



TACKBOARD

The monthly newsletter of the Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association

Message from the office

Welcome back to school and to the bargaining table!

For many of us this year, our common back-to-school excitement turned to anxiousness due to uncertainty surrounding bargaining. Although bargaining to this point has had some success, those of us who have experienced a breakdown at the bargaining table understand the possibilities that exist. Averting escalation and getting a good deal is well within reach and requires our collective effort.

The BCTF Representative Assembly on August 20th set the course to re-engage our membership with bargaining and a goal to ensure our NDP MLAs understand that this government was elected to reinvest in the public sector - public education being at the heart of that mandate.

BCTF members and our collective efforts this past spring saw the distribution of over 20,000 emails to John Horgan and NDP MLAs



with the consistent message that the funding envelope is insufficient and does not address the needs of teachers and our students' learning conditions. NDP MLAs have been reminded through those messages, phone calls, face to face meetings, and interactions on the street that our students and teachers are worth investing in.

As a result of that pressure, David Schaub was assigned to mediate discussions at the table. However, BC Public Schools Employers' Association (BCPSEA - the bargaining agent for the government) continues to behave as they did in our last round of 2014. Their proposals do little to address our salary mandate and move us backwards with respect to the Supreme Court of Canada ruling from November 2016 on

see MESSAGE, inside

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

4:00 PM at Tupper Auditorium

There will be three Constitutional & By-Law amendments to be voted on. They may not be amended from the floor as the membership must have a two-week advance notice of the motions.

The motions are:

Equity EC Member at Large Position (Person of Colour)
A Recommendation from the VSTA Executive Committee

THAT one Member-at-Large position be replaced and designated for a self-identifying Teacher of Colour. A teacher of colour refers to a person of colour who is non-white in race and colour; commonly referred to as a visible minority other than Aboriginal peoples. The position will be held and will remain vacant until such time when a qualifying candidate is elected.

Equity EC Member at Large Position (2SLGBTQ+)
A Recommendation from the VSTA Executive Committee

THAT one Member-at-Large position be replaced and designated for a self-identifying 2SLGBTQ+ teacher refers to a person who identifies as Two Spirited, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Questioning and + meaning Other sexualities such as pansexual, asexual and omnisexual extra. The Position will be held and will remain vacant until such time when a qualifying candidate is elected.

VSTA General Meeting Quorum
A Recommendation from the VSTA Council

THAT By-Law 6.5:
A quorum for all general meetings shall consist of 70 members. If a meeting is terminated for lack of quorum, another meeting will be held between one and five school days later and those members attending that meeting shall constitute a quorum.

be amended to:

A quorum for all general meetings shall consist of 70 members. If a meeting is terminated for lack of quorum, the meeting shall reconvene after a 10-minute recess. The members present at the reconvened meeting shall constitute quorum. When the meeting reconvenes the actual number of members present will be recorded in the minutes.

Check Your



VSTA emails important updates and information regularly to all members. If you haven't received any emails, please be sure to check your JUNK MAIL. As well, please ensure the VSTA has your current contact information.

MESSAGE, from front cover

class-size and class-composition limits and non-enrolling ratios. We cannot move backwards.

Hopefully with the information you have gathered through school-based Staff Organization Meetings, email Campaigner messages from our office, and the VSTA General Meeting, some uncertainty has been clarified. Should there be an impasse, the membership will be asked how to proceed, and that collective decision will set the course of our action. The BCTF Members' Portal provides the most up-to-date language exchanged at the bargaining table and teachers are encouraged to sign-in and have a look. Reaching out to your MLA again continues to be the most effective method to increase the needed pressure at the table. Our efforts now will support our BCTF Bargaining Team as they continue to work tirelessly to secure a good deal for teachers.

Thank you to all of you who have stepped up to School Union Team roles at your school. You are the face and the voice of the Union in the school and provide invaluable service to your colleagues.

We hope you had a wonderful summer break and that your transition back to the classroom has felt familiar and enjoyable. Stay connected and please do not hesitate to contact us in the VSTA office if you have any questions or concerns.

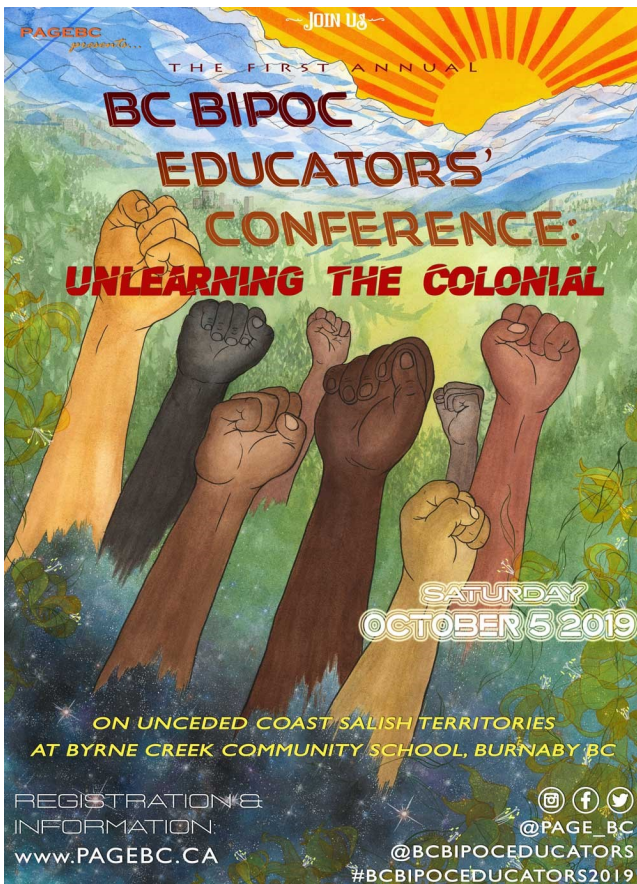
In solidarity,
Katharine, Treena & Terry



Have you ever...

- Used your own device for school purposes?
- Had a non-VSB teacher or Administrator help you put marks into MyEd BC?
- Left your work computer unlocked at home or at work?
- Used Gmail to communicate with a parent?
- Sent a text to a student or a parent?
- Taken photos with your personal device that include students?
- Given your work device password to someone?
- Posted a photo including students on social media?
- Sent an instant message to a student on social media?
- Posted about your students on social media?
- Used Google classroom or Class Dojo without parental consent?
- Send an instant message to a parent on social media?
- Uploaded work documents or photos to a cloud service (other than the VSB cloud service?)
- "Friended" students or former students on Facebook?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, you have violated student privacy and/or put your own privacy at risk. Teacher/student boundaries are as important to maintain online as in person – please communicate with students and parents using VSB email or even better, in person or on the phone whenever possible to minimize online exposure and miscommunications. Google, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and all other social media sites exist to make money from advertising and the information is stored in the United States. As the saying goes – “if you’re not paying for the product, you are the product”. Please contact your site-based Technology Rep for more information.



Treena & Katharine, Global Climate Strike, September 27, 2019

Federal Election

CANADA VOTES – OCTOBER 21, 2019

Take action and vote for candidates that see the value
in a strong public education system.



Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) is committed to creating a fairer Canada for Everyone. BCTF is member of CLC so when you go to the polls consider the following issues: Climate Action, Equity and Inclusion, Retirement Security, Good Jobs and Pharmacare. For more on issues CLC has identified as necessary for a fair Canada visit <https://canadianlabour.ca/take-action/>

BCTF is also an affiliate of **Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF)**.
MPs supportive of quality public education make the basis
for an inclusive Canada.

We, the teachers of Canada, believe that a strong publicly funded public education system is essential to creating and sustaining a diverse, inclusive and equitable democratic society that works for the good of all citizens.
Canadian Teachers' Federation



STUDENT VOTE – Student Vote is an incredibly successful authentic learning program that provides students with the opportunity to experience the voting process firsthand and practice the habits of active and informed citizenship. Nearly every school has participated in the past, see this trend continues. To register your school go to <https://studentvote.ca/canada/>



Get to the polls and support your candidate.

Volunteer, donate, and encourage others to do the same.

Current VSB Employee Wellness Discounts — September 11, 2019

Vancouver Academy of Muay Thai & MMA—New!

\$150/month unlimited memberships (40% off regular membership price). Provide proof of employment on sign-up to access discount. Includes access to Muay Thai, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Boxing, Kickboxing, and Strength & Conditioning Classes

Fresh Prep—New!

Receive 3 meals for free on your first order. Use code BDVSB at checkout to redeem your discount. <https://www.freshprep.ca/bdvsb>

BarreBelle Kitsilano – NEW!

- First Month Unlimited for \$125 (Reg \$185)
- Recurring months 10% off (Reg \$185)
- Auto-Renew min 3 month commitment \$150 (Reg \$175)
- 10% off a 10 class pack (Reg \$210)

To redeem your discount, bring proof of employment (ID or paystub) when you sign up!

Oxygen Yoga

Monthly Unlimited membership for \$89 (12-month commitment, regular \$139).

Yyoga

15% off of 10 class pass (\$168), 1 month pass (188), annual pass (\$1540), or month-to-month membership (\$140). Prices listed before discount.

Vancouver Parks & Recreation

25% off a Flexipass, which gives access to 21 fitness centres, 9 indoor and 4 outdoor pools, 6 steam rooms, 11 whirlpools, 11 saunas, and 8 ice rinks throughout the city. Purchase options of 1 month (\$47), 3 months (\$127), or 12 months (\$407). Prices listed before discount.

Mobi Bike Share

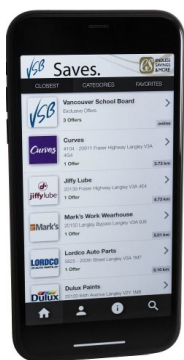
Corporate Standard Plan: a year of unlimited 30 -minute rides for \$99 (regular \$129) Corporate Plus: a year of unlimited 60-minute rides for \$119 (regular \$159).

Greater Vancouver YMCA

10% off memberships (\$65/month before discount) at 3 YMCA facilities: Robert Lee, Langara and Tong Louie.

Discounts on Your Smart Phone for VSB Employees

Download a VSB version of the ESM App to save on everyday purchases from hundreds of businesses including national chain retailers, service and travel providers. Powered by Endless Savings & More (ESM), this program is available to VSB employees and their families.



How It Works

- Install the VSB version of the ESM App on your smart phone.
- GPS automatically shows merchants and savings that are closest to your current location
- Tap on merchant to view offers & tap on an offer for redemption details
- You typically show the offer on your smart phone at payment in physical locations or enter a code for online purchases

Getting Started

- Go to your app store (Google or Apple) on your smart phone
- Search for: ESM or Endless Savings & More
- During registration you will be asked for an "organization code":
Your "Organization Code" is: vsb
- Allow location services. ESM uses "location services or GPS to automatically show you offers that are closest to your location first.

Free pension education

Getting to Know Your Pension
15 minutes of online learning for new or potential plan members

Making the Most of Your Pension
45 minutes of online learning or a 2-hour workshop for members establishing their career of several years away from retirement

Approaching Retirement
2-hour workshop for members planning for or within 5 years of retirement



Whether you take online learning or attend a workshop, you'll get the information you need to prepare for your future pension.
tpp.pensionsbc.ca > Learning resources



tpp.pensionsbc.ca Email: tppeducation@pensionsbc.ca Toll-free (Canada/U.S.): 1-877-558-5574

2019-02-28 TPPA BKT MARKETING 2019-02-28



Shelby Calman, Sylvia Metzner & Katharine, Labour Day at Jack Poole Plaza