

STAFF REP WEEKLY



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Meetings at VESTA Office, 4 PM unless otherwise noted.

March 11

VESTA/VSTA Aboriginal Education Committee

March 12

VESTA General Meeting / Staff Rep Assembly, Tupper Cafeteria

March 14

Sustainability Committee
CANCELLED

March 16-19

BCTF AGM, Hyatt Hotel, Vancouver

March 18 – Happy Spring Break!

April 2

TTOC Committee

NEWER TEACHERS' INDUCTION

On Thursday April 11, 2013, at the VESTA office new teachers, including TTOCs, hired from January 2009 to February 2013 are invited to an evening of welcome. Special guests from the BCTF, VESTA, and the PSA Council will share valuable information on teaching supports, member benefits and the Collective Agreement. The BCTF offers all new teacher inductees a complimentary one-year membership to the Professional Specialist Association of their choice. RSVP by: Friday April 5, 2013.

GENERAL MEETING & STAFF REP ASSEMBLY – TUESDAY, MARCH 12

The General Meeting Agenda at present includes:

1. Advice to VESTA delegates to the BCTF AGM from staffs and members.
2. A motion from the Anti-Poverty Committee: THAT VESTA recommends that the VSB develop clear guidelines to ensure that children are not competing with each other in fundraising activities nor are they encouraged to participate in fundraisers in order to win prizes and receive special recognition.

3. VBE School Calendar:

THAT consistent with the motion passed by the 2011 March 15th General Meeting that for the 2013-2014 school year:

THAT VESTA not oppose the school calendar proposal for the 2013/2014 school year. Furthermore, the following concerns are addressed:

- That continuing contract teachers receive the same amount of prep that they would have received with a standard calendar;
- That the EOC daily pay rate is adjusted to reflect the longer days worked;
- That EOC pay in lieu of benefits be adjusted to reflect the fewer days in the school year;
- That the accumulation of seniority and full time equivalent experience for purposes of moving up the salary grid be adjusted to reflect the shortened school year.

The Staff Rep Assembly Agenda includes a recommendation from the EC: THAT VESTA not support the concept of Specialty Schools in elementary schools.

STUDENT VOTE IN BC SCHOOLS

The Student Vote program is open to all elementary, middle and secondary schools with no cost to participate. Students get a chance to learn about government, election issues and the electoral process. To date over 400 BC schools and close to 60,000 students are involved.

Each school may register online at <http://www.studentvote.ca/bc2013> or through the Student Vote office at 1-866-488-8775.

Each school receives a customized campaign package of materials and resources. Students take part in the provincial election campaign and vote one week before Election Day for the candidates in their electoral district.

An independent evaluation of the Student Vote program showed a significant and positive impact on student knowledge of the electoral process and family interest in politics.



From all of us at the VESTA Office enjoy a rejuvenating spring break!

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