



**Stronger Together**

October 5th, 2017

# VESTA Weekly

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

## Dates to Remember

*Meetings at the VESTA office starts at 4pm unless otherwise indicated.*

### Executive Meeting

October 10th  
VESTA Office

### Health & Safety Meeting

October 16th  
VESTA Office

### General Meeting/ Staff Rep Assembly

October 17th at 4pm  
Tupper Secondary



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### Use of VSB email

Please do not use your VSB email account for any purpose other than job-related communications. The board provides teachers with the account for professional purposes only. All communications sent through the accounts are not private in that they are property of the board. Sending union materials through these accounts is also not appropriate. If you wish to contact the union office through email, please use a personal account.

### Political Action

Take a few minutes this week to read One City Platform at <http://www.onecityvancouver.ca/>. You can also see the Vision Vancouver Platform at <http://www.votevision.ca/platform>. Sign up to take a lawn sign or register to volunteer. If you didn't get a chance to vote this week, there is one more day of Advance Voting at City Hall, on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 8am-8pm. Every vote counts. You can make a difference!

### Professional Development Chair SURT

There will be a workshop at the VESTA office for professional development chairs to assist them in their roles as union representatives. The SURT will be held on **October 16** and schools have been assigned to either a morning session or an afternoon session. Lunch will be provided for teachers attending either session as we understand that both sessions will require teachers to travel over part of their lunch break. Use code 141 to book a TTOC. Please remember that this training is important and even if no TTOC is assigned to cover the absence, teachers are entitled to attend.

### New Pilot Project on Reporting (CSL)

Most of you are aware that the VSB is engaging in a pilot project on Communicating Student Learning (CSL), a new way to look at reporting. The deadline for the principal to inform the board whether or not there is interest in participating in the project is October 6. This a "soft" deadline in that the paperwork needed to participate is not due until October 20. There is no requirement for a whole staff to participate in the pilot project, but there should be a team of teachers willing to engage in the process. Since this is only a pilot project and the VSB is looking for responses to what they have set up, there is not the kind of flexibility within the written reports that might be available otherwise. Teachers may choose the format for the other communications within the project. Further information regarding the project is available through <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/itm/Pages/default.aspx> Note that there is also information through a link on this page to a different inquiry project on CSL. The information on the pilot project is on the home page.

### FSA Marking – Just say no

It has come to our attention that administrators have sent out invitations to teachers to apply to mark the Grade 4 and 7 **Foundation Skills Assessment**. It is paid work over the weekend of November 18 and 19.

Please note the BCTF resolution passed at the 2008 AGM:

That unless the Ministry of Education changes to a random sampling with neither schools nor students identified...**teachers will not prepare for, administer, or mark the provincial FSAs.**