

February Update

Wearing BLUE in Solidarity

The VEA office received numerous requests for our VEA t-shirts as members stood in solidarity on January 30th as part of the national day of protest against ICE violence. Shout out to members at RBG, Bay, and Skyview for making a statement and walking in together! Free whistle kits are available at Muchas Gracias and White Oak books.



Funding for Schools Action Needed



As we stare at a pending RIF due to budget constraints, your association is pushing for a progressive revenue structure. SB 6346 is a millionaire tax

currently in the Senate with a hearing tomorrow. Sign in PRO here by 12:30 pm tomorrow:

<https://nxt.to/scOkEUB>

VEA will support up to two carpools to rally in Olympia on **February 10th** to emphasize the need for funding. Yes, release time and lunch will be provided. Volunteer here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z2QPCP3>

Black History Month Resources

Member Leslie Ward at Jefferson shared the following resources for Black History Month: Check out [this link](#) for a clickable digital "museum" with short, school appropriate videos related to Black history that go beyond the familiar stories of Ruby Bridges and MLK's "I have a dream" speech. There's also a slide with ideas for how to use the resource as a quick entry/exit task

#BetterTogether!

NEA Foundation Award – Teaching excellence

This award recognizes educators from around the country who promote excellence in education and advocacy for the profession. WEA is now seeking nominations for the Washington state recipient.

- Eligibility:** All current members including teachers, ESAs, and ESPs. Nominate a deserving colleague!
1. Submit a [letter of nomination](#) (no more than 3 pages, double spaced) outlining the individual's strengths and accomplishments tied to the five award criteria.
 2. Have your nominee [submit brief responses](#) (400 words or less per response)

Nominations are due by 5 pm on February 25 (Wed).

VEA Nominations Close Soon

Nominations close for VEA Executive Board positions and delegates to WEARA and NEARA at the February 9th Rep Council meeting. Contact VEA for nomination forms!

RSVP to the All Member Social – February 20th
Join us any time from 4:15-6:15 PM at Los Potrillos (Lake Shore location). Drop in when you can to enjoy a taco bar, hosted beverage and great conversation! Give aways – Trivia - Win a door prize too!

Please RSVP for planning purposes:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9DG2ZR>

