

KTTA News - May 30, 2017

David Komljenovic (president@kttta.ca / 250-320-1825) / Amanda Jensen (1vp@kttta.ca / 250-819-3090)
Go to **KTTA website for information** (www.kttta.ca)

Joint Labour Liaison Committee Minutes: www.kttta.ca/joint-labour-liaison.htm
District Health and Safety Committee Minutes: www.kttta.ca/oh-s.HTML

CONTENTS:

- A. BC NDP / Green Agreement
- B. District Positions (Successful Applicants)
- C. New Curriculum Resources
- D. Presentation at Public Board Meeting - Aboriginal Education
- E. Kamloops Pride Parade - Aug. 20th

A. BC NDP / Green Agreement

The NDP and Green agreement that would provide sufficient seats for the BC NDP to govern is attached and includes a number of policy initiatives that would help both public education and workers within the system.

The agreement includes these relevant points:

- 1) Fast track enhancement to ***K-12 education funding*** to restore faith in public schools after a decade and a half of a government that shortchanged a generation of students.
 - i. Priorities for funding include early intervention and Healthy Starts programs.
 - ii. Review the funding model for K-12 education system with a view to ensuring equitable access for students.
- 2) Recognize that education is about lifelong learning and make post-secondary education more accessible and affordable...i. Restore funding to ***Adult Basic Education*** and English language learning...
- 3) Improve ***fairness for workers***, ensure balance in the workplaces, and improve measures to protect the safety of workers at work so that everyone goes home safely and that workers and families are protected in cases of death and injury.
- 4) Build needed hospitals, ***schools*** and other infrastructure that reduce emissions and increase energy efficiency throughout BC.

There are many points that if implemented would assist with costs, but the points above are most relevant to the public education system and workers rights.

B. District Positions (Successful Applicants)

The district has posted the successful applicants to the District Positions and this information is attached to this e-newsletter.

These positions required interviews as they are filled by competition. As these positions should be filled prior to the Round 1 positions (to reduce the number of teachers who were declared surplus), the district is only currently filling the Round 1 positions.

The Round 1 positions should be filled by the end of the week and the Round 2 positions will be posted soon.

C. New Curriculum Resources *Student Learning Grant Allocation Attached*

The district received \$731,202 from the Student Learning Grant which is intended for:

- 1) Purchasing supplies and resources that reduce costs for parents (i.e.. Supplies that would normally be funded by the PSA)
- 2) Help teachers deliver BC's new curriculum

The Ministry notes in the attached announcement that the one-time funding can be used to purchase a wide range of supplies including:

- 1) Textbooks
- 2) Hands-on learning tools
- 3) Computer programs
- 3) Athletic equipment
- 4) Art supplies
- 5) Lab equipment

The district formed a committee including Director Lisa Carson, 2 representatives of the District Parent Advisory Council, 1 representative of the KTTA, and 1 representative of the Kamloops Thompson Principals and Vice Principals Association.

The committee drafted a plan for how to spend the resources which included providing a base allocation of \$40 per student to each school and an additional allocation to small schools. The additional allocation followed this formula: 1) 0-50 students = \$4000, 2) 51-100 students = \$5000, 3) 101-150 students = \$6000. Small secondary schools received an additional allocation of \$10000. The specific allocations per school is attached to this e-newsletter at the end of the rationale.

D. Presentation at Public Board Meeting - Aboriginal Education

Brenda Celesta (KTTA Aboriginal Education Chair) presented to the Public Board meeting last night regarding Aboriginal Education , the Secwepemc language program, and First Nations Worldview.

The KTTA presented on the specific needs for Secwepemc Language teachers including: 1) Technology, 2) Classroom Resource Materials, 3) Professional Development, and 4) Inclusion in District Discussions of Program. Also presented was a draft policy for the district's consideration on Aboriginal Education and First Nations Worldview. The KTTA is seeking that the district have policies that reflect the need to provide Professional Development on Aboriginal perspectives, resources to implement new curriculum, resources on smudging, and consultation with local Aboriginal groups.

The district thanked the KTTA for the presentation and noted that a response from the district will be provided at the next meeting.

E. Kamloops Pride Parade - August 20, 2017

Kamloops Pride is bringing the first Pride Parade to the streets of Kamloops at Victoria and Lansdowne Streets on Sunday, August 20th.

The Kamloops Thompson Teachers' Association will be involved in the Pride Parade and welcomes teachers to join. We may be involved either through the Kamloops District Labour Council or as a separate group.

Once more details are provided, these will be shared out to members.