



Stronger Together

May 3, 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 otherwise indicated.

Executive Committee Meeting
May 8

VESTA Annual General Meeting
May 15 at 4:00pm



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VESTA AGM

Mark your calendars and be sure to attend the VESTA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday May 15. The meeting will be held at VanDusen Gardens in the Visitor Center starting at 4 pm. It is at this meeting that members of the executive are elected. We also review and pass the budget for the upcoming year. Any changes to VESTA by-laws are also discussed and voted on at this meeting. The VESTA News, a print publication, with the candidate statements and other information about the AGM has been sent to every member this week. Following the business of the meeting, you are invited to mingle and partake in a delicious array of snacks and beverages. There is plenty of free parking and the location is accessible by transit. The Visitor Center is located at 5251 Oak Street.

Post and Fill Workshops

Staff Reps have attended the VESTA Post and Fill Workshops and have been trained on multiple aspects of the details of the Spring Transfer Process. Schools should be receiving information on staffing and Staff Reps will be holding very important VESTA meetings to discuss the implications for your school site and the processes that need to be followed. Please remember that this can be a challenging time of year and that professionalism, solidarity and sensitivity are of the utmost importance when addressing staffing issues.

Pension Outreach Workshops

The Teachers' Pension Plan (TPP) started a new era on January 1, 2018. This New Plan is a modernization of the TPP that increases the lifetime pension and brings equity for all plan members regardless of working as a TTOC, part-time, or full-time teacher. Based on actuarial information from the Teachers' Pension Plan that indicates a surplus, the Plan Partners (BCTF and provincial government) have decided to implement a series of further improvements.

Although the surplus and improvements are pending formal confirmation with pension authorities in late August 2018, Partners have made the decision that the BCTF inform all Plan Members. There will be regional Pension Outreach sessions explaining in detail, these further improvement. The locations and dates of sessions in the Lower Mainland are May 28 in Langley from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Langley Fine Arts School, 9096 Trattle St Fort Langley in the Chief Sepass Theatre and a second session will take place on June 11 in Burnaby from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Burnaby Central Secondary School, 6011 Deer Lake Pkwy in room A206. All teachers are welcome to attend and it is not necessary to register. For more information regarding the pension plan improvements see <https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/web/teachers/board-communicue-march-19-2018>. You can also find information on the BCTF website at <https://bctf.ca/SalaryAndBenefits.aspx?id=4780>.

Catchment Area Review Meetings

All three meetings for the catchment review have been set by the VSB. As noted in the April 19 VESTA Weekly, the first meeting will be May 10 at Tupper, the second on May 15 at Kits and a third has now been confirmed for May 22 at King George Secondary. All meetings are taking place from 4 to 6:30pm. The VSB has information available on its website at <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/catchments>. Note that the VSB is soliciting comments and questions from parents and the public through its email address engageplanning@vsb.bc.ca, but that teachers should direct their comments and questions through VESTA by emailing allison@vesta.ca. Everyone is welcome at the meetings.