

## VEA Update

No doubt, your eyes, your heads, and your hearts are looking for rest as we approach summer break. However, I acknowledge sending students and colleagues off into the next few uncertain months is more difficult than ever.

I am so grateful to VEA members for your commitment to and compassion for serving students but also your strength and perseverance through unprecedented work expectations this spring. Together, we've made it safely, even if haggardly, to the end of this school year.

I recognize there are a number of unanswered questions related to the August transition and September re-opening of schools and I appreciate your patience as VEA works diligently in collaboration with VPS to find the most reasonable and feasible steps forward. **As discussions and negotiations proceed, VEA is committed to keeping equity, health and safety, flexibility and economic security at the center.**

Though we will certainly scale communications back over June and July, we do look forward to keeping you informed via home email and your Building Leads.

In solidarity,  
Kari Van Nostran, VEA President



### VEA Action Line

In this **END OF THE YEAR** issue:

- The wild ride isn't over yet...
- Special Calendar Days
- Mandatory PD
- August Professional Learning Days
- Insurance Benefits: Limited Open Enrollment
- Sign your contract!
- Salute to our retirees
- School Board Appointment
- Last call for Music and Arts Grant

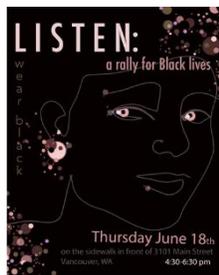
### VEA Reopening Survey – LAST CALL!

Thanks again to those who have already responded to our [VEA Reopening Schools Survey](#)! **If you haven't yet, thank you for doing do by TODAY, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM.**

We will take your responses from the WEA survey along with this more detailed information to gain a better understanding for advocacy on your behalf. Your feedback will help guide subsequent agreements around the new model. All responses will remain confidential.

### Black Lives Event

VEA is proud of members at VSAA for organizing yesterday afternoon's rally for Black lives! **Over 175 educators, students, and families joined them in solidarity with much positive support from drivers and passers by as well.** We appreciate their leadership and advocacy and look forward to supporting VSAA and other school sites in their work around anti-racism into next school year and beyond!



If members at your site are interested in organizing creative ways to show support for Vancouver students and the greater community, please reach out to VEA through your Building Lead for any additional support we can provide!

### School Board Retreat Correction

VEA leadership is still very much looking forward to sharing our Call for Racial Justice at the upcoming Board Retreat on Tuesday, June 23rd! While Board Members can safely gather in person, with social distancing, **the retreat will be open to the public via a Zoom Webinar link and will take place 9 AM to 2 PM.**

We look forward to collaborating with VPS, alongside other key stakeholders, through intentional dialogue and transparent communication moving forward.

### REMINDER!

An appointment process is underway to fill the current vacancy on the VPS School Board. The deadline for [candidate applications](#) has been extended to June 24<sup>th</sup> by 5 PM. Please encourage community members in your network who would bring diverse perspective and an anti-racist lens to the position to apply!