



Stronger Together

September 7, 2017

VESTA Weekly

Topics Worth Talking about! Please read and discuss with your colleagues

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

Executive Meeting
September 12

General Meeting/
Staff Rep Assembly
Tupper Secondary
September 19

Pro-D Workshop
Play in K
September 22
9am -12 pm
VESTA Office



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Welcome Back

We hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer. We have experienced unprecedented movement of teachers between districts across the province this summer.

As the first month of school unfolds we will be continuing to work with the VSB to ensure that adequate staffing is in place to meet the contract language. We expect that the shortage of TOC's will continue into the new year as the hiring process continues.

By-Election— October 14th, 2017

This is an opportunity for teachers to vote and participate in electing a progressive Board of Trustees that understands the needs in our schools and will advocate on behalf of the district.

We will be calling on teachers to vote in the upcoming by-election as well as encourage the public to get out to vote. More will be coming on this as we approach the October 14th election day.

Pacific Blue Cross—Employees Locked Out

Members of CUPE Local 1816 have been involved in a lengthy labour dispute with Pacific Blue Cross.

Since July 7th, these workers have been locked out by the company. During this period, all benefit claims have been processed by non-union exempt employees of Pacific Blue Cross.

BCTF members looking for ways to support CUPE 1816 are being asked to forgo using online services of Pacific Blue Cross and instead submit their claims by paper only via postal service.

While this may result in payment delays, it is the CUPE 1816's belief that this action will hasten a resolution to the labour dispute and a return to normal service levels.

Part Time Teachers

As of August 31st the union has reached an agreement with the school board which will allow continuing part time teachers to increase their time at their school, if continuing time is available at their school after the Summer Posting Period. Teachers do not have to have been full time in the past in order to increase. If more than one teacher at a site is interested in an increase, then seniority shall be the determining factor if there is not enough FTE for both/all teachers to increase. This agreement will be in effect until December 31st, 2017, and could also be applied to any part time staffing that comes out of potential remedies after September 30th.