



# Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

## **VESTA HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE 2020-2021 YEAR-END REPORT**

This year the Health and Safety Committee was chaired by Danielle Durant.

Greg Canning, Nightingale, joined the committee through the CV process.

The chairperson attended the monthly District Health and Safety meetings at the VSB. The chairperson was the alternate labour chairperson for this committee. The progress on various items was slow and some meetings were completely taken up to disseminate the multiple versions of VSB's COVID-19 Protocols guide. We discussed COVID-19 and its reach on the workplace at length (ventilation, masks, sanitizer, barriers, research studies, vaccination, isolation, cleaning, school scheduling, EOCs, exposures, training, site orientations, cohorts, field trip supervision, drills, filters, building maintenance, computer labs, school graduations, contact tracing, etc.). The committee evaluations, the statistical review and the risk assessment form have not yet been completed.

There were eight VESTA Health and Safety committee meetings this school year. The first one in October and then November, January, February, March, April, May, and June. There was good attendance at most meetings.

Health and Safety was a standing item on the Staff Representative Assembly meeting agendas. The information from the District meetings was shared at these meetings in hopes of getting back to the school-based Health and Safety reps. VESTA held a Health and Safety workshop on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was facilitated by Jody Polukoshko and the focus was on the COVID-19 pandemic and the safety plans and protocols put in place by the Government and Employer. The chairperson attended the BCTF Health and Safety Zonal Forum on September 24 and BCTF Zone meetings in October (16-17) to meet with other H&S chairs from Metro West. Health and Safety sessions were held during VESTA's fall SURT on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> and was well attended by school representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Durant  
VESTA Health and Safety Chairperson

