

Fall Update

Dear VEA #UnionFamily,

Thank you for your passion, your patience, and your perseverance as we prepare to launch this unprecedented school year! To say that starting with students under remote circumstances is less than ideal would be an understatement; still, we know the health and safety of students and staff is paramount and we are committed to making the most of distance learning 2.0 until our community gets a better handle on this virus.

We've packed a lot of new and renewed learning into a short amount of time in anticipation of September 1 and, no doubt, your students share some of the same anxiety, excitement, and uncertainty you're feeling. Together, we can make this work. It won't be perfect, but you will be adding countless value to the experience of your students. There are a number of wrinkles yet to iron out, but with your input and our shared advocacy, we will partner with the district to serve Vancouver students to the best of our ability!

Please grant the grace you, your colleagues and your students need as we navigate next week and beyond together.

In solidarity,

Kari Van Nostran
VEA President



Zoom Breakout Rooms are Back!

VPS heard our feedback around the meaningful utility of Zoom breakout rooms and has worked out a solution for self-monitoring breakout rooms when sufficient staff are unavailable for each room! [See this flyer](#) for further details, including a How-To video for self-monitoring, as well as a review of other important considerations while engaging students live via Zoom.

Employee Assistance Program

VEA recognizes the social and emotional impact preparing to launch this school year remotely has on all of us - especially if you are preparing as both an educator and parent! If you could use assistance in navigating these challenging circumstances, please remember you and your immediate family have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The district contracts with Solutions Employee Assistance to provide up to six one-hour counseling and consultation sessions per family member per school year. Participation is voluntary and completely confidential.

More information can be found [here](#) and you can call 360-836-8260 or email sea-llc@live.com for an appointment.



Kaiser Well-being Webinars

Kaiser Permanente of WA is launching their fall "Way to Staff Well-being in Schools" workshop series. Participation and clock hours for each course are **FREE TO ALL MEMBERS!** And, as SEBB members, members can also **earn wellness incentive points on SmartHealth!** Register for one or both of the following courses using the embedded links:

[Active Living for Educators](#)

Wednesday, 9/16 4-5 PM

[Creating a Culture of Well-Being](#)

Wednesday, 11/4 3:30-5 PM

For further details and to save the date for future offerings, see [this flyer](#).



VEA *Action Line*

In this [August-Welcome Back](#) issue:

- Welcome to the 20-21 school year!
- What's my pay for summer work?
- Building Rep Leadership Training
- Know your class/caseload size!
- 20-21 membership cards
- National Board cohort sign-ups
- District travel claims due Sep 15
- VEA leadership meeting calendar