



# School Team Bulletin #1

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## Summary of some important points for school start-up

### **1. Teachers will not be participating in the “Cash for Kids” scheme.**

Both of the BCTF’s key democratic decision-making bodies—the Representative Assembly and the Annual General Meeting—voted unanimously to reject the idea of cash for bigger classes. We are clear that it is unethical to personally profit at the expense of students’ learning conditions and that it would be a violation of the Federation’s Code of Ethics.

Rather than participating in this “Cash for Kids” scheme, schools need to be provided with additional teachers and teachers need to be provided with preparation time that will benefit our students and improve our working conditions.

### **2. Year of Provincial Action**

In order to highlight the continued underfunding and mismanagement of Public Education, our efforts this year will be focused on a Provincial Year of Action. These actions, both local and provincial, will be themed for each month. September’s theme will be Class Size and Composition, as this is when the full impact of Bill 22, with its further erosion of class size limits and eradication of class composition protections, will be felt at the school level.

### **3. Committee participation**

With June’s ratification vote, we now have an agreement that runs through to June 2013. As such we will be re-engaging in the normal consultation and committee processes within our schools and the District.

### **4. Work-Life Balance**

Our struggle to achieve a collective agreement this past year was a difficult one. For the coming year, teachers may need to re-discover what gives them joy in teaching. Teachers are encouraged to focus on their teaching and the maintenance of a healthy work-life balance when determining whether they participate in extra-curricular activities, schedule evening performances, or otherwise volunteer their time.

**Debbie, Shaun and Sylvia**