

KTTA News - February 9, 2017

David Komljenovic (president@ktt.ca / 250-320-1825) / Amanda Jensen (1vp@ktt.ca / 250-819-3090)

KTTA Information can be found at www.ktt.ca

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

After Staff Rep Training

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

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

CONTENTS:

A. Successful Applicants / New Postings

B. Calendar Feedback (2 Week Spring Break Issue)

C. School PD Day (Local Events) - Feb. 24th

A. Successful Applicants / New Postings

The district has been filling the positions created through the Priority Measures Funding and other positions available through regular staffing and absences. ***Included in these postings are district positions for ELL teacher, Home and Hospital, and District Consultant.***

The new postings and the successful applicants post for Bulletin No. 46 are 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of the positions may have been filled internally in the school as an assignment change and as such, are designated as "withdrawn".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 and copying us at office@ktt.ca.

Please contact the KTTA office (250-554-1223 or office@ktt.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 in this month.

B. Calendar Feedback (2 Week Spring Break Issue)

The district is seeking written feedback on the proposed calendars which can be found here: <http://www3.sd73.bc.ca/general/content/public-feedback-school-calendar>.

Please respond with feedback to the district by emailing feedback@sd73.bc.ca keeping the following in mind:

1) **Parent vs. Teacher:** If you are a parent of students in the K-12 system, you may want to note that you are a parent. A trustee noted that the parent perspective is more likely to sway the opinions of trustees who are currently opposed to the 1 week option.

2) **Issues to Raise:** You may want to raise other reasons for why you are in support of the 2 week option but here are the four points raised at last night's Public School Board meetings.

a) **Meaningful Consultation** - all employee groups reported that they would like to retain the extended spring break period due to the positives they were observing in the system. Supporting this perspective is Sharon Jeroski (UBC Researcher) from Burnaby who noted that there was no discernible loss of learning or achievement with the 2 week spring break. The district also reported less absenteeism. (*Thank you to Peter Findlay for providing this information*).

b) **Field Trips** - a longer Spring Break provides more options for field trips. With education becoming more complex and with new curriculum stressing project based learning, field trips are a way for teachers to engage students outside of their schools.

c) **Consistency** - 53 out of 60 districts will continue with the 2 week spring break period which will keep our district out of alignment with other districts. School sporting events will often take advantage of the breaks for tournaments or events and a shorter break will limit these opportunities.

d) **Student Preparedness** - Teachers report that students are more reseted and more prepared to learn for the last three months of the year after the 2 week break vs. The 1 week break. This is supported by the research done in the Burnaby district.

We have indicated that there are teachers who are willing to provide programs during the extended spring break (numeracy or reading) as they do in the summer. However, the district noted that there was a lack of interest in these programs when parents were surveyed.

Note: There are 53 out of 60 districts that do not have a two week spring break, but there are other variations to the calendar that some of those districts use (*Thank you to John Annicchiarico for providing this information*):

Campbell River District's Spring Break 2017 starts on Friday March 17 and the last day of the break is Monday March 27, so it's a 7 school day spring break not a 5 day (1-week) spring break. <http://www.sd72.BC.ca/Documents/SD72%202016-2017%20School%20Calendar.PDF>

Haida Gwaii District has eight (8) PD days, and they've attached 1 to Friday March 10, effectively making 2017 a 6 school-day spring break (not 1-week). <http://sd50.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/SD-50-Calendar-2016-2017-.pdf>

C. School PD Day - February 24th

Options for School PD Committees and Members - Visit: 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 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) 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) for more information.

3) **We're All in this Together! A Musical Journey with "Stick and Stone": Creating Arts Curriculum for All Neurodiversities:** Contact Don Bennett (dbennett@sd73.bc.ca) for more information. Teachers will learn games, routines, and songs to improve community in their classrooms. They will take a musical journey through the book "Stick and Stone" to learn about friendship and inclusion. They will also become familiar with student self-assessment strategies linked to the new curriculum, and will receive detailed lessons to assist them in transporting their students on the journey of "Stick and Stone".

4) **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) or call 778-472-2014.

5) **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) for more information.

6) **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 ([sstade@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:ssstade@sd73.bc.ca)) for more information.

7) **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 (sslade@sd73.bc.ca) for more information.

8) 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).

Contact the KTTA office (office@ktta.ca) for more information.