

Weekly Update

Make Sure Educator Voice Is in the Room

The superintendent has started a six-session series called “**Mapping Our Future**” to bring together the voices of staff, families, and community partners as VPS starts the binding conditions process with OSPI.

Information gathered through these sessions will help shape the School Board’s priorities as they develop the district’s strategic financial plan. This is an opportunity for educators to show up, listen, and make sure our experiences are part of that conversation.

There are still three opportunities to participate:

- **Wednesday, September 23** | 5:30–7:30 PM — Hudson’s Bay High School
- **Thursday, September 24** | 5:30–7:30 PM — Virtual
- **Monday, September 28** | 5:30–7:30 PM — Columbia River High School

Binding Conditions ≠ Contract Override

As VPS enters the binding conditions process, we want VEA members to know what that does – and doesn’t – mean. Binding Conditions are a state process related to the district’s financial situation and its plan for addressing that situation. **Binding conditions do NOT suspend or override the VEA collective bargaining agreement.** The district is obligated to follow the provisions outlined in our contract, including our compensation (regular and supplemental), working conditions, and other rights that we have collectively bargained.

As this process unfolds, VEA will continue to monitor how district decisions impact our members and we will advocate to protect the contract and the educators we represent.



Thank you, Edgewood Elementary!

A big thank you to the Edgewood rep team for returning ALL of their building *In the Loop* forms! We appreciate you taking the time to get these completed and returned to VEA. As a special thank-you, VEA will be sending some goodies to the Edgewood members.

Make sure you get your completed form to your Building Reps so they can return them at the October Rep Council meeting.



Put the YOU in Your Union

Our union is stronger when members are involved. Whether you have a little time or want to take on a bigger role, there are lots of ways to participate, make your voice heard, and help shape the work of VEA. Check out the opportunities below and find a way to get involved!

SIGN UP FOR:

School Board meetings: <https://bit.ly/4rrd2I3>

VEA Committee work: <https://bit.ly/4yaQIoE>

WEA Get Out the Vote: <https://bit.ly/4y8tAai>

Need to contact the VEA office?

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