

## **KTTA News - November 30, 2016**

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***Next General Meeting*** - Tuesday, January 17, 2017 (Tentatively at 4:30 PM at NorKam Secondary Library)

*Draft documents will be at [www.ktt.ca](http://www.ktt.ca) in topics under General Meeting*

***New Salary Increase of 0.35% on May 1, 2017***

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

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## **A. Class Size / Composition Restoration Process**

*Kamloops Thompson language attached and at [www.ktt.ca](http://www.ktt.ca) (link at top of the page)*

The BCTF Table Officers (Glen Hansman, Teri Mooring, and Clint Johnson) were meeting with the Ministry of Education today to start the process of implementing the class size and composition language that was taken out of the collective agreement in 2002.

The language was re-instated to the collective agreement by the Supreme Court of Canada on November 10<sup>th</sup> but the parties are to re-open the collective agreement and negotiate the implementation of that language or discuss changes to the language that is outdated. Implementation relates to issues like funding and timelines.

The KTTA Executive Committee has also crafted an action plan on the enforcement of class size / composition language (attached to this newsletter) and this will be brought to the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for debate and discussion.

We will start collecting information soon on class size and composition around the district. It will be collected through a secure survey.

## **B. PD Opportunities - December 5th**

*(Check out [www.ktta.ca](http://www.ktta.ca) under PD Corner)*

The December 5th Professional Development Day is for school based PD and the activities are determined by the school's PD committees. There are a couple of opportunities that the school PD committee may want to make available to members and those include:

### **Dance Play Instructor**

Registration: <https://goo.gl/8AfK5H>

Valleyview Secondary

Dates: December 4th and 5th

Time: 9 AM to 4PM

Contact: Sherry Stade ([sslade@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:sslade@sd73.bc.ca))

### **Teaching Diversity Through Picture Books**

Contact: Sophia Serrasin ([sserrasin@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:sserrasin@sd73.bc.ca))

Parkcrest Elementary

Time: 8:30AM to 2:30 PM

### **Inquiry - The Power of Pleasure and Taking Action**

Registration: <https://goo.gl/Duh5SZ>

Henry Grube Education Centre (Room 1A/B)

Time: 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Cost: \$50 per member (to be billed to the school)

Contact: Tricia Persad ([tpersad@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:tpersad@sd73.bc.ca)) or Andrea Wallin ([awallin@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:awallin@sd73.bc.ca))

### **Reaffirming, Reworking, and Rethinking our Assessment Fundamentals for the 21st Century**

Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/NQv8WbuzsT0jes6y1>

NorKam Secondary

Time: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Cost: \$50 per member (to be billed to the school)

Contact: Tara Murray at [tmurray@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:tmurray@sd73.bc.ca) for more information

## **C. Grade 10-12 Curriculum Postponed**

*(Glen Hansman - BCTF President)*

The Minister made an official announcement last week that the implementation timeline for Grades 10–12 will be extended for another year. The province has agreed to respond to the call from the BCTF and others to push back the timelines, in particular due to all of the logistical considerations with preparing course calendars for courses that may or may not exist, courses that still may change considerably during the revision process still underway, and other practical realities.

Many school districts had already been operating on the assumption that the Grades 10–12 timelines would be extended, so this announcement will be no surprise to them. The BCTF is frustrated that this announcement did not come weeks earlier, as it has been hinted for a while. However, it is good that this decision has finally been made.

## **D. New FSAs - BCTF Advice**

*(Glen Hansman - BCTF President)*

After many, many months of pushing, the Minister has also confirmed that the province will not be going with the Advisory Group on Provincial Assessment's recommendation that FSA school and student data be protected from misuse by third parties. The Minister will be walking the media through the information about the "replacement FSA" that has already been posted on the Ministry's website for several days now. Instead of protecting the data from misuse, the Minister has informed the Federation that the data will be released in a way that tells the "holistic whole story." What that will mean in practice remains to be seen.

Given that this does not satisfy any of the Federation's concerns about the misuse of school or student data, or about standardized testing, we will not be in a position to be reinstating members on the development teams—and the Federation will continue its opposition to the FSAs.

The Minister did not address the protection of school and student data from the replacement provincial exams. Presumably, though, they will take a similar approach.

After many years of work on this it is extremely unfortunate that the Minister has decided to not go with the Advisory Group on Provincial Assessment's recommendations.

Members should **NOT** put forward their names for the FSA or provincial exam development teams that the Ministry has put out.

## **E. New Salary Increase - May, 2017**

*(Glen Hansman - BCTF President)*

We received some good news this week on the Economic Stability Dividend. You'll be happy to hear that there will be a 0.35% wage increase on May 1, 2017. The 3.3% growth exceeded the Economic Forecast Council (EFC) forecast of 2.6%. Under the terms of the Economic Stability Mandate, the wage increase is calculated at 50% of the positive difference between the EFC forecast and the data released by Statistics Canada. Because that difference is 0.7% our members will realize an increase of 0.35%. While not a lot, it does mean that an average teacher earning \$75,000 will receive an increase of \$262.50 in their annual salary starting in May 2017.

Salary grids will be amended to reflect this change and we will work with BCPSEA to verify the grids in the new year.