

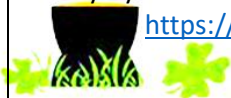
March Update

Gratitude Grams

VEA expressed our gratitude for you and appreciation for all that you do in the March Action Line. We would like to help facilitate a personalized message from member to member. Especially at this time of the year, we need a little reminder that our work is noticed and appreciated. VEA will send messages noted on this survey by the deadline of **March 19th**



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T5KVMWM>



Solidarity Walk Ins

We realize this is short notice, but changes are occurring at warp speed. Wednesday, March 19th, communities across the country will walk into our schools together to show elected leaders that we are united in support for the programs and protections our communities need to thrive. NEA has provided this toolkit ([March 19 Participant Toolkit | NEA](#)) as a resource. Roosevelt Elementary is already on board. If others want to join them, they'll be meeting by 7:15 am. Let VEA know if your site is interested in hosting a walk-in on the 19th or another date that works better for you.

2025-26 Calendar Changes



The School Board adopted the [2025-26 calendar](#). You will notice a couple of changes. First, the first day of school will stagger depending on grade level taught.

The second change is an additional PD day on October 17th. The district received a calendar waiver for professional development purposes **and** this day counts toward the 180 student attendance requirement. However, to keep members whole it is recorded as a non-student attendance contract workday. Attendance is mandatory however appropriate leave may be taken (ie. illness, injury, personal, bereavement, etc). Finally, leaders at Rep Council voiced a need for an additional break in November to catch a collective breath. You'll notice that the Veterans Day holiday will be observed on November 10 and 11.

Your Opinion Matters

VEA is helping spread the word about the district's desire to hear from all members (regular educators who serve students with special needs as well as special educators and ESA staff) around Inclusive Practices. The Board of Directors is eager to hear about ***What's working** in supporting students through special education services, ***What's challenging** as they navigate these changes, and ***Your ideas** for ensuring that each student has access to and benefits from the services and supports they need to thrive in their school community.



Remaining listening sessions: March 17, 6:00-7:30 at Columbia River HS, and March 27th 5:30-7:00 via zoom [SIGN UP HERE](#). Unable to attend? Complete this [SURVEY](#).

STEM Courses for Certificate Renewal

WEA Zoom Courses

Essentials of Gamification and Game-Based Learning in the STEM Classroom - 3 STEM clock hours, March 20, 4:30-7:30 p.m. [Register online](#).

Implementing Gamification and Game-Based Learning in the STEM Classroom - 3 STEM clock hours, March 27, 4:30-7:30 p.m. [Register online](#).

NEA Discounts

Visit www.neamb.com to find member-only discounts on Tickets (Theme parks and attractions, Movies, Shows, Sporting events, etc) Hint: you can filter by Portland, OR.

Travel Dollars Take the guesswork out of travel planning and focus on creating more unforgettable experiences with your annual credit of **\$500 NEA Travel Dollars**. Spring break is right around the corner!
www.neamb.com/travelnow