

October Update

Calendar Waiver Days are Work Days

The district applied for a calendar waiver with OSPI to count the student conference days as attendance days. Note currently conference days are part of TRI Part B and not contracted work days. Therefore the March 15 and April 26 snow make up days will be required educator work days. Educators will work both days either as 1) a snow make up day with students or 2) Collaboration time for educators (PLC and/or guiding coalition work) as determined by a memo of understanding. A draft MOU was presented to the district on October 3 further delineating the impacts of this waiver.

Coaching Cycles are OPTIONAL

Please know that coaching cycles for improving educator practices are optional. While VEA acknowledges the benefits of improving our practice, there should not be any retaliation for choosing not to participate.

Please know that collaboration with building specialists (eg. multilingual) is expected in order to provide necessary supports to students.

Student Growth Goals

Student growth goals are not due until the Semester break. New language ratified in the 2023 interim bargain:

8.4K All certificated educators will provide a Student Growth Goal (SGG) to the evaluator on or before the 90th student attendance day of the school year. Certificated educators may conduct more than one SGG cycle each year.

Behavior Matrix

As agreed in the 2023 interim bargain, a behavior matrix was developed and delivered to the district the week of September 25th. VEA continues to push for this guiding document to be in the hands of members and administrators to fully understand and follow the various tiers and behavior supports.

Synergy Dumpster Fire Keeps Burning

While we have recorded many Synergy failures, specific examples of synergy impacts on your time and ability to do your job are requested from the membership at-large via [this google doc](#) no later than Wednesday, October 11th. This information will help inform our continued dialogue with the district. We also encourage members to communicate directly with the district as well.

VEA will keep membership updated as responses are received from the district.

October 13 Inservice

The district changed their practice requiring an entry in absence management if you choose not to participate in the PL day (TRI part A). You will simply not be compensated for this time. Compensation for the October PL day will appear on the December paycheck.

Members can attend an out of district training on the October 13 PL day by following these protocols:

1. Ask their administrator for approval
2. If approved, they **DO NOT** add an absence to Absence Management
3. Also, they **DO NOT** register or sign-in for a VPS TRI PL course because they are not eligible for VPS credit if they do not attend the VPS course
3. They would attend the training and return with proof of completion, such as a certificate or transcript to show to their administrator
4. They would complete a hard copy supplemental contract and complete/sign everything except for the Superintendent Designee signature and budget code, then send to Nicole Niesz in Professional Development for budget and processing
5. To receive credit for the course they attend, they will need to work with the sponsor of the course. It is possible the sponsor may not offer credit and if that is the case, VPS cannot assist with that.