

## Fall Update

Dear VEA Members,

This year, Labor Day will look drastically different. Our usual activities - backyard barbecues and gatherings with friends and family—will be scaled back or canceled altogether. Still, as union members, Labor Day should always mean more than a day off work or a social opportunity. It's a day we, as union educators, can honor and celebrate the contributions of America's working people – past, present, and emerging!

We also can also teach our students Labor Day is about more than just an extended weekend or a shortened school week. Here are [5 resources](#) you might consider to help inform students what Labor Day is all about.

Enjoy a safe Labor Day weekend, with a focus on resting and recharging after a challenging first week of distance learning.

In solidarity,  
Kari Van Nostran  
Vancouver EA President



### Unionized Childcare Offerings

In addition to the childcare resources VPS has helped secure and communicate locally, WEA has announced local, licensed, high quality, unionized childcare timeslots for your consideration. Locals of SEIU and AFSCME are supporting this care to connect folks, and sustain, unionized childcare across the state. [Use this link](#) to find licensed union childcare providers near you through Carina Care!



[Lani.Todd@carinacare.com](mailto:Lani.Todd@carinacare.com) is a contact person for the organization should you need further details or clarification.

### VPS Tech Refresher Info

You likely already saw these reminders from VPS Director of IT Matt Greco yesterday afternoon, but here they are again in case you missed them!

- [How to Duplicate your Canvas Landing Page](#) for the next week
- [Canvas Course Checklist](#)
- [Recording options](#)
- [Zoom Management tips](#)
- Please use your [FirstName.LastName@vansd.org](mailto:FirstName.LastName@vansd.org) (Groupwise) account for Zoom.



### Sep. 8th School Board Meeting

Join us and listen in to Tuesday's VPS School Board Mtg!

**Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**5 PM via Zoom**

The meeting agenda is not yet posted, but [will be here soon](#)  
Here is the Zoom meeting [link](#)

To make public comments during the Zoom board meeting, please email your request to [VPSBoard.Directors@vansd.org](mailto:VPSBoard.Directors@vansd.org) by noon on Tuesday, 9/8. Include your full name and address for the record along with your topic. Written comments or questions also may be sent directly to VPS School Board Directors:

[wendy.smith@vansd.org](mailto:wendy.smith@vansd.org); [kathy.decker@vansd.org](mailto:kathy.decker@vansd.org);  
[camara.banfield@vansd.org](mailto:camara.banfield@vansd.org); [tracie.barrows@vansd.org](mailto:tracie.barrows@vansd.org);  
[kyle.sproul@vansd.org](mailto:kyle.sproul@vansd.org)

### Reopened Negotiations/SpEd Update

VEA apologizes for the delay in this update and appreciates your patience! You will recall we issued a demand to bargain based on updated information around VPS' reopening plans, including but not limited to the workload impacts on members in Special Education.

VEA met with VPS Special Services Admin, last Thursday afternoon (7/27). While no agreements regarding formal MOU language were reached, we discussed hybrid plans, alternative assignment options, schedules, Landing Pages, and video-recording as they relate to general education and Special Education members, as well as compliance documentation, paraeducator support, and deadline flexibility specific to Special Education. We are scheduled to reconvene late next week.

A SpEd Teacher Input Group will also convene for a second time to help inform remote and pending hybrid instruction, and to highlight workload/safety concerns this Tuesday, 9/8. **We are grateful to the following members for their contribution thus far:** Elaine Fritschie, Leslie Good, Lisa Packard, Tricia Voeller, Jennalyn Patterson, Meagan Winzer, Jenny Docster, Sarah Moll/Kim Peters, Sheila Royce, and Mona Rominger!

A SpEd ESA Input Group will convene for a second time Thursday, 9/17. **We are also grateful to the following for their contribution:** Valerie Hunt, Dana Moore, Stephanie Rogers, Paulette Selman, and Johnny Askew!