

VEAES WEEKLY

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



Teach in Peace (@robwilsonwork, 2018)

Table of CONTENTS

The War in the Middle East - Page 2

.....

School Union Rep Training - Page 2

.....

Failure to Fill Tool - Page 3

.....

Coquitlam Hazel Trembath Fire - Page 3

.....

Pro-D News - Page 4

.....

Violence in Schools and Health and Safety Reporting - Page 4

.....

Dates to Remember - Page 5

.....

The War in the Middle East

The war in the Middle East, the history leading to this war, and our perceptions of it are complex and deeply connected to our positionality. There are a number of sources that you can find to support understanding of the issues. Please review [the statement from the VSB](#) when considering having conversations with your students.

We know that the impact of this violence and loss of life will be felt in our school communities and we need to work together to support those members of our communities who have been deeply affected by this war. VEAES members have access to the employer's [EFAP](#) & the [BCTF's Health & Wellness Program](#) to get supports while navigating this tragedy.

VEAES stands in support of teachers, students, and workers in Gaza who have been subject to violence. We condemn the devastating attacks on civilians and call upon Canada and the international community to call for a ceasefire immediately so no more civilians lives are lost.

VEAES EC will be discussing solidarity actions and statements at our upcoming Executive Committee meeting next week. All members can read Executive Committee materials on the [VEAES portal](#).

School Union Rep Training

We would like to thank all of our School Union Reps for making it out to our training over the past two weeks. It was great to see so many of you and have the chance to connect with each other on issues that are important and alive at our sites this year. We spent the afternoon discussing our working conditions and how they relate to bargaining, and we hope these conversations carry on at your sites. This will help us all prepare for the next round of bargaining as our objectives will need to be set this spring.

Reminder - if you were not provided a TTOC for the recent SURT or your monthly union leave, VEAES still pays for the TTOC and the funds will be in your school Flex fund. Use your Staff Committee to make recommendations on using those funds to bring in an additional TTOC to replace the lost service that was likely created by the failure to fill – having a second TL or Resource Teacher in the school for the day will help!

Failure to Fill Tool


Despite the hiring of additional TTOCs this fall, the Failures to Fill continue to impact our workload and our students' learning. We have streamlined the process for reporting the loss of service and hope this will assist teachers in documenting and reporting the impact of the teacher shortage in Vancouver schools.

[VEAES Failure to Fill Reporting Tool](#)

Coquitlam Hazel Trembath Fire

As you may have heard, Hazel Trembath Elementary School in Port Coquitlam was destroyed by a fire that started in the early hours of Saturday, October 14. While no one was injured, the loss to the community, teachers, students and staff is immeasurable.

The CTA is hosting a [T-shirt fundraiser for Hazel Trembath Elementary Teachers](#). T-shirts will be \$20 each and approximately \$10 from each shirt purchased will go directly to affected teachers. The shirts are available in two designs – “Proud Teacher” and “Proud to Support Teachers”. Images of the design are attached. The shirts are black with white letters and a red heart. If you'd like to purchase a shirt, please complete the form linked in the caption/comments/our bio and be sure to indicate how you will be providing payment (cash, cheque, or etransfer).



LINK TO PURCHASE IN CAPTION/BIO

\$20/T-SHIRT - \$10 FROM EACH GOES TO HAZEL TREMBATH TEACHERS

Pro-D News

VEAES has recently provided feedback to the online application and reimbursement system for Temporary Supplemental and Collaborative Inquiry Funds. The system is anticipated to be launched sometime in the next few months. Meanwhile, members can continue to send their applications by email. Please note that **paper applications via blue bag to the board office will no longer be accepted beyond November 15.**

Joint District Pro-D Committee has approved for this school year, to release the roll-over balances from the School-Based Pro-D Fund (8114) to fund individual members to attend October PSA day conferences.

Members are also reminded to first access their school-based Pro-D funds to cover conference fees, and use the Temporary Supplemental Funds as a secondary resource to cover the remainder and other expenses such as travel, lodging and meals.

Violence in Schools and Health and Safety Reporting

ISSUES SESSION

All members are invited to attend a virtual meeting to discuss violence in schools and to talk about the district's new online reporting tool, OurHealth.

Changes in how we report health and safety violations including threats, intimidation, emotional distress, harassment, racism, queer/transphobia, as well as injuries and near misses is changing at the VSB, in part as a result of member advocacy.

We invite members to attend the meeting Monday, October 30 at 4pm to talk about what matters to you, to share your experiences, and to help inform ongoing advocacy on ensuring schools are safe places to work and learn.

Led by Health and Safety Chair Danielle Durant and IHTOs, we hope you will bring your voice to inform the work of the union.

Topic: Violent Incidents, H&S Reporting Issues Session

Time: Oct 30, 2023 04:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86088328497>

Meeting ID: 860 8832 8497

Dial by your location

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Dates to Remember

Executive Committee Meeting

October 24, 2023 @ @ 4:00 pm

VEAES Office

410-2238 Yukon Street, Vancouver

Violent Incidents, H&S Reporting Issues Session

Oct 30, 2023 04:00 PM

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