



Staff Rep Weekly

2011 December 12

Dates to Remember

December 12
Anti-Poverty Committee
4pm VESTA Office

December 15
Aboriginal Ed. Section
4 pm VESTA Office

WORDS

Why does this government continue to strip the 'profession' from teaching? The 'Professional Teaching Act' is now the 'Teaching Act'. The backwards movement at the Provincial bargaining table attempts to strip our contract to the point that government officials and Administrators dictate our professional development and negate any autonomy in the classroom. The message this sends is simply that we cannot be trusted to conduct ourselves as professionals and do not deserve to be treated as such.

West Vancouver Teachers

Dear Santa

I worked hard this year, at least 50 hours a week, more if I had to write report cards. I spent hundreds if not thousands of my own dollars on resources for our school library. I love what I do. I do my best under increasingly difficult circumstances to support all the learners in my school – students, teachers, and parents alike. I am good at it. I spent 7 years at university and continue to spend my own time and money on professional development to become even better.

I try to stay positive even though public education is under serious attack. School libraries across the province are an endangered species. In the past 10 years or so we have lost half the staff that supports special needs kids in our school. Classroom teachers have larger class sizes and more special needs children than ever before.

For Christmas this year I am requesting that mainstream media stop belittling, denigrating, and telling outright lies about my colleagues and me. Perhaps if you can't get them to say something nice, you could get them to say nothing at all.

Yours truly,
Cherree Weichel
Teacher Librarian @ Charles Dickens Elementary School

Child Poverty

It is important at this time of year to support through our actions and donations families who cannot adequately meet their needs. But it is important to remember that poverty is not seasonal and we must advocate for a changes to the system that affects so many Vancouver students and families.

"Child poverty is an outcome of the corrosive and unsustainable income inequality that has been allowed to grow in BC and Canada. It undermines children's potential and provokes a host of short- and long-term social and economic harms, which affect individuals, communities, and our collective future."

2011 Child Poverty Report Card

School Visits

School Visits are now complete. We are proud of our members' strong understanding of the necessity to remain united as we attempt to negotiate a fair deal.



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