

## Fall Update

### VPS Elementary Hybrid Webinar TODAY

Elementary members have been invited to a VPS staff webinar TODAY, 10/7 at 3:30 PM for a presentation about hybrid instruction and [health and safety protocols](#). Questions are welcome following the presentation and the presentation, in full, will be recorded for viewing at a later time. Per Debra Hale in Elementary Education, most, if not all, elementary staff meetings should have been canceled to avail elementary members to attend if they choose.

In addition, a VPS principal and teacher guide is under development for the purpose of providing additional detail about hybrid schedules and instructional time, as well as health and safety protocols. **Access today's meeting using this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86865689605?pwd=QndmQ2JZWESiZU1EdlVlWVpxM2RQdz09>  
(Passcode: 584212)

VPS will also hold a parent webinar for up to 1000 participants tomorrow/Thursday, 10/8 at 5 PM for a similar purpose. It will also be recorded to view at a later time. Parents can access tomorrow/Thursday's webinar using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86799319982?pwd=S3BGMDVHV C9FY0pKckhFQ2RYWnRPUT09#success>  
(Passcode: 512990)

### Suggest a New CRHS Mascot!

VPS is soliciting community suggestions through [this survey](#) for a new Columbia River High School mascot. You will recall the VPS School Board moved to retire their previous mascot based on recommendations from local tribal leaders and other members of the community in addition to research from the State Board of Education and the American Psychological Association. [This community survey link](#) will remain open through October 31<sup>st</sup> and a separate link will be shared with current CRHS students.

Per VPS' announcement, a mascot transition team made up of Columbia River High School students, alumni and staff (current and past) will review suggestions for the new mascot in December 2020 and CRHS students will vote on finalist options in February 2021. The transition team will then solicit and select graphic artwork for the mascot in March 2021 and they will present the mascot and artwork to the community in April 2021.

### WEA PD via Zoom

Join fellow WEA members in furthering your virtual teaching practice by [registering for one or more of the following courses](#):

**Planning for a Week of Distance Learning**  
Wednesday, 10/28 from 4 – 5:30 PM

**Building Routines for Student Success in a Virtual Space**  
Wednesday, 11/18 from 4 – 5:30 PM

**Facilitating Quality Practice**  
Wednesday, 12/2 from 4 – 5:30 PM

[See this flyer for further details](#), including additional course offerings in the realm of Special Education and Inclusionary Practices as well!

### ES 3-Hour Early Release Tuesday, 10/13

All elementary schools will have a 3-hour early release on Tuesday, 10/13, for certificated staff. This time will be set aside for professional development with the [COVID-19 Mitigation and Response document](#) (the one Lindsay Rogers and Nicole Daltoso shared with the School Board Tuesday night). All elementary principals will all work from the same document as the overview, and then get specific to their building layout and plans. There will be ample time for Q & A, and it will help principals identify any unanswered questions that require further district-level work. 19 of the elementary schools will release at 11:50, and the other late start schools will release at 12:30. The timing of this early release is helpful since teachers will have had the opportunity to hear the staff webinar before the building-specific professional development on the same topic.

Principals were notified of this plan on Monday, 10/5, and should be communicating with staff and parents/families this week. The district will list it on the online calendar as well. Please reach out to your building principal with any questions you may have.

### VEA Member Winners!

Congratulations to Shannon Brooks, Devonne Pele, and Natalie Ketzler from Jefferson, our VEA member winners of the 2020 Music & Arts Grant through California Casualty! The 2021 grant application will be available in February of 2021 for other members interested in applying!



### October 9<sup>th</sup>, Optional In-Service Day

This Friday, 10/9 is a non-student attendance day as well as a non-contracted day for VEA members – you are not REQUIRED to work on October 9th. You MAY choose to participate in VPS-hosted PD, you MAY also choose to participate in other PD hosted by an outside entity, or you MAY choose not to engage in professional activities that day.

If you have received conflicting communication from colleagues and/or administrators regarding Friday's optional in-service day, please let VEA know so we can work with you to help clear up any misunderstandings.