



Stronger Together

2016 February 10

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

February 10
New Teachers' Induction

February 10
Social Justice Committee

February 11
TTOC Committee

February 16
Staff Rep Assembly
Tupper @ 4pm

February 23
Executive Meeting

February 25
TOC EI Workshop
4-6pm, VESTA office

February 26
Meeting for BCTF AGM
Delegates, 9-3pm



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New Campaign Calls on Government to: Feed Their Minds. Fund Their Schools

The BCTF recently began their new advertising campaign prior to the next provincial budget. Increases in enrolment are happening at the same time as boards are being asked to find \$25 million more in administrative savings, and funding overall has not kept pace with inflation or downloaded costs over the past several years. As well, curriculum implementation is still not being supported by the province with a well-articulated financial plan to support students and the work of teachers in classrooms. This campaign also has online and social media components. Go to FundBCschools.ca to access social media shareables, including new Facebook cover photos, for members and supporters to download or post to their social media accounts. The campaign also encourages use of [#FundBCschools](https://twitter.com/FundBCschools).



VSB Attendance Management

Please be aware that the VSB has begun meeting with a small percentage of teachers to discuss absences from work. If you are asked to attend such a meeting with your administrator, ensure that you have a VESTA rep with you.

On January 19 the VESTA General Meeting passed the following motion: *THAT VESTA members not speak during Attendance Management Meetings with principals.* This is now VESTA policy, which we strongly advise you to follow.

Please remember that you have a Collective Agreement right (Article G.20.2) to use your earned sick leave benefit when you are unwell.

Additionally, Article E.20.3 clearly states that: *Neither the Board, nor any person acting on behalf of the Board, shall seek by intimidation, by threat of dismissal, or any other kind of threat, [...], to compel or to induce an employee to refrain from:*

c. Exercising any right under this Agreement or the Labour Relations Code.

If you have already had two meetings with your administrator about your attendance and the third meeting with Human Resources (Employee Services) is planned, please contact us at the VESTA office so we can arrange to be there with you.