



Coquitlam Teachers' Association News



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The CTA office is a scent free workplace.

Visit our Website at www.coquitlamteachers.com

Ken Christensen, President
Amanda Long, First Vice-President
Kara Obojski, Second Vice-President

October 27, 2017
No. 9



CTA Representative Assembly

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 -- Winslow, Gallery Room 4:00 p.m.

CTA General Meeting

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 -- Winslow, Gallery Room 4:15 p.m.

Postponement of Grades 10-12 Curricular Change

There have been some changes announced to the rollout of the Grades 10-12 curricular change. The change involves delaying implementation of the new curriculum. What's driving this is the necessity for the Ministry to align grad requirements for post-secondary with the new curriculum. This is a problem high school teachers saw from the first day.

The delays consist of full implementation for Grade 10 being effective July 2018, thus, next school year but, Grades 11-12 will have one further year before full implementation, thus July 2019.

Also presented was the implementation of a graduation literacy assessment and a numeracy assessment. The numeracy assessment will be implemented January 2018 and the literacy assessment will happen in January 2020. We await further information on the content and long-term intent of these assessments.

Teachers are encouraged to continue to experiment with elements of the new curriculum, to their own comfort level. As an Executive Committee member put it this week, this announcement is "shutting the barn door after the horse has left". More time to explore the necessary changes to practice and preparation may be welcomed by some, given the scope of the change required. According to the District, schools and departments that have altered their courses to align with the new curriculum will be allowed to continue to teach those courses, under the original course codes.



Policy 19 - Student Attendance Areas

The employer has made significant changes to this District policy. Student attendance areas are also known as catchments and this policy is how these *catchments* are reviewed and changed. This change in policy has come about largely because of "best efforts" under the MOA. The student catchment process is very lengthy and difficult to navigate. In order to meet best efforts, districts need to look at policy impediments to making changes to catchment boundaries and catchment rules for students. This policy also aids the employer in making it easier in low challenge situations to re-draw a boundary. The thrust of the changes here allow the employer to make a determination whether a streamlined process is warranted. For example, if a street has been added in a neighbourhood with five houses on it and they need to readjust the catchment to accommodate those kids, they could undertake a much more streamlined process to get that done.

If it is a full-on boundary re-draw, they would clearly need to undertake a more full process, with the full participation of the partner groups and community.

The policy also articulates clearly the protections for kids and their siblings in both in-catchment and cross-catchment situations. It is not the intent of this policy change to exclude younger siblings from the school their older siblings attend but to actually assert catchment rights for those kids, too.

We will continue to observe the use of this policy with catchment changes. We want a less bureaucratic process to allow the employer to open spaces where it can to accommodate the Collective Agreement provisions under class size and compositions, as per the SCC ruling and the Memorandum of Understanding.



Remedy Form and Training

A significant problem has emerged in the rollout of the district remedy form and the associated training. The provincial parties only just concluded discussion Wednesday on two points that will alter the form's structure slightly. Sadly, the remedy form has been ready for weeks but, rollout has been delayed due to these moving goalposts.

The changes under debate by BCTF and BCPSEA are on how to handle explorations turnover that happen mid-month and how to handle non-instructional days that occur in shared teaching situations. That clarity has been provided now and Principals were given instruction on the forms this Thursday.

The problem here is obvious. The employer has just trained their Principals and thus, no teachers are trained and, the deadline for local form submission is Nov. 2 because the employer needs a day to code the info for the delivery to the Ministry by Nov. 6. This makes the CTA very concerned. At this point, the form is now live, we advise teachers to fill it out to the best of their understanding and put the onus on admin to feed back needed corrections, if any.

New Teacher Training



Dates: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 OR Thursday, November 23, 2017
Times: 8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Location: Winslow Centre – Gallery Room

This day workshop is for new teachers who have been teaching 3 years or less and is a paid day. Come and learn about:

- Professional Relationships
- Rights & Responsibilities
- Professional Learning and more

REGISTER NOW

Registration is on a first-come first-serve basis. To register please email Pat (padolf@cta43.org).

PD Power

You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation -Plato

It was wonderful to see so many of you downtown last week for our PSA 2017 Super Conference. What an exciting two days!

We need to give a great big shout out to the Super-conference organizing team. Like you, the organizers are full time teachers. They tirelessly volunteered their time, working "off the sides of their desks" and throughout the summer to pull this altogether for us. Amazing!

SD43 was very well represented at the Super-conference. Did you know? Three of the five main organizers were our very own **Heather Daly** (Moody Elementary/BCTLA), **Grahame Rainey** (Suwa'lkh/BCSTA) and **Sophie Bergeron** (Learning Services/APPIPC). We thank you for your hard work in making this conference a success.

Let's also acknowledge and thank the many workshop facilitators who planned, prepared, facilitated and shared their passion and area of expertise with teachers from across the province. Our SD43 presenters included: **Philip Barrington, Elaan Bauder, Rick Botero, Melissa Carr, Jill Della-Vedova, Melissa Edstrom, Pascale Goodrich-Black, James Gill, Rachel Labossiere, Amanda Long, Nadia Kadhim, James McConville, Jasmine Pilling, Richard Rasmussen, Cloe Rittinger, Tamara Sengotta, Melanie Stokes, and Tu Loan Trieu**

One of the main goals for the October PSA Day is to bring educators from across the province together to network, share and learn together. Combined with the amazing selection of keynotes and workshops, and this was, indeed a Super Conference!

Coquitlam Teachers' Association invites you to attend an Induction to welcome teachers new to the district and to induct teachers new to the profession into the BC Teachers' Federation.

 **Thursday, November 23, 2017**
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Milestones Bar & Grill 2745 Barnet Hwy, Coq., BC

ONLY teachers hired from November 1, 2016 to October 31st, 2017 will be inducted.
Please RSVP Pat (padolf@cta43.org) by Friday, November 17, 2017

Yellow PD Form Reminders:

The majority of yellow PD forms have been processed and sent back to schools in the last two mailbags.

Please remember you must send **both a conference report and receipt** (even if you already attached one) to the CTA within one month of the last day of your event for reimbursement.

How your EFAP can help

- ✓ Confidential services
 - ✓ Information to help with work and life
 - ✓ Immediate assistance 24/7/365
- To access EFAP services, just call**
Morneau Shepell
1.844.880.9142 / TTY 1.877.338.0275

Committee Appointments

Congratulations to the following CTA members who have agreed to donate voluntary time to serve colleagues on the following committee:

District Design Committee for New Elementary Schools

- **Jennifer Cooney** (Moody Elementary)
- **Pam Shantz** (Hampton Park)



770 Corner

TTOC Committee

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2017
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: CTA Office

Ken Christensen	President	kchristensen@cta43.org
Amanda Long	1 st Vice-President	along@cta43.org
Kara Obojski	2 nd Vice-President	kobojski@cta43.org
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