

Fall Update

PK/Kinder Listening Session, Thursday, 11/5 @ 4 PM

Yesterday, VEA leadership learned [details of VPS' plan for in-person kinder instruction](#) 10 minutes before they were released to staff and community. They've initiated this planning in response to [updated Clark County Public Health guidance](#) announced earlier this week.

In spite of the framing of VPS messaging, VEA has **not** yet been included in the planning process around bringing kinder students back to campus and our first opportunity for robust discussion is not scheduled with VPS Admin until Monday afternoon, 11/2. Based on member outreach and inquiry, we have generated a list of questions to bring to Monday's meeting and welcome additional input from PK/Kinder teachers and other staff who support early learners.

We welcome further input from PK/Kinder members this Thursday, 11/5 during a **PK/Kinder Listening Session**

4 PM – 5 PM via Zoom
[Click here to Register](#)

Special Education Updates

VEA is grateful to Special Education leaders and members alike for your outreach and advocacy! Based on inquiries you've brought to our attention, you should know:

KN95 Masks: This level of mask should be readily available to Special Educators providing onsite services to students. They are disposable masks, intended for SINGLE-TIME-USE. If you are being asked to use a KN95 mask two days in a row, you should refuse to do so and demand a fresh mask each work day - please work directly with your COVID Site Coordinator for this process and alert VEA of any issues (KN95-mask-related or otherwise). Laura Bergeron in Special Services assured VEA she would be updating her team with this clarification, confirming one-time-use.

Self-Contained Stipend Disbursement: When self-contained special educators alerted VEA of the missing September installment, VEA notified Special Services and advocated for immediate remedy, assured the October paycheck would reflect just that. Yesterday Laura Bergeron in Special Services clarified that Payroll process/capacity prevented this option and, as a result, an additional \$22.23 per month through the remainder of the year will be provided to compensate for the missing September installment. Thank you for your patience and understanding with this correction!

The Election is Tuesday! What can we do?

Saturday, 10/31: Join fellow WEA members in a final-push text bank to help get out the vote for [Chris Reykdal, our WEA-PAC Endorsed candidate for OSPI!](#) "See you" there from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm! [RSVP here!](#)

Tuesday, 11/3: Don't forget to mail or turn in your ballot before then! You can find a list of [WEA-PAC endorsed candidates here.](#)

If you've already sent in your ballot and want to make sure it's been received, visit vote.wa.gov.



Virtual Fall Social, Friday 11/13!

Are you within your first 7 years of service in VPS? Come socialize with earlier-career educators and VEA leaders through one of our upcoming Virtual Socials!



Network with fellow VEA members and leaders! Order a meal and VEA will reimburse you up to \$15! Enter to win giveaways!

[REGISTER HERE IN ADVANCE TO JOIN US:](#)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH VIA ZOOM

OPTION 1: 3:00-4:00 OR

OPTION 2: 4:30-5:30 PM

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Goodbye October, Hello Giveaway\$!

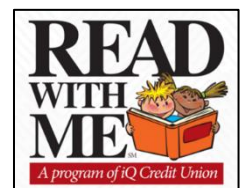
Y'all continue to work so hard serving students and families and VEA wants you to #TreatYourself on us! Congrats to the following members (names drawn at random) on your forthcoming \$25 gift card to a local Vancouver restaurant! Please email kvannostran@washingtonea.org to confirm you'd like it inter-officed to your worksite or please confirm your home mailing address if you'd prefer to receive it in the snail mail!

Michelle Christensen (Chinook), Katie Dunfield (JPC),
Shannon Foley (Harney), Veena Girod (MAC),
Madison Heath (Marshall), Alison Hook (Marshall),
Kayla Hougan (Gaiser), Jennifer Hughes (Roosevelt),
Scott Kimberling (Jefferson), Lisa Lowary (Truman),
Kelly Pranger-Achen (Sacajawea),
Lindsey Sandoval (Sacajawea), Claire Seekamp (Harney),
Allison Susen (Lieser), Cal Szeuber (River)

IQ Credit Union Literacy Grants: Apply Now!

Each year, IQ Credit Union awards books to elementary, middle, and high school classes in Southwest Washington. Selected teachers get a book for every student in their class!

Read With Me Grants (Grades K-5) are available to K-5 educators who seek books for their students to support a particular reading program and/or to help encourage a love of reading! [Apply here today!](#)



Literacy Grants (Grades 6-12) are also available to 6-12 educators to support ideas or programs that help promote the love of reading. These grants can be used to fund classroom enrichment, school supplies, or anything else related to your reading programs. [Apply here today!](#)