



# ISSUE ALERT #3

September 22, 2011

## VSTA GENERAL MEETING

### Wednesday, October 12, 2011

### 4:00 pm at Tupper Auditorium

#### Notice of proposed by-law amendments

An Ad-hoc Committee to provide the VSTA with direction on issues of technology and technology integration with teaching and learning was struck two years ago. Upon recommendation of the committee, it is proposed to constitute Technology as a standing committee to study these issues and provide advice on an on-going basis.

The VSTA Executive recommends the following by-law amendments:

#### MOTION 1

*That the VSTA By-Laws be amended to add:*

##### 7.5 Technology Committee

- a) The Technology Committee shall consist of one (or two) members per secondary school, elected by the Staff Organization of each secondary school and the Chairperson of the committee elected in accordance with by-law 7.5(b).
- b) The chairperson shall be elected at the annual general meeting.
- c) The Technology Committee shall study, on an ongoing basis, the issue of technology integration with teaching and learning.
- d) The Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Committee, Council or a General Meeting.
- e) The Technology Committee shall advise the Bargaining Committee on appropriate use of technology provisions during negotiations with the Board of School Trustees.

- f) The committee shall be represented at the VBE ICT Advisory Committee.

#### MOTION 2

*That By Law 7.5 be re-numbered to 7.6.*

#### MOTION 3

*That By-Law 3.1 be amended to read:*

- 3.1 There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association's active members which shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Treasurer, together with the immediate Past President in succession and seven Members-at-Large plus the Chairpersons of the Working and Learning Conditions/Bargaining Committee, Professional Development Committee, Social and Eco-Justice Committee, Health and Safety Committee, Technology Committee, a Teacher-On-Call representative and the duly elected Local Representatives. The Executive Committee shall be the Directors of the Society. The Directors shall be elected pursuant to By-Law 6.1, and shall be removed only by resignation, cessation of membership, expiry of their term of office or by special resolution.

...please see **JOB ACTION UPDATE** on reverse

# job action update . . .

**A**s we move through our second week of job action your team here at the VSTA office want to thank you for your resolve in sticking to the plan and persevering through a difficult and sometimes confusing time.

The job action has highlighted the many ways in which teachers have stepped into the breach over the last ten years to fill in, shore up and supplement what has been removed from our public education system through years of under-funding.

The VSTA has been responding to questions from schools based on the information available from the BCTF about Phase 1 of our Job Action. As we progress through the opening stages there is a need for a few clarifications:

## Parent Advisory Committee

Schools should continue to elect a PAC representative to the School Union Team. Teachers will continue to attend PAC meetings ***whether the Principal is present or not*** as it is an important opportunity to connect with parents and secure their support. We would also urge the School Union Team to arrange an opportunity to meet with the parents in order to get our message out.

## Interview Committees

As stated before, teachers will continue to apply for postings, be short listed and attend job interviews. A VSTA staff rep will be involved to ensure the integrity of the process. ***No other teachers will be involved.***

## Fundraising

Teachers should in no way engage in fundraising for their educational programs that supplements what is funded to our schools. We are not soliciting funds from students, parents or the community. Teacher participation in charitable fundraising events and other extra-curricular activities may continue provided all of the principles of Phase 1 of our Job Action are observed.

It is through standing together that we will move forward. Please contact Debbie, Shaun or Sylvia at the VSTA Office (604) 873-5570 if you have any questions.