

KTTA News - January 16, 2017

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A. Curriculum Day - January 20th

Note: NorBrock Family of Schools Schedule Attached to E-Newsletter and Barriere / Clearwater Family of Schools Schedule was sent out to members of those schools. If members want to do "planning" please email school administration and advise that this is the option for the day (in place of the workshops). If this opportunity is denied, please let the KTTA office know (250-554-1223 or office@kttta.ca).

The district implementation committee (including KTTA reps Lori Jane Froese, Amanda Jensen, Bev Brown, Amanda Russett and David Komljenovic) agreed on a curriculum day that included more structured activities and flexible planning sessions (none structured). However, during the facilitator training, the option for planning was not included. After discussions with the district, it was agreed that there would now be **small group "planning" sessions available** for teachers who want to meet and plan lessons, ideas, projects, etc. Around the new curriculum.

The **following was sent out from Trish Smillie** (Director of Student Support Services) to reflect this change. As such, those teachers who want to do this option should advise their school administration via email.

January 20th Format (Information from SD73 Director Trish Smillie):

January 20th is Curriculum Implementation Day! This day has been developed to immerse teachers in the re-designed curriculum and plan for its further implementation. Teachers are asked to bring their own device and all the materials required to have a successful planning session with colleagues.

Each family group will meet at the secondary school in the family group for a morning activation event.

8:30 – 9:15 Activation event at the start of the day (30-40 minutes). All staff will attend this session.

9:30 – 10:30 Breakout Session Option A - Rethinking Assessment or Planning (small group)

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee

10:45 – 11:45 Breakout Session Option B - Building Capacity with Self-Assessment or Planning (Small Group)

11:45 – 12:45 Lunch (Provided)

12:45 – 1:00 Reconnect

1:00 - 2:45 Planning

After the initial activation session, teachers may choose to attend additional breakout sessions, ***or get started planning with their planning partners right away. Teachers will have the flexibility to meet with colleagues who are interested in planning around the same topic/area at an alternate location.*** All teachers will have the afternoon to work with their learning partners on their pre-selected focus.

Breakout Session Option A (9:30-10:30): Rethinking Assessment

Are you wondering how to connect learning standards to letter grades or achievement bands? Do you have questions about what learning is for practice and what counts? If yes, this workshop about building learning maps is for you. Learning maps provide a foundation for focused planning, meaningful learning, and student growth. In a collaborative, immersive experience you will explore a clear five step assessment framework to develop learning maps that you can transfer to your own practice that in a way that works for teachers and makes sense to students and parents.

Focus on Big Ideas

Determine three levels of performance

Identify key evidence

Highlight descriptions of performance on a learning map

Decide on a letter grade or achievement band

Breakout Session Option B (10:45-11:45): Building Teacher Capacity Through Student Self-Assessment

How can we deepen our understanding of core competency development?

Teachers will have an opportunity to engage in the process of self-assessment in order to have a deeper understanding which they can immediately implement in their practice. They will then be able to involve their students in the self-assessment process to help build student ownership, voice, and responsibility for the development of core competencies. Finally, they will leave with a tangible tool for self-assessment.

Calibrating criteria for core competency profiles

Develop self-assessment tool(s)

Reflect on evidence of core competency growth

B. Foundation Skills Assessment

(Letter attached and also at www.ktta.ca)

Note: that pursuant to BCTF policy / actions, members **should not be marking or preparing for Foundation Skills Assessments.** However, members may be required to administer the assessment which includes orientation on computers or with the tests.

The BCTF has produced a newsletter that teachers can send home to parents (in an envelope through students or directly provided to parents) outlining the concerns with the

FSA's. While the BCTF had worked with government to try to have these assessments eliminated, the government decided to continue with these assessments.

As such, pressure from parents is the only tactic that can result in a change of will from the government.

Attached to this newsletter is the FSA form that can be provided to parents. Parents would complete the bottom of the form if they are requesting that their child not write the FSA and give the copy to the Principal.

The BCTF and BCPSEA have already agreed to this form so further permission isn't needed.

NOTE: Please ensure that if you are sending these letters home through students that they are in sealed envelopes. If you would like the KTTA to provide these for you, please let us know and we will do that work for you.

NOTE: The BCTF advises members not to participate in the planning of FSA's unless directed to do so. Further, teachers do not have to prep students for the FSA's as per a grievance resolution from 2009. However, orientation is a required part of administration of the test.

C. Class Size and Composition

KTTA representatives met on Friday, January 13th to review the draft allocations discussed between the district and KTTA on Wednesday, January 11th.

Members should be aware that the following should be occurring at their schools:

- School administration will be discussing with teaching staff the allocation of funds.
- There should be consensus on allocation, but it should address class size and/or composition and/or specialist teaching positions.

If there are concerns about how staff are being consulted or that the funding is not intended to address class size and composition, please let the KTTA office know as soon as possible (250-554-1223).

The KTTA will be surveying members again after the funds have been allocated to find out if there has been sufficient change to class sizes / composition or specialist teacher numbers.

D. Consultation on Reporting

As required, the district is seeking input from partner groups about the reporting process moving forward. The district has provided an opportunity for feedback at a meeting scheduled for January 30th at the Henry Grube Education Centre. The meeting will start at 5PM.

If you are able to attend, please do. The KTTA Executive Committee will have representatives at the meeting too.

E. General Meeting (Tuesday, January 17th)

(Relevant Documents at www.ktta.ca)

As advertised, the next KTTA General Meeting will be held at the NorKam Secondary Library and will start at 4:30pm.

The draft agenda includes the following (and can be found at www.ktta.ca on the right-hand side of the page under "General Meeting"):

- 1) Call to Order - 4:30 PM (Chairs - Lorraine Balogh / Gregg Hafeli)
- 2) Adoption of Minutes from November, 2016 General Meeting
- 3) Election of KTTA Election Chair (1 position)
- 4) Election of BCTF Annual General Meeting Delegates (13 positions)
- 5) Notice of Table Officer / PD Chair Elections
- 5) Audit Report for 2015-16 Year
- 6) Action Plan Re: Full Implementation of Class Size/Composition Rights
- 7) PD Policy Change
- 8) Door Prizes
- 9) Adjournment - 6:00 PM

KTTA Election Chair

1 to be elected

The KTTA will elect one individual to be the chair of elections (district wide) for the table officer positions (president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president) and the PD chair position.

Note that according to by-laws, the president position cannot be occupied by the incumbent (there is a term limit of three consecutive years).

All of these positions are up for election every school year.

BCTF Annual General Meeting Delegates

13 to be elected

The BCTF Annual General Meeting will be held from March 17th to March 22nd at the Hyatt Hotel in downtown Vancouver, BC. The BCTF pays all expenses for delegates to attend this meeting where there is debate and discussion on policies and direction for the Federation.

If you are interested in running please let the KTTA office know (office@ktta.ca or 250-554-1223) or come to the General Meeting and put your name forward.

The local can elect thirteen (13) delegates to attend. The four (4) local representatives (Lorraine Balogh, Gregg Hafeli, Kerilyn Scott and David Whelen) automatically attend the AGM in their current role. As such, the KTTA sends seventeen (17) individuals in total to the BCTF AGM.