



## Tentative Agreement Reached!

After a 14-hour bargaining session on Friday – our VEA Bargaining Team secured a package of agreements on all outstanding proposals that they believe has met the key member bargaining priorities.

VEA wants to send our THANKS to our VEA Bargaining Team members: Amy Spofford (Lake Shore, Bargaining Chair/Special Education), Charlotte Lartey (Gaiser/Flex, Specialist), Keith Lloyd (Alki, Middle School), Andrew Wicklas (Fort Vancouver, High School), Sunny Selders (Marshall, Intermediate), Kiera O’Brien (Heights/Fort, At-Large), Jamie Anderson (VEA President, Primary), and Graham Picklesimer (VEA Executive Director).

VEA would also like to extend our gratitude to the VPS Bargaining Team members for the ongoing respectful and collaborative tone during this year’s bargaining session. While compromises are made during bargaining, both teams were able to walk away from the table this year feeling like what was accomplished will benefit not only our VEA members, but our students as well.

## What comes next?

Per VEA Standing Rules, now that a settlement has been reached, the Bargaining Team will present the agreement language to the VEA Executive Board members. After the Exec Board has reviewed the language, they will move for either a “do pass” or “do not pass” recommendation to our membership.

The VPS Bargaining Team and Dr. Snell will also share the agreement language with the School Board Directors for their approval.

The VEA Bargaining Team will hold a General Member meeting on **August 29 (via Zoom)**, where language and a summary of agreements will be shared – members will have the opportunity to ask questions or give comments on the language. Following the meeting, an electronic ratification vote will be launched to all members via home email. A Zoom registration link will be sent to your personal email soon!

## Solidarity Rally – **canceled**

Thank you to those of you who were ready to show our strength on Monday as we planned to rally in support of our VEA Bargaining Team members. The Solidarity Rally planned for Monday, August 26, has been **CANCELED**, as bargaining will no longer be taking place.

## Picket Captain Training - **canceled**

Huge shoutout to our building member leaders who were ready to step up and get trained to support any potential work action. We have **CANCELED** the picket captain training scheduled for Monday, August 26, as well due to reaching an agreement.

**VEA Bargaining Team members:** Amy Spofford (chair), Sunny Selders (Intermediate Elementary) Keith Lloyd (Middle School), Charlotte Lartey (Specialist), Andrew Wicklas (High School), Jamie Anderson (President), and Graham Picklesimer (Executive Director).

**VPS Bargaining Team members:** Jeff Fish (Director of HR), Brett Blechschmidt (Chief Operating Officer), Jami Phelps (Director of Special Education), Heath Angelbeck (Principal – Salmon Creek), Allison Watson (Assoc. Principal – Skyview), Jim Gray (Executive Director of High Schools & Safety).

**Make sure VEA has your non-school contact information for sharing bargaining information!** Send any changes to your home email to [cbrown@washingtonea.org](mailto:cbrown@washingtonea.org)

