



RTA Newsletter

April 2019

A Message from the Old Guy in the Office

It's hard to believe spring break has come and gone and we are into the stretch run of this school year. It's an understatement to say there is a lot going on in all of our schools and classrooms. Additionally, provincial bargaining is firmly underway and local bargaining will commence soon. We have our last Pro-D day coming up in May and our updated Pro-D Handbook is complete and on the RTA website. We are also working with the district to create a TTOC Handbook which hopefully will provide TTOCs with a valuable central source of information. Lastly, our RTA AGM is coming up next month as well. As always, thanks for all the work you do to make our schools the fabulous places they are.

Bargaining

Provincial bargaining is underway, and updates are available on the BCTF member portal [here](#). Both sides appear to share a strong desire to have a new collective agreement in place by June 30th, when our current agreement expires. I encourage you to check this [link](#) regularly to get the latest news from the provincial table.

Local bargaining will begin shortly, and you can expect updates from your local team once that process is underway.

TTOC Corner

Work is underway to develop a SD. 19 TTOC Handbook, which, when completed, will be posted on both the district and RTA websites. It is our goal to make this document a one stop shop for any and all info that TTOCs might require to be successful in their work as well as a place where they can find the answers to any question they might have. If you have any suggestions please don't hesitate to let Bob or Heidi know 😊

Important Dates

There are a number of deadlines teachers with continuing status should be aware of at this time of year, and we have a link on the RTA Website that gives details [here](#). The “reader’s digest” version is as follows;

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| April 30 | Teacher Initiated Transfer (if you'd like to move to a different school)
Maternity or Paternity Leave if it coincides with the beginning of the next school year |
| May 15 | Request for Part Time Assignment if you would like to take a leave from a portion of your continuing FTE
Teachers Returning From Leave must notify the board of their intentions for the next school year
Request for an Increase in Teaching Time
Notify Admin of Preference for Assignment |
| May 31 | Notice of Layoff for teachers who have continuing assignments for whom the district does not have work. |
| June 15 | Submit form for 12 month pay option |

Are You “Energizing”?

Just a reminder about the Energize Your Life program coordinated by the RTA and supported by our board. Keep track of your activity and your points. The program will wrap up in early June and all participants will be eligible to receive a gift card from a local sporting good or outdoor store. For more information go to the RTA Website!

RTA AGM

The RTA AGM is scheduled for 4:00 **Thursday, May 16th** in the Begbie Room at the Regent Hotel. As always, elections will be held for our executive positions and I encourage anyone who is at all interested to consider putting their names forward for a position. In addition to our elections we will be providing updates on other important issues and of course there will be a delicious buffet dinner. This year the RTA is planning to provide child care for those members who require it in order to attend, and we will be sending more info on that as the date approaches.

Pro-D Update

Our newly updated Pro-D Handbook is now complete and has been added to the RTA Website – you can check it [here](#) The Pro-D committee is busy planning for our last PD day which is scheduled for Monday, May 8th. Thanks to Colleen Wall and Stacey Grimm for their work on the handbook, and to all the members of this committee who volunteer their time and energy over the course of the year to make sure that we have lots of options available every PD day to address the interests and needs of our teachers.

RTA Newsletter Challenge

Thanks for reading the newsletter! As always there is a newsletter challenge question designed to help you become more familiar with our contract and other related issues.

The question this time is **“What is the deadline for elementary schools to hold staff meetings to discuss organization and staff assignments?”** The link to the answer can be found somewhere on the [RTA Website](#). Email your answer to rtapresident19@gmail.com by Friday, April 12th for a chance to win a box full of goodies from the Modern Bakery for your school’s staffroom. If the prize is won by a TTOC they can pick the school and the day of delivery.