

## March Update

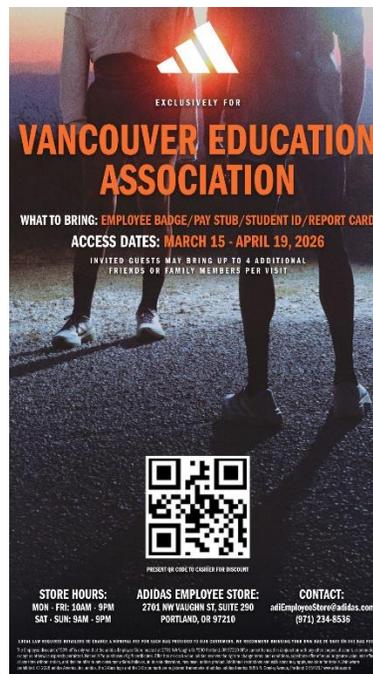
### Welcome Jennifer Chipman

The VEA Executive Board is excited to announce that they have hired Jennifer Chipman as VEA's new Administrative Assistant. Jennifer has experience working alongside our members, most currently in the role of building secretary at Eisenhower. Vancouver has been home for over 30 years and her three children all went through VPS schools. Jennifer and her husband enjoy exploring the PNW in their camper and spending as much time as possible with their family, which includes four grandchildren. *"I am excited to join the VEA team and understand there is a challenging legacy to live up to. I believe strongly in the work of the union as I come from a union family."*



In case you haven't heard, Cindy Brown is retiring at the end of this school year. Jennifer will be the voice of VEA when you call the office starting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. This will allow for a couple of months of transition and mentoring before Cindy sails off into the retirement sunset.

### Adidas Employee Store Shopping



Members and guests can enjoy the exclusive 50% employee discount March 15 through April 19. Bring the authentication code accessed via the QR code and VPS identification for entry.

### Staff Well-Being in Schools: Good Grief Supporting others and Self

Our labor partners at Kaiser Permanente are offering free webinars to our members (you do NOT need to be a Kaiser subscriber to participate).

**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 4:00pm

**Description:** Change is constant in education—but navigating it effectively requires intention and support. From personal loss to district/school transitions and the cumulative effects of chronic stress, the impact of grief and burnout can significantly influence employee well-being and performance. Designed for both leadership and staff, this session offers actionable strategies to foster a culture of empathy, connection, and psychological safety. *Clock hours are available by enrolling via [pdEnroller](#) and attending the live session.*

[Register here.](#)

### NEA American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus April 24-26



The National Caucus Conference will be held at the Spokane Tribe Casino in Airway Heights, WA. This caucus will help organize for a stronger future for Native Education within our local, regional, state and national unions. In today's climate, where our communities are under attack and education funding is on the chopping block at all levels, organizing for power and action is more important now than ever! Let VEA know if you are interested in this opportunity.

### WEA – NBCT Maintenance of Certificate Training Series

**April 2, 4:30-6:30 p.m. via Zoom...** This work session is a continuation of Work Session I and will help NBCTs get feedback on loosely constructed PGEs, the core of the portfolio. Prerequisites: In order to attend, NBCTs must bring a draft or detailed outline of one PGE and have done at least one of the following: Attend an OSPI MOC Overview and Getting Started session, or read and understand the MOC instructions. [Register online.](#)

**April 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m. via Zoom...** Feedback and support for your MOC work. Participants will share a draft of one PGE and give and receive feedback on their work. This session is 2 hours. [Register online.](#)