

## Summer Update

### VPS COVID Case Updates

VPS is now providing daily staff communications regarding cases, so VEA will no longer list the data in the member updates. Please email your COVID coordinator with a cc. to VEA if there are any concerns regarding the reported data. VEA will continue to provide the weekly case counts for Clark County (to the right). VPS is also providing public access to a [VPS COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#). We encourage members to share these details out to support full communication and transparency.

### CCPH COVID Updates

Since July 21, 2022 [CCPH](#) has reported:

**Aug 11: 121.2 cases per 100,000**

Aug 4: 153.2 cases per 100,000

July 28: 170.1 cases per 100,000

July 21: 178.3 cases per 100,000

### COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidance for Schools

New information was released from the Department of Health about [COVID-19 health and safety guidance for schools this fall](#). Following these safety measures reduces the spread of COVID-19.

#### Health and safety requirements for this fall:

- Students and [staff who show symptoms of COVID-19 are required to stay home, and](#) should get tested for COVID-19. should get tested for COVID-19.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate at home for **5 days**. If symptoms improve and they have had no fever for the past 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, students and staff can come back to school and are encouraged to test before returning.
- It is **recommended**, but not required, that students and staff returning to school after their 5 days of isolation:
  - wear a well-fitted mask from days 6 to 10, and
  - remain masked for sports and other extracurricular activities on days 6 to 10.
- Students and staff who test positive after 5 days of isolation must stay at home for the full 10-day isolation period.
- Schools must inform students, families, and staff when there are cases or outbreaks in school. Schools are no longer required to directly notify high risk students or staff.
- Our state's requirement for school employees to be fully vaccinated to protect against COVID-19 or have obtained a medical or religious exemption is still in place.

These requirements are in place for all public and private K-12 schools and child care facilities in Washington state. Schools and child care facilities are required by state law to follow these guidelines.

### August PD Calendar

August 15-29 is the window of time available for mandatory and voluntary trainings. As per the contract, up to 8 hours of PD can be directed by the district. Please refer to this [District PD calendar](#) (note updates may occur between now and August). If you are unavailable for the community of practice assigned to your discipline, you may attend on another day during that timeframe. Please refer to the [decision matrix](#) showing District Directed (DD) courses to assist educators who may have been invited to two or more courses to determine which one they will attend. Any hours that are **required** above 8 hours must be paid via supplemental contract or the employee may be excused from attending.

If you are unavailable for the community of practice assigned to your discipline, you may attend on another day. If you can't attend any of the August dates offered, please communicate with your direct supervisor and note that the District may withhold those PD funds for a similar purpose later in the school year.

### Inclusionary Practice PD

WEA's Inclusionary Practices Project (IPP) is providing 24 professional development courses with up to 318 clock hours possible including 60 hours of STEM. We have fifteen new courses including eight courses designed for coaches and mentors. These courses were created with flexibility in mind. You can start at any time and move through the course at your own pace. **The courses are free, provide clock hours, and available to all!**

Inclusion, Behavior strategies, Specially Designed Instruction, STEM, Universal Design For Learning, and MORE!. For more information including course descriptions and registration links, please visit the [Asynchronous Courses page on the WEA website](#).

### Pre-Duty Days

August 24 and 25 are the negotiated Pre-duty days as per section 12.4 of the contract. One day may be divided as determined by a SBLT vote reaching 80%. Pre-Duty days are paid in October as part of your professional learning TRI compensation. Absences on these days are to be noted in the absence management system with "Pre-Duty" as the absence reason.

### 2022-23 Salary

**+7.5%**

Your Association negotiated a 7.5% raise for the 22-23 school year! 5.5% was provided through lobbying efforts in the legislature and the additional 2% was locally negotiated. The [salary schedule](#) including TRI and PL days as well as the [hourly per diem](#) are available on the VEA website. The 2022-23 rates were effective on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

### VEA Summer Office Hours

The VEA office August 1<sup>st</sup>! Cindy's hours in August are 8:00-3:00 Monday-Thursday and 8:00-2:00 on Friday. Kari's hours in August are generally 8:00-4:00 Monday-Thursday and 8:00-3:00 on Friday. Page's hours are generally 8:00-5:00 Monday-Friday.

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