

Winter Update

VPS & CCPH COVID Case Updates

VEA will continue to provide updates to members to include VPS cases as well as the weekly case count for Clark County. VPS is also providing public access to a [VPS COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#). We encourage members to share these details with other colleagues and community members to support communication and transparency.

Since January 1, 2021, VPS has reported:

NEW! Wednesday, 3/4:

- **positive case at Gaiser MS, no close contacts, transmission location not school-based**
- **presumed positive case at Lake Shore ES, close contacts with staff and a student, transmission location not school-based**

NEW! Friday, 2/26:

- **positive case at Marshall ES, close contacts**

NEW! Saturday, 2/20:

- **positive case at Marshall ES, close contacts with staff and students, transmission location not school-based**

Wednesday, 2/10:

- positive case at Jefferson MS, close contacts, transmission location not school-based

Tuesday, 2/9:

- [King confirmed an "outbreak site," elaborated in this message](#)

Friday, 2/5:

- positive student case at Chinook ES, no close contacts, school-based transmission; [Chinook confirmed an "outbreak site," elaborated in this message](#)
- positive case at Gaiser MS, no close contacts, transmission location not school-based

Monday, 2/1:

- positive case at Discovery MS, close contacts

Sunday, 1/31:

- positive case at Roosevelt ES, no close contacts

Tuesday, 1/26:

- 2 positive cases at King ES, close contacts

Tuesday, 1/19:

- positive case at Chinook, close contacts

Monday, 1/18:

- positive case at Lake Shore, close contacts

Wednesday, 1/13:

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

Superintendent and School Board Director Searches

The VEA is grateful to the VPS School Board for their diligence surrounding the Superintendent Search and Hire process and **congratulates Dr. Jeff Snell, who has been chosen to serve as our next superintendent of Vancouver Public Schools! The Board announced its unanimous decision yesterday evening, following interviews with the finalists, which were held in executive session. Members can [visit this VPS page to learn more](#) about our new superintendent.**

As the Board now negotiates the new superintendent contract, **they are also seeking applicants for the board of directors, position 2** (recently vacated by Camara Banfield following her appointment to Clark County Superior Court). VEA encourages members to promote this opportunity among family and friends in the community, keeping in mind that to serve on the school board, one must live within the boundaries of Vancouver Public Schools and be eligible to vote. By law, school district employees and, in most instances, their spouses are not eligible to serve as board members.

[Applications](#) are due to VPS by noon on Monday, 3/15.

Send a Gratitude-Gram through VEA!

We hope members were able to check VPS mailboxes last week for a special thank you from VEA for "fostering growth" in the students you serve and that this small token of our gratitude brought a smile to your face :) Thank you also to those VEA Building Reps who stepped up to help distribute these items to member mailboxes! The hard work and dedication of all members, including our member leaders does not go unnoticed!

Now, it's your turn to partner with VEA to help express your gratitude for other VEA colleagues! Who has been the "Pot of Gold" at the end your rainbow? Who brings a smile to your face and puts little pep in your step? We want to help you express your gratitude in the form of a personalized postcard to a VEA member you would deem your "Pots of Gold."

Similar to the way we solicited requests for a postcard from Santa back in December, **your response to [this survey](#) will enable VEA to craft a "Gratitude-Gram" on your behalf to then send to your colleague through interoffice mail!** Thanks for taking advantage of this offer to send a positive message to those VEA colleagues who've helped us survive and thrive this school year! **Please respond to the survey no later than Thursday, 3/11 at 5 PM to place your requests!**

Biden Prioritizes Educator Vaccinations!

Per [Gov. Inslee's announcement](#), Washington has responded to President Biden's directive to prioritize educator vaccination!

Now that educators have been moved up to Phase 1B-1, many members have already scheduled round one of vaccination through the [Clark County Fairgrounds dispensation site, local pharmacies, or their health care providers](#). VPS also continues to collaborate with ESD 112, other local school districts and local vaccine providers to expand the existing community pathways for school employees to be vaccinated.

Yesterday via work email you should have [received a link to a Google Form](#) to fill out no later than 5 PM today/Thursday, 3/4. If you plan to get a vaccine through this option, please fill out this form ASAP. As this work through VPS develops, VEA will continue to provide updates as we are able!

Goodbye February, Hello Giveaway\$!

VEA is grateful to all members for the time and effort you continue to put in to support VPS students and their families! Congratulations to the following members (names drawn at random) on your forthcoming \$25 gift card to a local Vancouver restaurant - #TreatYourself on us! Please email kvannostran@washingtonea.org to confirm you'd like it interofficed to your worksite or please confirm your home mailing address if you'd prefer to receive it via US mail!

Elizabeth Barber, Hazel Dell; Joseph Cain, MAC; Kevin Coffey, Anderson; Darcy Davis, Salmon Creek; Jodie Deeney, Sacajawea; Susan Holden, Fort Vancouver; Leah Kerns, Harney; Ines Kuna, iTech; Connie McChesney, Eisenhower; Erika Miller, Alki; Serena Montehermoso, Chinook; Dana Moore, Marshall; Jodi Nevins, Gaiser; Danielle Puhl, Skyview; Erin Stromme, Lake Shore