshop Topics: Maternity, Paternity, and Adoption Leave; FMLA Benefits; SEBB/Insurance Changes; Standard Insurance Extended Leave; VEA Contract and Shared Leave Provisions; Counseling Resources for your Transition; Financial Planning Member Benefit; VEA Member-to-Member Shared Experience; NEA Member Benefits.



If you plan to start a family, don’t miss this workshop! Please [RSVP](#) by **May 29th** to receive the zoom link. Contact Cindy Brown at 360-607-7697 or cbrown@washingtonea.org with any questions.