

VEAES WEEKLY

TOPICS WORTH TALKING ABOUT! PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES



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School Closure Monday, Sept.19th

To throw another wrench into our hectic first month of school, BC Premier John Horgan has declared that BC schools will be closed to observe the National Day of Mourning on Monday, Sept.19th. We've heard from members who have various concerns about the disruption at their site.

The Board met on Wednesday and relayed the following information to the VEAES office:

1. The VSB will work with schools to reschedule any affected Pro-d days and issue a new calendar to the school community. Pro-d days will not be lost. We raised the issue of Pro-D funding that may be lost due to the late cancellation, but have not heard a definitive answer.
2. Field trips and associated costs are being dealt with on a school-by school basis and the VSB is working with school administrators to reschedule field trips and to ensure that the schedules are communicated out to families.
3. Any elementary prep that was scheduled for the Monday will be made up. Administrators are being asked to schedule TTOCs.
4. Any leaves that were booked for Monday will be cancelled and sick banks will not be deducted. However, the VSB has been directed by BC Public School Employers' Association to cancel all TTOC bookings and pay will be determined based on [STAT eligibility](#). We asserted our position that anyone booked should be paid and anyone who would have received compensation for the new federal holiday should be paid. We will be working with the BCTF on this piece. TTOCs should have received a communication from the VSB outlining their decision.

We know this is putting some undue stress onto members: losing pay, having to rearrange schedules, and reorganize events. Please talk to your Staff Rep and have them contact the VEAES office if you need support. TTOCs can contact your In-House liaison, Vanessa Lefebvre, vanessa@veaes.ca.

VEAES' First General Meeting and Staff Rep Assembly, Sept.20th

Just a reminder to all members that we are having our first General Meeting, followed by a Staff Rep Assembly on Tuesday, September 20th at 4pm. **This first meeting will be virtual.** We encourage all members to attend to hear important updates and share school concerns so that we can work collectively to problem-solve issues that are coming up at our work sites. We look forward to seeing your faces and connecting with members.

Professional Standards for BC Educators: Standard 9 new video coming soon!

As mentioned in June's VEAES WEEKLY, the Professional Standards for BC Educators new video called, ***Professional Standard 9 – Truth and Reconciliation, Moving Forward Together*** is coming out! The BC Teacher Council anticipates that the publicly available link to the video will be released the **week of September 26**, prior to the *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* on **September 30**.

BC educators' practice is governed by the ethics and principles as outlined in the Professional Standards. If you haven't taken a look at the Standards in awhile, please take the time to review it as it is a mandate of the BC Teachers' Council.

[edu_standards.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www.education.gov.bc.ca/edu_standards.pdf)

Standard 9: Educators respect and value the history of First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada and the impact of the past on the present and the future. Educators contribute towards truth, reconciliation and healing. Educators foster a deeper understanding of ways of knowing and being, histories, and cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. Educators critically examine their own biases, attitudes, beliefs, values and practices to facilitate change. Educators value and respect the languages, heritages, cultures, and ways of knowing and being of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. Educators understand the power of focusing on connectedness and relationships to oneself, family, community and the natural world. Educators integrate First Nations, Inuit and Métis worldviews and perspectives into learning environments.

Standard 9 was added in June 2019. Standard 9 honours the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA).

Let's Get to Know Our School Trustee Candidates! Submit a Question to VEAES

With the October 15th municipal elections just around the corner, VEAES would like to ask members if they have any questions they would like answered by School Trustee candidates. What specific issues matter most to you as educators? How do potential School Trustees believe they'll work to improve our district? Questions provided by members will be used for our upcoming School Trustee Candidate Townhall on October 3rd, 2022 at 4pm. Mark your calendars!

[Survey link](#)

A message from your District Teacher for Anti-Racism and Diversity

Hello everyone, my name is Nassim Elbardouh, and I am the District Resource Teacher (DRT) for Anti-racism and Diversity. I hope you all had a fantastic and restorative summer. I'm writing to introduce myself and let you know that you can reach out to me at any time if you need support with anti-racism initiatives in your classroom and school. My office is located at Gladstone Secondary, but I can meet online or come to your school, depending on the context.

The key areas I can help with include:

- Accessing resources/presenters. We have a growing library of recent anti-racism books, and you are more than welcome to borrow them! There is also a limited, but growing, list of book sets that could be used for school-based book clubs.
- Developing and facilitating presentations, training, and workshops for staff (school-based and district pro-d). If you want to book a Pro D, please do so early in the year so that I plan content that will be most useful for your specific school communities.
- Increasing staff ability to infuse diversity and anti-racism education into the curriculum.
- Working alongside school and district teams when responding to racist incidents.
- Promoting/supporting implementation of anti-racism and diversity education in classrooms.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, ideas, or concerns. I would also love to hear about any anti-racism initiatives in your school communities!

Email: nelbardouh@vsb.bc.ca Phone: 604-790-1575

Are you an educator with experience or interest in social media and content creation?

VEAES is looking for interested members to participate in the creation of a new Instagram social media page. Release time will be provided for members interested in undertaking the important work of finding new ways of reaching members. Any teacher familiar with Instagram and content creation using design software such as Canva would be extra helpful! Please contact eric@veaes.ca if interested.

#StatusForAll: Why is this relevant to educators?

Children of undocumented migrant workers are some of the missing students in our classrooms, for fear of being "found out" or attracting attention when engaged in the school system. These children may not be our students now, but they could be, if they and their families become permanent residents. Permanent resident status is the mechanism through which all other rights are accessed for migrants. Lack of permanent resident status makes it difficult, and often impossible, for migrants to speak up for their rights or access services, including education.

Come out to the Sept 18 rally to be a part of a nation-wide campaign that fights for status for all migrant workers. Together, we can win equal rights for 1.7 million workers. Together we can ensure permanent resident status for all now and in the future.

[Vancouver: Rights, Regularization, Status for All - Action Network](#)

A woman with a raised fist and a sign that says "STATUS NOW" is the central focus of the image. The background is a collage of people at a rally. The text "RIGHTS. REGULARIZATION. STATUS FOR ALL!" is written in large, bold, white letters with a red outline. Below this, the date and time "September 18 2:30pm" and the location "Grandview Park" are listed. The website "migrantrights.ca/sep18" is at the bottom right.

**RIGHTS. REGULARIZATION.
STATUS FOR ALL!**

**September 18
2:30pm
Grandview Park**

migrantrights.ca/sep18



Dates to Remember

**General Meeting/Staff Rep Assembly
Tuesday, September 20, 2022**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86526565971>

Meeting ID: 865 2656 5971

Passcode: 391392

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

Jody Polukoshko

President

jody@veaes.ca

Marjorie Dumont

Vice President

marjorie@veaes.ca

Darren Tereposky

Vice President

darren@veaes.ca

Karine Ng

Vice President

karine@veaes.ca

Vanessa Lefebvre

Vice President

vanessa@veaes.ca

Eric Proulx

Vice President

eric@veaes.ca

Rob McGowan

AE President

rob@veaes.ca

Office:

604-873-8378

Fax:

604-873-2652

www.vesta.ca



VEAES

The Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators' Society is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.