



# STAFF REP WEEKLY

## Dates to Remember:

Meetings at VESTA office, 4pm unless otherwise noted.

### February 11

Family Day

### February 13

Anti-Racism Committee Video Night

### February 18

Status of Women Committee Movie – *Miss Representation*

### February 19

VTF/VESTA GM/SRA

### February 20

Health and Safety Committee

### February 21

Sustainability Committee

### February 25

BCTF AGM Delegates Meeting

## Three Reasons Teachers Don't Mark FSAs

1. For more than a decade BC teachers have opposed these standardized tests that do not help our students. This has resulted in many parents choosing to withdraw their children from participation.
2. The widely discredited Fraser Institute school rankings have had negative effects on many of our most vulnerable students, and have been misused to promote private schools.
3. All members are reminded of BCTF procedure statement 9.A.34-1.5: "That BCTF members not write items for, or mark, FSA tests."

## Please Disregard EHB Message

The email message from the BCTF entitled "Important information on new Extended Health Benefits plan" does not apply to Vancouver teachers.

## Reminders and Updates

In addition to the originally scheduled Staff Rep Assembly on Tuesday February 19 there are now two general meeting taking place at Tupper Secondary:

### Vancouver Teachers Federation

- Bargaining Framework: Local Bargaining

### VESTA General Meeting:

- Election of remaining BCTF 2013 AGM Delegates
- Executive Committee motion re: provincial election endorsement

## Intriguing Screenings

All VESTA members are invited to attend either or both of these upcoming video/film screenings:

- **Wednesday, February 13:** To celebrate Black History Month in Canada VESTA's Anti-Racism Committee will host a program of short videos on racism issues. Included are winning PSAs from "Racism. Stop it!" National Video Competitions made by Vancouver secondary students in conjunction with BCTF PSAs.
- **Monday, February 18:** The Status of Women Committee will be airing selected clips from *Miss Representation*. This thought-provoking documentary explores how mainstream media contribute to the under-representation of women in influential positions by circulating limited and often negative portrayals of women. The film includes a social action campaign to push for needed changes. A discussion of ways these issues can be addressed will follow. Posters with RSVP forms have been sent to all schools for both sessions or are available on our website [www.vesta.ca](http://www.vesta.ca). Please RSVP to the VESTA Office by blue bag or fax.

## Professional Development Fees

It has been jointly agreed by VESTA and the VSB that the only acceptable fees for school-based PD offerings are for refreshments or resources. Professional Development activities held at schools should not be used to raise funds for the host school.

## EMAIL



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