

January 14th, 2022 Volume 4, Issue 10

Report from Henning Drive

GM DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Congratulations! Your prize will be mailed to your school site.

Brieanna Knapp (Lakeview)

Jady Robertshaw (Alpha)

Brooke Melton (Armstrong)

Jung-Sun Song (Gilpin)

MASK REQUIREMENT IN SCHOOLS

Three-ply masks are being sent to schools this week. Please let the BTA office know if your school does not receive them by Friday. They will be provided for both staff and students. There will be smaller sized masks for our smallest students.

The district's stance on masks is that it is to your benefit to wear a three-ply mask or better but it doesn't have to be the one they are supplying. If you have your own three-layer mask or better, then you can wear that one.

The BCTF has a large donation of N95 masks coming to them and they will be distributed to locals the week of January 24th. Watch for more information in coming Reports from Henning Drive if you are interested in receiving one of these masks.

Having trouble with students who don't wear masks?

Here is a three-step process from South:

- 1. Talk to student about health risks and necessity of wearing the mask
- 2. Talk to parent about non-compliance on part of student
- 3. Send student to office for a presentation on the health risks associated with not wearing a mask with the VP.

How does your school address non-compliance? Let us know if there is a strategy that is working for you!

THIRD PARTY ILLNESS

Members have had many questions about how to care for a child/dependent for medical reasons. Teachers should use leave clause G.25:

G.25. ILLNESS OF A THIRD PARTY

Upon approval, a teacher shall be granted leave of absence with a deduction at a rate of cost of a teacher-teaching-on-call, because of illness of a member of the family or of any close personal relationship.
 For special circumstances, the Board acting upon the recommendations of the B.T.A. representatives on the Leave of Absence Committee and upon request of the applicant, shall grant leave of absence with pay provided such leave can be charged to the applicant's accumulated sick leave credits.

Further this joint BTA-BBE document provides more details and clarifications <u>here</u>. If you have further questions, and or concerns please do not hesitate to contact a table officer via email or call the BTA office.



UPCOMING EVENTS

GM/RA February 8 4pm Zoom

BTA Office Hours: 8 am—4:30 pm 604-294-8141 bta3@bctf.ca www.burnabyteachers.com



BTA CONTACTS

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BTA Office 604-294-8141 bta3@bctf.ca www.burnabyteachers.com

WORKSAFE CLAIMS AND COVID

I HAVE COVID SYMPTOMS, NOW WHAT?

Go for a test and self-isolate. Complete the online form to report your positive test result. You can find the form at this link: <u>https://reportcovidresults.bccdc.ca/</u>

Book off using the ADS system "COVI Covid-illness". You are not obligated to tell anyone at the school but you can if you feel comfortable sharing this information.

I GOT COVID AT WORK. DO I HAVE TO USE MY SICK DAYS?

If you believe you have contracted Covid while at work, you need to file a Worksafe claim. This serves two purposes: first <u>it allows you to reclaim your sick days</u> if Worksafe finds you were infected while at work and second, it puts on record that you contracted Covid through work.

You can make this claim through a phone call or form. The form can be accessed at this website: <u>https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/claims/forms/workers-report-of-injury-or-occupational-disease-to-employer-form-6a?lang=en</u>

When you have completed the form, you email it to <u>healthandsafety@burnabyschools.ca</u> and to your administrator.

More information and the phone number to call for a phone claim can be found here: <u>https://www.burnabyteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Occupational-Disease-Claims-with-WorkSafeBC-WCB-Guidance-for-BCTF-Members-.pdf</u>

DO I NEED THE COVID POSITIVE TEST RESULT FOR MY WORKSAFE CLAIM?

You will need verification that you have Covid for your Worksafe Claim. You can provide one of:

- A positive Covid test result, including a Rapid Test
- A statement from your family physician

WHEN CAN I COME BACK TO WORK?

If you are fully vaccinated, you can return to work when you

- Have waited 5 days from the time your symptoms started AND
- have had no fever for 24 hours AND
- your symptoms have improved

Even on return, however, you MUST wear a mask at ALL times in the presence of others for the next five days.

If you are not fully vaccinated, you cannot return until you

- have waited the full 10 days AND
- have had no fever for 24 hours AND
- your symptoms have improved

The CDC website is updated frequently and can be relied upon for current COVID rules. <u>http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/if-you-have-covid-19</u>

TOC CORNER

A reminder to contract teachers to put into the notes section of ADS/call-out if they have recess • supervision.

VENTILATION

Colleagues the district informed all partner groups this week, that they have spent \$500,000 on improving ventilation in the district. The district purchased 350 units of HEPA filters Jade 2.0 (ultra Violet) and 100 units of HEPA filter GermGuardian (ultra Violet). Priority will go to the classrooms and spaces that have been deemed not ventilated or partially ventilated. 280 classrooms fit this definition. Target date for installation is January 21, 2022. If you are experiencing air quality issues in your classroom/space you can request an air quality test via your school-based health and safety committee or administrator. If you have further questions do not hesitate to call us at the office.

MAXIMIZING SPACE AT LUNCH

Many members have reached out to the BTA regarding the organization of lunch for students. It was left up to school sites to determine how to maximize the spacing of students during the common lunch time. While elementary school students normally eat their lunch in the classroom, some secondary school sites have chosen to direct students to a classroom to eat as well. **All BTA members have the right to a duty-free lunch.** You are not required to supervise students at this time. Secondary teachers may want to discuss with their administrator reducing the number of students that eat lunch in their classrooms. If lunch continues to be an issue at your school site, please bring it forward to your school-based health and safety committee, and as always call us at the BTA office.

REPORTING WORKPLACE INJURY

When an injury occurs at the workplace, the WorkSafeBC 'Form 6A' should be completed. A flowchart for "Roles & Responsibilities for Reporting a Workplace Injury" can be found on the district's Staff Portal: <u>https://portal.burnabyschools.ca/health-and-safety/health-safety-forms</u> (log-in required). Remember to Report, Inform and Update your Health & Safety rep or staff rep. If further assistance is needed, please contact Yu-Han Chen, BTA H&S chair, at <u>bta3@bctf.ca</u>.

COVID-19 HANDBOOK

The District has updated the health and safety COVID handbook to reflect the recent ministerial changes. These changes are highlighted in yellow. You can access the document <u>here</u>

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

It's clear that COVID will have long term implications on our work and personal lives, and that uncertainty and constant change will be a feature of our lives for months or years to come. Please ensure that health and safety and wellness – for you and for your students – are part of your daily plan. If you can, slow things down, reduce expectations for yourself and your students, and take your time adjusting to the changes before us. Conserve your energy and use your personal time for yourself and your sick leave when you are sick. Please remember all BCTF members have access to Starling Minds an online cognitive therapy program. There are tools in this program to help teachers and their families navigate anxiety related to COVID and other day to day stresses. These resources have been developed to support you should you need it.

BCTF health and wellness program: <u>https://bctf.ca/wellness/</u>

Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP): https://burnabyschools.ca/staff/

Starling Minds: https://bctf.ca/SalaryAndBenefits.aspx?id=38267

DETACHED DUTY-HEADS UP!

The online Detached Duty form will be launched March 1st. <u>If you anticipate you will be attending a conference or workshop in March, please</u> make sure to submit your paper form by February 14th.

AFTER FEBRUARY 14th, NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR DETACHED DUTY.

There will be a two-week window during which no forms or requests will be processed and then March 1st will mark the first opportunity to submit your Detached Duty requests online.

A huge thanks to our Joint Detached Duty committee (Chair-Renee Kerluke, Lisa Strong, Dave MacLean, James Morton) and to Patrick Vossen for the incredible amount of time and energy they have put into making this happen.

BCTF 2050: ENGAGING NEW BIPOC MEMBERS PROJECT

Would you like to be part of a provincial team exploring new BIPOC teachers' professional and union experiences? Are you an early-career teacher who identifies as Indigenous, Black or a Person of Colour (BIPOC)? If so, you are invited to apply to be a team member on the *BCTF 2050 Project* which will run from February to October 2022. This opportunity is open to BIPOC members of the BCTF who began teaching after December 31, 2011. Previous BCTF or local union involvement is not required.

You can find more information about the *BCTF 2050 Project* and application details <u>here</u>. The application deadline is **Monday**, **January 17**, **2022 at 4:30 p.m**.

PAY SCHEDULE 2022

Please note that the payment schedule for 2022 has been released. Please see the schedule below.

Pay # YEAR		PAYMENT DATE
1	Mid-Month Advance	Jan 14
2	Jan 1 - 31	Jan 28
3	Mid-Month Advance	Feb 11
4	Feb 1 - 28	Feb 25
5	Mid-Month Advance	Mar 4
6	Mar 1 - 31	Mar 11
7	Mid-Month Advance	Apr 14
8	Apr 1 - 31	Apr 29
9	Mid-Month Advance	May 13
10	May 1 - 31	May 27
11	Mid-Month Advance	June 10
12	June 1 - 31	June 24
13	Mid-Month Advance	July 15
14	12-Month Pay Option	July 15
15	July 1 - 31	July 29
16	12-Month Pay Option	Aug 12
17	Mid-Month Advance	Aug 15
18	Aug 1 - 31	Aug 26
19	Mid-Month Advance	Sept 16
20	Sept 1 - 31	Sept 29
21	Mid-Month Advance	Oct 14
22	Oct 1 - 31	Oct 28
23	Mid-Month Advance	Nov 10
24	Nov 1 - 31	Nov 25
25	Mid-Month Advance	Dec 9
26	Dec 1 - 31	Dec 16

REFUSAL OF UNSAFE WORK

RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Workers in BC have the right to refuse unsafe work. Section 3.12 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation spells out the right of a worker to refuse work if there is reasonable cause to believe it would create an undue hazard to their health and safety. An "undue hazard" would include a condition at the workplace that may expose a worker to an excessive or unwarranted risk of injury or occupational disease.

DURING COVID-19

For COVID-19, an "undue hazard" would be one where a worker's job role places them at increased risk of exposure and adequate controls are not in place to protect them from that exposure. WorkSafeBC will likely be using the following documents to make any assessment on appropriateness of workplace safety and Communicable Disease Plans.

Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K–12 Settings Addendum—Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K–12 Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K–12 SchoolsAddendum— Public Health Guidance for K–12 Schools

Steps for refusing unsafe work

Steps to follow when work might be unsafe

1	 Report the unsafe condition or procedure As a worker, you must immediately report the unsafe condition to a supervisor or employer. As a supervisor or employer, you must investigate the matter and fix it if possible. If you decide the worker's concern is not valid, report back to the worker.
2	 If a worker still views work as unsafe after a supervisor or employer has said it is safe to perform a job or task As a supervisor or employer, you must investigate the problem and ensure any unsafe condition is fixed. This investigation must take place in the presence of the worker and a worker representative of the joint health and safety committee or a worker chosen by the worker's trade union. If there is no safety committee or representing trade union at the workplace, the worker who first reported the unsafe condition can choose to have another worker present at the investigation.
3	 If a worker still views work as unsafe, notify WorkSafeBC If the matter is not resolved, the worker and the supervisor or employer must contact WorkSafeBC. A prevention officer will then investigate and take steps to find a workable solution.

We Need YOU!

The BTA Health and Safety Committee is looking for new members!

Join us to:

Meet once a month to review concerns from school reports Advocate concersn at the monthly District Health & Safety Meetings Initiate collaboration with members and district on projects such as:

- Mask Art Competitions

School Gardens

How you can contribute:

Fresh perspective on issues Collaborate with other committee members to problem solve Bring new ideas for projects that would enhance our community

> Interested? Still have questions? Be a guest at our next monthly meeting! Email <u>bta3@bctf.ca</u> to inquire.

kb/usw/leu2009/Posters/Health & Safety Recruitment

BLACK SHIRT DAY

2022 continues to be an important year to discuss and educate folx about racial justice. Friday January 14th, 2022 is a day on which we can show solidarity with Black and racialized communities by wearing a black shirt. The resource below provides more information on Black Shirt Day. Please share widely! (Poster Credit: Jalena Bighorn, executive member of Anti Oppression Educators Collective)

BLACK SHIRT DAY

A BC grassroots initiative | January 15th

Anti-Racism Coalition

Is a grassroots organization striving to end all forms of racial inequity through education, legislation and social events

Addressing historical relevancy

Everything that happens in the past is history. As educators, we have the daunting task of deciding what concepts and stories are the most relevant to our students today. What do they need to face the current challenges of racial injustice? In the past there have been many groups that have used the color black as their emblem. They had their time. Let's make some room at the table for this critical discussion on racism and civil rights.

Sources

All information was taken from the arc.vancouver instagram account, with the exception of the historical relevancy consideration A small action can make a big difference. On January 15th, students and educators across BC will wear black shirts to commemorate the ongoing struggle for civil and human rights fought by Black and racialized Canadians.

At ARC we believe Black Shirt Day is an important step in raising greater awareness of the civil rights struggle, and help foster solidarity against all forms of racism and hate.

> Post your Black Shirt Day photos on social media using #BlackShirtDay



Instagram: arc.vancouver

We at the Anti-Racism Coalition of Vancouver believe a small action can make a difference. In British Columbia, thousands of students wear pink shirts in support of anti-bullying. Orange Shirt Day has also been introduced across Canadian schools, where students wear orange shirts in solidarity with Indigenous victims of the residential school system.

ARC Vancouver is petitioning for Black Shirt Day to be introduced in BC, in recognition of the struggle for civil rights fought by Black and racialized Canadians. We propose that Black Shirt Day be established on January 15th, the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., the great civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner. We believe this will be an important step in raising greater awareness of the ongoing struggle for civil and human rights faced by Black and racialized Canadians, and help to foster solidarity against all forms of racism and hate.

