



Action Line

Vancouver Education Association

June 2020 – End of the Year



The wild ride isn't over yet...

The end of a momentous and challenging school year is finally here. This year is reminiscent of a roller coaster ride that has an endless track and we all feel the ups and downs of this journey! As we work together to share information to impending challenges of reopening schools, please know that VEA is working hard to ensure that your health and welfare is protected, working conditions are mitigated, and your pay and

benefits stay intact. Equity for our students and a sustainable enriched educational experience is in the forefront of our work.

VEA is working very closely with WEA to understand our rights and legalities around the guidance from OSPI, Department of Health, and Labor & Industries. Conversations with various district leaders are ongoing. Thank you for your continued dialog around reopening of our schools. You have already filled out numerous surveys from a variety of sources (district, WEA, and VEA). This collection of information is vital to all parties understanding the challenges we face in this uncertain time.

Your VEA leadership will continue to meet over the summer and we will use our communication structure to keep you apprised of new details as well as potentially ask for more feedback! Please communicate any updates to your contact information to Cindy (cbrown@washingtonea.org) Take this time to relax, recharge, and stay safe!!

Special Calendar Days



Aug 17-Aug 31 – Window of time available for mandatory trainings.

Aug 26 – Professional Learning Day (8 hours)

Aug 27 – Professional Learning Pre-Duty Day (unless split with an 80% SBLT vote)

Mandatory/Professional Development Training Days:

Employees being compensated for attending a mandatory training must complete supplemental contracts. All certificated employees are paid based on the negotiated hourly rate. Certificated employees, whether on fractional or full-time contracts, are required to attend the entire in-service session. Notice of mandatory attendance must be published prior to the last day of the previous school year to allow for appropriate planning. Leave compensation does not apply. (CPA 12)

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TRI/State Mandated Professional Learning Days (CPA 12)

- Professional Learning Day and Principal Directed Professional Learning Pre-duty Day
- Professional Learning Day, all levels – Wednesday, August 26
- Principal Directed Professional Learning Pre-duty Day, all levels – Thursday, August 27
- Both days are paid through Part A of the Time, Responsibility, and Incentive (TRI) supplemental contract in the October payroll
- Leave compensation does not apply
- Absence must be recorded in Absence Management
- Fractional contract certificated employees are required to attend and are paid for eight (8) hour days through their TRI contract

*Principal Directed Professional Learning Pre-duty Day:

There is a total of eight (8) hours (Article 12.4). If a site votes to split the eight hours into two (2) four (4) hour days (August 27 and August 28), SBLT vote will be required (Article 15.4).

Preparation for Beginning of School, Grading, and Closing of School Year:

As part of the standard expectations of a professional educator and enrichment TRI responsibilities, certificated staff will complete tasks associated with preparing for the beginning of the school year, grading, and closing the school year.



Don't Forget to Sign Your Contract

Your employment contract does not become effective until the employee delivers to the Office of Human Resources within fifteen (15) days: (1) a valid Washington State professional certificate required for the position identified; and (2) this contract bearing the employee's signature. In the event that the employee fails to sign and return this contract within the time specified, the employee shall be deemed to have waived any right to employment with the district.



Insurance Benefits – Limited Open Enrollment:

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic may have changed your health care needs. In light of this, **employees will have a limited open enrollment opportunity from July 1 through 31, 2020, to change some of their SEBB insurance benefits effective August 1, 2020.**

During this limited open enrollment, SEBB eligible employees can:

- Enroll in **medical** coverage if they are currently enrolled only in dental and vision.
- Add eligible dependents to their **medical** coverage.
- Increase or decrease their Medical FSA or DCAP annual elections.
- Enroll in a Medical FSA or DCAP for the rest of the 2020 calendar year (if eligible for these benefits).

Employees cannot change medical plans or waive medical coverage during this limited open enrollment. Changes to dental or vision coverage are **not** allowed.

To add dependents or enroll in medical, visit [SEBB My Account](#) during the month of July. All online enrollments (including dependent verification documents) must be completed no later than July 31. [Dependent verification documents](#) are required.

To enroll in - or change - Medical FSA or DCAP elections, there will be special paper forms to submit to the Benefits Office. All forms must be received no later than July 31. These forms are not yet available, so look for future emails.

Watch your district email and US mail for further instructions and information.

VEA Salutes our Retirees:

Similar to our graduating seniors who didn't receive a proper graduation ceremony, our retirees also were shortchanged. VEA celebrates their dedication to the students in Vancouver Public Schools as well as their membership in the Association. Instead of hosting a reception in their honor, VEA and Cassie Johnson, AIG (WEA Member Benefits) have put together a send-off package that will be delivered to them!

The care and compassion that have been demonstrated over the years to our students by this group of educators is applauded! We wish you all a safe and relaxing summer and fall.

William Baird
Kathryn Bishop-Smith
Lorraine Blose
Sharon Carter
Nancy Faulk
Sheri Fitzpatrick
Cynthia Geddes
Sue Ellen Hayler
Cindy Keepers
Kara Knopp
Stephanie McCorkle
Lisa M Miller
Jana Pusc
Russ Pusc
Diane Quall
Marcia Schneider
Jeffrey Stark
Diane Stixrud
David Tang
Betty Thomas

School Board Appointment

The Vancouver Public Schools has extended the timeline until June 24th to receive applications for consideration of appointment to the open seat on the school board.

Last Call for the Music and Arts Grant

Our Music and Arts Grant Closeout

California Casualty offers Music and Art grants to K-12 Classrooms in the amount of \$250. It can be a project based grant for any K-12 classrooms. The grants will be awarded in the Fall in September or October. Grants can be project based as well!

The entry deadline is June 30th, 2020. The grant is open to K-12 classrooms and in the amount of \$250.

www.calcasmusicartsgrant.com



Erica Reich
NEA Endorsed Auto/Home/Renters
Program
503-799-3440
ereich@calcas.com

A [message](#) from Erica to you!



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