



**Stronger Together**

March 1, 2018

# VESTA Weekly

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

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless

**Working & Learning Conditions/Bargaining (WLC/B) Meeting**  
March 5

**Staff Rep Assembly/General Meeting**  
March 6 at 4:00pm  
Tupper Secondary

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
March 13



Chloë McKnight  
President  
[chloe@vesta.ca](mailto:chloe@vesta.ca)

Jill Barclay  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
[jill@vesta.ca](mailto:jill@vesta.ca)

Joanne Sutherland  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
[joanne@vesta.ca](mailto:joanne@vesta.ca)

Allison Jambor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President  
[allison@vesta.ca](mailto:allison@vesta.ca)

Jody Polukoshko  
4<sup>th</sup> Vice President  
[jody@vesta.ca](mailto:jody@vesta.ca)

Hollie Williams  
AE Sublocal President  
[hollie@vesta.ca](mailto:hollie@vesta.ca)

Office: 604-873-8378  
Fax: 604-873-2652  
[www.vesta.ca](http://www.vesta.ca)

## Extended Health Benefits Vote

Vancouver teachers will be voting again on whether to retain our local benefits plan or sign on with the provincial plan. To date we have retained our locally bargained plan as members have decided it is superior. This year there are more changes to the provincial plan so we are encouraging members to have a very close look at the comparison chart attached to this newsletter and also available on the VESTA Website at <http://vesta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/EHB-Comparison-2018.pdf> and decide which plan addresses their needs best. If the membership decides to change the plan we cannot go back to the current plan. There will be a vote in schools on March 8, 2018. Members will be able to vote in the VESTA office on March 7 and March 8. The results of the vote will be announced as soon as possible after the count is complete. Please note that the Dental Plan is separate from the Extended Health Benefits and we are already on the provincial plan for dental care.

## New Teacher Conference

The New Teacher Conference is happening on Friday and Saturday. Information regarding this exciting opportunity can be found at <http://ntc.bctfbuzz.ca/>. Registration rates are reasonable. It is possible to attend for only one day if you are unable to attend both days. VESTA TTOCs can apply to the union for reimbursement of conference fees through our local TTOC pro-d fund. Please email [allison@vesta.ca](mailto:allison@vesta.ca) for information. New teachers in a temporary or continuing contract can apply for reimbursement through the pro-d committee at their school.

## Remedy Update

Up to this point the Board has not been providing teachers with running totals of accumulated remedy. Teachers need to check each remedy email and add the amount allocated each month. The VESTA executive has voted to produce a tracking sheet to assist teachers with calculations including deductions of minutes when a TTOC has been provided. We are continuing to seek clarification regarding the number of minutes to be deducted for mornings and afternoons. The tracking sheet will be distributed to staff reps at the March 6 SRA. Discussions are continuing regarding notification of minute deductions, TTOC callouts, priority and reassignment as well as other individual and collective issues associated with remedy.

## CSL Pilot Project

The Board has clarified that the participants in the CSL project will be following Ministry of Education guidelines when reporting and will be communicating student learning in writing or other methods for a minimum total of 5 times. When completing the minimum of 5 contact events you are not required to communicate on every subject area every time. The information regarding the number of times that each subject area must be covered is on the i3 website at <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/itm/Pages/default.aspx>. The chart shows that language arts, math, science and socials require the greatest number of communication events at 4 times. The way that the minimum number of CSL events, 5, is reached is that communication is spread over 5 different contact dates. If you have further questions regarding the CSL Pilot Project please contact [allison@vesta.ca](mailto:allison@vesta.ca).

## Transfer Card and Return from Leave Reminders

March 15 is the deadline for HR to receive cards from teachers committing to transfer. March 31 is the deadline for HR to receive return from leave notice and requests for increase in time.