



**Stronger Together**

February 21st, 2020

# VESTA Weekly

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

## Spring Transfer Process: Important Information

VESTA and the VSB have ratified new collective agreement language related to the post and fill process. At present, the BCPSEA has stated that the new language will not take effect until we have ratified our collective agreement at the provincial level. Therefore, we will continue operating under the language as written in our June 2019 collective agreement until further notice. If you want to leave your position at your school and become a Category B candidate for the Spring Transfer Process, you need to complete a Vacate Card and ensure it is received by Employee Services before 4:30 on March 15th.

Applications are due for teachers applying for a leave of 1 year or longer by March 31st, 4:30pm. Also by this date, teachers returning from leave must notify Employee Services in writing of their intent to return to work for September 2020 (Article G.21.26.c)

## Increasing Your Time at Your Current School

In a recent without prejudice grievance resolve the Union and the Employer have agreed to some changes for teachers wishing to increase their FTE at their current school for September. For the next 2 years (until June 2022) any part-time teacher regardless of if they have been full-time in the past can fill out the Request for Increase/Change in Teaching time form signed by their administrator and submit it to Employee Services by March 31st. As part of this two year agreement if a teacher misses the March 31st deadline their request to increase their time can still be considered so please fill out the request and submit it to Employee Services. These requests will be considered if the time is available at the school site and if the increase in time will not cause a surplus.

## Pink Shirt Day: February 26th

February 26th is the Day of Pink in BC. Teachers and students can wear pink shirts to bring attention to and have discussions about homophobic and transphobic bullying and gender stereotyping. Since it's start in 2007 by two students in Nova Scotia (you can read about it [here](#)), the message of pink t-shirt day has broadened to celebrate diversity and acceptance and to stop all types of bullying. The BCTF Social Justice group has a [web page](#) with information about the Day of Pink and includes links to lesson plans and strategies to address gender role stereotyping, teasing, and homophobia. You can also find links to posters and videos to use in your classroom.

## Know Your Collective Agreement

Article G.21.15 *Illness of an Immediate Family Member* states that teachers are entitled to up to five (5) days of leave per year with no deduction from pay but with a deduction from an employees sick leave. This leave can be booked directly by employees using the appropriate code on SFE.

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless otherwise indicated

**Health & Safety Committee Meeting**  
February 24

**Professional Issues Committee Meeting**  
February 24

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
February 25



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VESTA

*The Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.*