

KTTA News - November 2, 2016

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General Meeting - November 22, 2016 (@4PM at NorKam Secondary Library)
Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes Attached

Positions are Posted on SD 73 Website. Check at - <http://www3.sd73.bc.ca/careers>

KTTA Website (Check out previous newsletters and updated information):
<http://www.kttta.ca>

CONTENTS:

A. Grad Years Feedback

B. KTTA Teacher

C. Shoe Memorial (*National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women*)

D. New Reporting Documents (*Ministry Document Attached*)

E. Provincial Assessment Status Update (*Letter and BCTF Update Attached*)

A. Grad Years Feedback

(From Janice Neden - BCTF Professional and Social Issues Dept)

In order to collect feedback on the graduation years curriculum the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) has designed the following survey tool: questionnaire.research-recherche.net/s/curriculumfeedback

The focus of this survey is to gather feedback from group discussions specific to the graduation years for the BCTF to review and analyze. It is expected that locals and provincial specialist associations will organize their own feedback processes to gather information for submission. The survey will ask you to upload three Word or PDF documents containing feedback, one for each of the following discussion questions:

1. *What are the positive aspects of the revised BC graduation program curriculum (Grades 10–12), and what are you looking forward to in education change?*
2. *What are the concerns?*
3. *What supports are needed from government, your school district, and your union?*

The closing date to submit feedback is December 9, 2016.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have questions please contact jneden@bctf.ca.

B. KTTA Teacher (November, 2016)
(Amanda Jensen - KTTA 1st VP)

The November edition of the KTTA Teacher has been published with hard copies being sent to schools. Included in this newsletter is information from Social Justice, Health and Safety, and SIP information.

The newsletter is attached to this email.

C. Shoe Memorial
(Susan Ruzic - BCTF Professional and Social Issues Dept.)

The 14th annual shoe memorial will take place on the steps of the art gallery to commemorate December 6.

December 6 has been declared Canada's National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. It commemorates the 14 engineering students in Montreal who were killed simply because they were women.

www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/vaw-vff/remembrance-commemoration-en.html
www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/vaw-vff/index-fr.html

If you do not live in the Lower Mainland, you can still create your own shoe memorial in a prominent part of your school, local, or community. The shoes collected represent women killed by violence annually. All shoes are then donated to women's shelters and given to women in need after the event is over www.shoememorial.com.

If you are coming in to town for a BCTF meeting before November 30, you can drop them off here and I will take them to the Vancouver shoe memorial.

D. New Reporting Documents
(From Janice Neden - Assistant Director - BCTF Professional and Social Issues)

The Ministry of Education has produced a document that discusses some of the K-9 reporting guidelines and addresses some common Q&As.

Here is the link:

https://curriculum.gov.BC.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.BC.ca/files/PDF/educator_update_student_progress_k-9.PDF (Educator Update: Reporting Student Progress K-9 Guidelines)

E. Provincial Assessment Status Update
(From BCTF President Glen Hansman)

Please see attached a copy of a letter sent to Deputy Minister Dave Byng this afternoon informing him that the Federation would be withdrawing from participating in further development of the replacement elementary and secondary provincial assessments.

While we have been meeting consistently with the Ministry and partners to secure agreement around the protection of school and student data, the government has yet to inform us of its decision despite the late date. In fact there was to have been a meeting with the Minister on the morning of October 19 which would have been the fifth meeting on this subject since the beginning of this school year. Unfortunately government cancelled this meeting and despite the urgency of this matter and proximity of the meeting in Victoria, government has made no assurances that school and student information will be protected.

Despite widespread agreement between all education partners, government has chosen not to follow up on this critical decision. We believe that the protection of school and student data is fundamental to the purpose and development of the tool. In fact this was the principle that the Annual General Meeting and Representative Assembly based its continued participation on regarding these assessments.

Therefore the Executive Committee has made the decision to immediately suspend all participation in both provincial assessment development teams.

Members of the Executive Committee are in the process of contacting all members involved both by email and by phone.

For your reference, please this backgrounder published last spring (attached to email).

Ministry information about assessment program can be found here: <HTTPS://www.bced.gov.BC.ca/assessment/>