

Winter Update

Vaccination Update

While VEA has advocated at the district level for broader consideration for school employee eligibility for vaccination, VPS has also advocated at the county level through Clark County Public Health. Thus far, Clark County Public Health has approved the following roles for vaccination eligibility (in accordance with Phase 1a/1b of the [state plan for rollout](#)):

- Nurses, one admin and one secretary (who qualify based on their support for the health annex and health rooms)
- Counselors, psychologists, and behavior specialists (who qualify based on their support for student mental and behavior health)
- OTs/PTs/SLPs (who qualify based on their health care services)
- Members age 65+
- Members age 50+ who live in multigenerational households

To check your eligibility within Phase 1a Tiers 1 & 2/1b Tier 1, [use this link](#). VEA continues to advocate at the state level to accelerate this timeline, especially for those already providing onsite services.

VPS & CCPH COVID Case Updates

Since CCPH no longer has the capacity to post positive cases in schools (now only posting outbreaks), VEA will attempt to provide at least a weekly update to members to include VPS cases as well as the weekly case count for Clark County as a whole.

Since January 1, 2021, VPS has reported:

NEW! Tuesday, 1/20:

- **positive case at Chinook, close contacts**

NEW! Monday, 1/19:

- **positive case at Lake Shore, close contacts**

Wednesday, 1/13:

- positive case at JPC, close contacts with staff
- *presumed* positive case at Chinook ES, close contacts with students

Sunday, 1/10:

- *presumed* positive at Truman ES from 1/8 was confirmed negative

Friday, 1/8:

- positive case at Jefferson MS, no close contacts;
- positive case at Skyview HS, no close contacts;
- positive case at Truman ES, close contacts with staff and students, one class will learn remotely

Thursday, 1/7:

- positive case at Hudson's Bay HS, no close contacts
- positive case at Columbia River HS, no close contacts
- positive case at Fort Vancouver HS, close contact with staff (no students)

Saturday, 1/2:

- 2 positive cases at Washington ES, no close contacts

Since January 1, 2021, CCPH has reported:

NEW! Jan 19: 473.69 cases per 100,000

Jan 11: **397.95** cases per 100,000

Jan 4: **324.87** cases per 100,000

TODAY! All-Member Meeting RE: the 2021 Bargain

An all-VEA-member meeting is scheduled for TODAY, January 21st at 4:30 pm via Zoom webinar to share highlights from the bargaining survey. Please join us!

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://washingtonea.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kVGsSmt3RIKZZSmgnWnvPA

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

Specialty Group Input Sessions

VEA also invites specialty member groups to join us via Zoom to further elaborate bargaining priorities specific to their work role from 4:00 to 5:00 PM on:

January 25th (TOSAs/Deans) Register in advance for this meeting:

https://washingtonea.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqcu2vqj0iH9dk8En74lcGu-X_68GZZv89

January 26th (ESAs) Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://washingtonea.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvduurzwuH9VVJ1dB3y9usY01SHy0WP06>

January 27th (EL Specialists/Dual Language) Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://washingtonea.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqf-GprzkoG9Ua3wl2Xcslq4Gii74Zy8k>

VEA Team Lobbies WA Legislators

VEA is grateful to our Lobby Team for celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. this past Monday by joining hundreds of fellow WEA educators in lobbying for equitable and just public schools! Megan Christopher (MAC) and Lynn Maiorca (Gaiser), our WEA PAC Co-Chairs, were



accompanied by Nicole Johnson (Jefferson), Jesse Affeldt (Ogden), Kari Van Nostran (VEA) and Rick Wilson (VEA) this past Monday morning to meet with two of our three legislators from the 49th Legislative District. After sharing personal stories surrounding the priority topics of school funding, student and educator equity, and safety, our WEA Lobby Team was proud to secure support from both Senator Annette Cleveland and Representative Monica Stonier with the [WEA Legislative Priorities](#) that align with needs we have here in Vancouver.

Jesse Affeldt, a 5th grade teacher at Ogden and recent graduate from WEA PoliSPARKS commented, "We're very fortunate to have representatives from the 49th LD who stand with students and educators. I would encourage VEA members to [voice their concerns](#) around school safety plans, the state vaccine schedule and plans for funding."

Though the team was unable to meet directly with Representative Sharon Wylie, our Lynn Maiorca shared follow up communication with her via email.

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