

## Fall Update

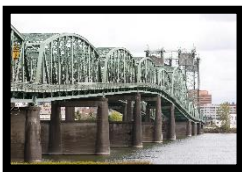
### Q&A Regarding Elementary Hybrid & Leave

We understand many elementary members were caught off guard by Friday's email from Kathy Everidge regarding an anticipated start date for elementary hybrid (tentatively September 29<sup>th</sup>) and procedures for requesting any applicable leave. Per the [VPS website](#), this tentative start date for stage one of hybrid is contingent upon three consecutive weeks of moderate or low COVID activity in Clark County, which can be [monitored here](#).

While the district wants as much time as possible to arrange for leave coverage in advance of September 29<sup>th</sup>, VEA will be advocating for flexibility beyond the September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline announced in the email on Friday. In addition, while our [current MOU](#) does allow for some reassignment of staff during the 20-21 school year (see Section E), it also speaks to some of those staff retaining rights to return to their original assignment next year (see Section E5g). VEA will advocate for this provision to apply for those who must take a partial or full year's leave during the 20-21 school year.

VEA is working to address several other questions submitted by members and leaders related to elementary hybrid and leave. [A Q&A document](#) can be found here and will be updated as additional clarity is provided in collaboration with VPS.

### Interstate-5 Bridge Construction Alert



For those who are working onsite and commute to VPS from Oregon using I-5, the northbound span of the Interstate Bridge will close September 19<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> for maintenance. During the closure, travelers crossing the

I-5 Bridge going either direction will share the three lanes and sidewalk on the southbound side of the bridge.

In addition, the following four ramps in the project area will close for traffic control:

- Marine Drive on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland
- Hayden Island on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland
- I-5 north to SR 14 off-ramp in Vancouver
- SR 14/Washington Street on-ramp to I-5 south in Vancouver.

### What's My 20-21 Per Diem Rate?

Whether you are seeking payment from a district source for VPS' Technology PD courses, reimbursement with individual PD funds for the PLC/Content Area Team course, or simply for your own reference, **you can now confirm your 20-21 Per Diem Rate in Skyward, under the Employee Access section** using [this step-by-step process](#).



You may also consider comparing what's listed under Employee Access with the [20-21 schedule of Per Diem Rates](#) to confirm the Per Diem Rate listed in Skyward corresponds with your current step and years of service. **If you discover any discrepancy or if you have other questions regarding your Per Diem Rate or place on the Salary Schedule, please contact [Marla.Sampson@vansd.org](mailto:Marla.Sampson@vansd.org).**

### Negotiations Update

VEA and VPS return to the table (remotely) for further negotiations regarding Special Education and hybrid this afternoon. We also hope to clear up differing interpretations of previous discussions related to sick/personal leave during remote instruction as well as reassignments/COVID leave/rights to return to original assignments.

Last week's Special Education Teacher Input session was canceled due to the unavailability of VPS Admin. It has been rescheduled for 4:15 PM today, following our negotiations session. With teacher support, VEA is advocating to eliminate some currently required items and create greater flexibility with those requirements that remain. Our Special Education ESA Input session is still scheduled for this Thursday, 9/17 at 4:15 PM. In addition to advocating for the elimination and flexibility described above, VEA is advocating for added protections based on the itinerant nature of ESA roles.

