

November Update

Election Outcome Positive Notes



While many have shared their thoughts with us about the election results at the national level, we are fortunate to live in a state that continues to demonstrate the value of public education, union rights, and equality for all residents. Here are some positive highlights from the recent election:

Thanks to the hard work of WEA members, the repeal of the Capital Gains Tax (I-2109) was defeated! This helps protect \$2.2 billion in education funding.

Bob Ferguson will serve as Governor of Washington state. Bob is a proven leader who has worked tirelessly to protect Washingtonians as Attorney General. We also welcome Nick Brown as our new Attorney General, who is expected to continue Bob's legacy of service.

Chris Reykdal was re-elected as Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), ensuring the future of public education over the alternative, who would have pushed for privatization and charters.

A supermajority of WEAPAC-endorsed candidates have already won, and many of the races for local candidates remain still too close to call.

Thank you to everyone who [contributed to WEAPAC](#) and were the boots on the ground this election season. We've made a strong impact — here's to continuing our progress as we move forward together!

More & More *thankful* ...

VEA has extended the opportunity to celebrate each other through Thursday at noon. Union siblings are there for each other to bring a smile to your face and put a little pep in your step. They provide that "little extra something" that we are More & More thankful for. VEA will help express your gratitude in the form of a personalized message and treat to another VEA member



Simply fill out this survey – we will do the rest!

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PDY3GM5>)

Injured at Work? What do I do?

Project Help is a free, impartial, and high-quality service available to anyone with claim-specific questions or concerns as well as general information about Worker Compensation work-related injuries or occupational disease.

While we strive to keep everyone safe at work, the unimaginable sometimes happens. Is this bad enough to file a claim? I don't know where to start... Knowing your rights in advance can be very helpful should you experience an injury at work. They are able to answer questions about VPS Self-Insured process as well. Learn...

- What constitutes a claim
- What the claim process looks like
- Timeframes to be aware of
- Benefits provided
- What happens if the claim is denied

SAVE THE DATE: December 13, 2024 4:30-6:30 pm.

National School Psychologist Week

A big thank you to all of the school psychologists in VPS! Your hard work, care, and support make a difference in the lives of students every day. We truly appreciate everything you do!

WEA Human Civil Rights Award

WEA is celebrating WEA Member accomplishments through the WEA Human and Civil Rights Award (monetary). Please consider nominating another VEA member who exemplifies:

- Community Partnerships
- Cultural Awareness
- International Peace and Understanding
- Student

Please nominate a colleague by [completing this application](#) by January 17th

WEA is currently seeking nominations for the 2025 WEA Education Support Professional (ESP) of the Year Award.

This annual award recognizes the outstanding contributions of ESPs to their public schools, communities, and the profession. Eligibility includes being a member for at least three years as of the submission deadline of January 10, 2025 and has not previously received this award. [Get full details and nominate your favorite ESP online](#)