



VEA and VPS Exchange Proposals

Thank you to the 545 VEA members for completing the recent focused survey! The VEA bargaining team dissected the volumes of information during an all-day work session on March 17th. In reviewing both the January survey and the March focused survey, many suggestions had cost implications that cannot be bargained at this time. While decisions that pertain to management rights delineated in the contract are not subject to bargaining, impacts from those decisions that affect other areas of our contract may be subject to bargaining. Other entries were noted for discussion at labor management for resolution. All of the suggestions were thoughtfully discussed and noted as concerns from the membership that are not lost on VEA leadership will be reviewed for successor contract bargaining or other avenues for advocacy.

Your VEA team consisting of Kari Van Nostran, Amy Spofford, Andrew Wicklas, Keith Lloyd, Sunny Selders, and Page Todd continued work on the language for the final proposals early on March 22nd prior to meeting with the district team consisting of Kathy Everidge, Bill Oman, Mychael Irwin, Daniel Bettis, and Janell Ephraim.

VEA Proposal Topics	VPS Proposal Topics
Teacher-directed time in the contract day	PIR
Safety and Discipline	VSAA

Your VEA bargaining team, including Jamie Anderson, is meeting again all-day on March 30th to dissect the district’s proposals and craft counter proposals. The next bargaining session with the district is scheduled for April 12th.

Collective Strength Pay\$ off

Strength in negotiations isn’t always found at the local bargaining table. Bargaining also takes place in Olympia with lobbying efforts to the legislature. Due to VEA leadership lobbying alongside other statewide educators on your behalf during the 2022 legislative session, VEA certificated staff will see a **5.5% IPD legislated increase plus the 2% VEA originally bargained for in order to reflect a total of a 7.5% COLA** in your paycheck for 2022-23. Our collective power advocated for the IPD to keep up with inflation and maintain your salary commensurate with costs in our community. VEA currently has a 68% participation in WEAPAC. Contributions will continue to sustain and strengthen our voice as pro-education - pro-labor candidates are considered for election this year. You have the ability to increase your contribution to \$5.00 or \$10.50 per month. VEA has some swag (while supplies last) to send as a thank you: A phone wallet for new contributors, a hat for \$5 contributors, and a zip-up sweatshirt for \$10.50 contributors. <https://www.washingtonea.org/ourvoice/wea-pac/join-wea-pac/>

