

## **KTTA News - February 6, 2017**

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KTTA Information can be found at [www.kttta.ca](http://www.kttta.ca)

*Note Changed Date/Location: Next Staff Rep Meeting - February 28, 2017 (3PM at North Shore Community Centre)*

*Next General Meeting - March 14, 2017 (NorKam Library)*

*Deadline for Nominations for Table Officers / PD Chair Positions - Friday, March 3rd (Form Attached)*

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### **A. Successful Applicants**

The district has been filling the positions created through the Priority Measures Funding and other positions available through regular staffing and absences.

The successful applicants post is attached to this e-newsletter. Please note that positions are to be filled in the following order:

- 1) Recall (or part time continuing / term certain wishing to add FTE)
- 2) Other (TTOC with no seniority)

For each of the types of position (continuing / term certain), the district should follow this process:

- 1) Priority Band – Recall (PT continuing/term certain wanting to add), Other (TTOC with no seniority)
- 2) Necessary Qualifications - teachers considered need the necessary qualifications for the position they are applying for
- 3) Seniority - of the list of teachers within each priority band who are qualified, the most senior is the successful applicant.

Note that if there are no qualified applicants for a position, the district can fill the position with the most senior or most qualified candidate, fill it internally, or they can re-post a position. Likewise, some of the positions may have been filled internally in the school as an assignment change and as such, are designated as "withdrawn".

**Challenge:** If you applied for a position and the successful applicant had a lower priority status or less seniority, you can appeal that decision by Emailing Rick Kienlein (District Principal - HR) at [rkienlein@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:rkienlein@sd73.bc.ca) and copying us at [office@kttta.ca](mailto:office@kttta.ca).

Please contact the KTTA office (250-554-1223 or [office@kttta.ca](mailto:office@kttta.ca)) if you have any questions.

### **Phased Staffing:**

The allocation of staffing to **secondary schools will occur first** to ensure positions are posted before the start of Semester 2. The next allocation will be for **staffing to elementary schools where additional classrooms** are being created. Once these processes are completed, **then the funds will be distributed to other elementary schools** to ensure maximum possible staffing for all schools based on their need.

We are hopeful this entire process will be completed by mid-February.

## **B. Extended Spring Break Matter**

Letter of Understanding No. 41 was a negotiated provision, but does end on June 30, 2017. The KTTA expected good faith negotiations from the district and district management were willing to engage to continue the extended spring break. Members will undoubtedly be upset about this surprise decision of the district's trustees who disregarded the will of those they consulted with.

We note that the issue of an extended spring break has an educational component to it and that has to be stressed.

**The key issues members identified in our survey were:**

- 1) **Meaningful Consultation:** Partner groups were consulted and the majority wish to remain with status quo. Consultation is meaningless if this isn't taken into consideration.
- 2) **Consistency:** 53 out of 60 school district have a two week spring break and this assist with sporting events and other events.
- 3) **Field Trips:** longer Spring Breaks allow teachers to take students on meaningful field trips which assists with learning experiences promoted in the new curriculum.
- 4) **Student Preparedness:** Students are more rested and it is easier to proceed with instruction
- 5) **Teacher Prep:** It allows teachers to catch up on preparation work, marking, and reporting.

## **Petition and Board Presentation**

The KTTA has sent a petition to every school that highlights the educational reasons for an extended spring break. This can then be presented at a public board meeting with an encouragement for trustees to reconsider their response.

## **Media**

Radio stations, CFJC TV, and Kamloops This Week reported on the teachers' perspective on the 2 week spring break issue.

Attached here is the CFJC TV report: <http://cfjctoday.com/article/556356/kamloops-teachers-not-impressed-spring-break-switch>.

## **C. School PD Day - February 24th**

*Visit: [www.ktta.ca/professional-development/local-ktta-pd-offerings.html](http://www.ktta.ca/professional-development/local-ktta-pd-offerings.html)*

February 24th is designated as a school professional development day and the school PD committee would be organizing events and activities for that day.

Some members are offering workshops that are open to everyone and those are posted in the

[www.ktta.ca](http://www.ktta.ca) website under Pro-D Corner.

The PD options include:

1) Westsyde Secondary Technology Institute: There will be workshops related to the use of technology in the classroom and how this can assist in the implementation of the new curriculum. Contact Jeremy Reid ([jreid@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:jreid@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

2) Critical Thinking Through Vertical Math: Aberdeen Elementary is working on critical thinking through vertical math in the morning and creating a series of vertical math problems. The afternoon options are either focussed on financial literacy (possible focus on classroom store/mall) and Applied Design (intermediate focus). Contact Darcy Martin ([dmartin@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:dmartin@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

3) Big Little Science Centre: Senior science teachers may be interested in getting together at the Big Little Science Centre to discuss how the centre can assist with new curriculum. If interested, please contact Gordon Gore ([gordongore0@gmail.com](mailto:gordongore0@gmail.com)) or call 778-472-2014.

4) Project Based Learning / New Curriculum: Andres Ruberg would like to host a workshop on either Project Based learning (developing and assessing meaningful projects) or New Curriculum discussion/planning through core competencies particularly in the areas of numeracy / secondary math or senior secondary computer science. Contact Andres Ruberg ([aruberg@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:aruberg@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

5) Dance PI3y Training: Dance PI3y Training will be held on February 24th and 25th at Valleyview Secondary. Registration is at <https://goo.gl/3Y38iK> and contact Sherry Stade ([ssstade@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:ssstade@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

6) Inclusive PE Games: This workshop is being hosted at Marion Schilling Elementary on February 24th and entails ideas on PE games for keeping most kids active for the most amount of time possible using mini/warm-up games. Registration is at: <https://goo.gl/82iPtW> and contact Sherry Stade ([ssstade@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:ssstade@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

7) Digging Deeper Into Project Based Learning: Opt in to a richer, deeper classroom experience! Weave your classroom activities into presentations of learning, marketable products, service to others, and have FUN doing it. This workshop will be a powerful follow-up for those who have encountered PBL previously, or enthusiastic newcomers who are ready to take up the reins, Attending this session connects you with the supports to transform your classroom in the next 90 days.

There are also provincial workshops in Richmond for New Teachers ([www.ktta.ca/images/New\\_Teachers\\_Conference\\_2017.PDF](http://www.ktta.ca/images/New_Teachers_Conference_2017.PDF)) and Teachers of Inclusive Education PSA.

Contact the KTTA office ([office@ktta.ca](mailto:office@ktta.ca)) for more information.

## **D. Lead in Water**

The KTTA first raised the issue around the potential of lead in drinking water at schools last school year at the district Health and Safety meeting. This was raised after the Ministry of Education mandated that every district test water at schools after other districts found lead in drinking water above the acceptable limit (10 parts per billion).

The district noted that it was going to test the schools this year and reports were provided at

monthly district health and safety meetings including measures taken at the schools where the lead content was above 10 parts per billion.

The schools where lead content was above the acceptable limit are: TREC, Westmount Elementary, Vavenby Elementary, and Summit Elementary.

The most recent school that was tested was Summit Elementary and it was found to have a lead content of 12 parts per billion in the initial flow of water which then decreased after flushing. The KTTA was informed about this on February 1st.

The district bags the water fountains when lead is above the acceptable limits and bottled water is supposed to be provided.

The KTTA will get a full report from the district at the next district Health and Safety meeting and will report out. We will also be asking the district to ensure that members are informed about this issue as soon as practicable.

All of the District Health and Safety minutes can be found at this link under that topic:  
<http://www.ktta.ca/oh-s.html>.