



VEAES WEEKLY

TOPICS WORTH TALKING ABOUT

PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

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Limited TTOC LOU

By VEAES IHTOs

After some negotiating, the K-12 Limited TTOC Letter of Understanding was signed today and will be added to the Collective Agreement. It can be found on the VEAES website, if you would like to read the exact wording. If you have any questions about the LOU, please contact Marjorie (marjorie@veaes.ca)

TTOC SFE Survey

By Kevin McPherson

Due to many factors, TTOCs who have been accustomed to a steady volume of work (and depending on that income) are now experiencing a significant decline in available jobs. For the first time in a decade, the VSB's callout system for TTOCs is operating without a widespread teacher shortage. In response to concerns raised by the TTOC Committee, the VEAES Executive Committee developed a survey to gather feedback from TTOCs about their experiences with VSB's callout system as a whole (including the SFE website, job shopping, the request system, phone callouts, and the 50% availability clause) and how this has affected the availability of work for them this school year.

We encourage all members working as a TTOC to complete the survey.



K-12 education partners' statement on Pride 2026

By BCTF

The Minister of Education and Child Care and K-12 education partners, including the BCTF, have released a shared statement on Pride 2026. "Every person in our province has the right to show up authentically and be respected for who they are," reads the statement. Read [the full statement](#) here.

School Board Meeting – June 17, 2026

By Françoise Raunet

At the Vancouver School Board meeting on Wednesday, June 17th the trustees voted to raise their annual salaries to \$41,600 - \$54,100 / year, representing a raise of 15-30%. For context, in 2020 they earned just under \$27,000 per year, so their salaries have grown considerably over the past 6 years, while cuts to school budgets have continued unabated. Only COPE Trustee Suzie Mah and Trustee Preeti Faridkot voted against the motion. Trustee Mah spoke of the budget cuts that are being felt across the District and said that “it’s not right” for trustees to be giving themselves a hefty raise.

Trustee Mah also introduced an urgent motion to pause the suspension of the Britannia Hockey program; however, the other trustees voted against it. The VSB’s own administrative procedures say that decisions to discontinue programs must be approved by the Board. Yet, when debating whether to add the motion to the agenda, Green Trustee Lois Chan-Pedley said, “My understanding is that this is a fully operational matter, and I don’t believe the Board should be debating it,” which points to one of the biggest issues VEAES has with the current Board of Trustees. The BC School Act clearly states that trustees are responsible for hiring the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer, who operate under the general direction of the Board. However, in our District the democratically elected trustees seem to believe it’s the reverse. When unions, PACs, and other stakeholders reach out to trustees to discuss issues relating to the administration of educational programs and the operation of schools, they tell us that they are not allowed to speak directly to stakeholders. They would rather have everything communicated to them through the filtered lens of management.

Fortunately, this is an election year, and VEAES members who reside in Vancouver will have a chance to help elect a new slate of trustees in October. If trustees were willing to push back on management decisions a little more—if they refused to follow recommendations to close programs and shutter schools, to limit speakers at Board meetings, to stop providing line-by-line budget information, etc.--then perhaps we could start improving working and learning conditions in VSB schools.

At the VEAES EC meeting on June 16th, a motion was passed to endorse COPE candidate Suzie Mah’s re-election campaign for school trustee. We are also working with other VSB unions through the Vancouver District Labour Council to host an all-candidates' meeting for School Board Trustees on September 19th. Stay tuned for more information about trustee elections in the fall!

VEAES Feedback Survey Regarding Pride Issues

By Xander Graham

The VEAES Office has been made aware of a number of discrepancies, roadblocks, and pushbacks in the way that Pride is being supported across VSB schools this year. This has resulted in the need for our advocacy at the school level, the district level, and the inclusion of the grievance process as well. We are hoping to survey membership to best understand just how widespread and extensive these issues are. We very much appreciate your input, as first-hand member responses will provide the clearest understanding of just how prevalent these often-harmful issues are this year. Please find the survey [here](#), and if you have any further follow-up information, or wish to provide further perspective, you can direct your e-mails to xander@veaes.ca. Thank you for all you do!



VEAES Summer Hours

By Sarah Adams

Congratulations, we're almost at the end of the school year! As a note to members, next week is the last week for typical office hours here at VEAES. **Beginning June 29**, we will be switching over to condensed office summer hours.

The VEAES office will be open from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm** during the following periods:

- June 29 to July 10
- August 24 to September 4

We will have reduced staff and In-House Table Officers (IHTOs) available during those times.

Staff Reps and members, please look for the school opening package from VEAES in September, which will include information about the year ahead, a welcome letter for all members, and information update forms.

VEAES Media Release

By IHTOs

Earlier this week VEAES sent the following press release out to our media contacts:

Vancouver School Board Staffing Surplus Leads to Loss of Key Student Services

VANCOUVER, British Columbia – Lower student enrolment projections have led to a staffing surplus across the Vancouver School Board (VSB) for the 2026–2027 school year, creating significant disruption in elementary schools and resulting in the loss of key student services.

A projected reduction of approximately 300 students district-wide, combined with fewer international students due to federal immigration policy changes, has caused widespread staffing adjustments—forcing a greater than usual number of teachers to move schools or to take different roles within their school. Although staffing adjustments in the face of an enrollment decline are to be expected, this year senior management decisions regarding school organization have resulted in more displacement than usual, as well as the loss of music programs and meaningful library time.

From the union’s perspective, the VSB’s interpretation of qualifications is exacerbating the situation rather than addressing it. Teachers who previously provided “prep” coverage—allowing classroom teachers their contractual preparation time—have seen their roles significantly reduced, and many are being told they aren’t qualified for other roles. As a result, music education across the district has been severely impacted, along with some physical education programs. For example, a school that once had a full-time music program may now see its music teacher reduced to part-time, teaching music as “prep” to only a few classes while being redeployed into classroom or resource work, significantly shrinking or eliminating music instruction for many students.

Four elementary schools have lost their music programs entirely, while an additional nineteen have experienced substantial reductions in music instructional time. These cuts represent a significant departure from previous commitments by trustees to revitalize music education. Elementary classroom teachers are considered generalists and can teach music; however, many may not have a music background to offer the same depth of programming, and students will ultimately bear the cost of losing access to specialized music programs.

Concerns also extend to the role of teacher-librarians. While the collective agreement mandates a ratio of one teacher-librarian per 702 students, the VSB has not increased hiring to meet this requirement. Instead, librarian time is increasingly being redirected to cover preparation periods—displacing art, music, and physical education teachers in the process.

This shift fundamentally changes the role of school libraries. Teacher-librarians have traditionally supported inquiry-based learning, guided research, and promoted literacy development while maintaining welcoming, accessible learning environments. With increased prep coverage demands, library services will be reduced, limiting student access to these essential supports.

Further reductions are affecting resource teachers and counsellors—key staff who support students with diverse learning needs. Many schools are reporting significant cuts to resource time, even where enrolment and class structures remain largely unchanged. These reductions will directly impact the ability of schools to support students with complex needs and to provide inclusive learning environments.

In addition to staffing reductions, this year’s implementation of new software created delays in the school organization process. Schools received staffing allocations with very limited time for feedback, leading to confusion, frustration, and inconsistent implementation across sites.

VEAES is actively documenting concerns from across the district and will continue to advocate for fair, transparent staffing processes that prioritize student learning and educator expertise.

“These decisions are having a real impact on students and school communities,” said Marjorie Dumont, President of VEAES. ***“Students are losing access to specialized programs like music, libraries are becoming less accessible, and critical supports for vulnerable learners are being reduced. We are calling on the Board to reconsider its approach and work with us to ensure students receive the services they need.”***

Social Justice SURT This Fall

By IHTOs

The VEAES Social Justice and Solidarity (SJ&S) Committee will once again hold a SURT for SJ&S reps next school year. These training sessions are designed to build community and capacity for school-based Social Justice reps to tackle the ongoing work of standing up for fairness, human rights and the dismantling of systemic barriers—like racism, sexism, queer- & transphobia, and economic inequality—that lead to the marginalization of certain groups within society. Unlike this year and last, next year’s training will be held in the Fall, so keep your eyes open for more information to come in September. All school-based SJ&S reps will be invited to attend, with a limited number of spots available for those who register in advance.

TTOC Availability Forms

By Sarah Adams

Reminder to our TTOC members to check your VSB email for the 2026-2027 TTOC Availability Form that was sent last week.

This form must be returned either by email to absences@vsb.bc.ca or by blue bag to Employee Services-SFE no later than July 31, 2026. We strongly encourage members to send it via email. The Employer still does not provide confirmation to TTOCs when receiving forms and sending by email gives you proof that you have sent it.

Please check, before the first day of school, that you can access SFE to ensure that your availability has been updated. If you have any difficulty accessing SFE, please email: absences@vsb.bc.ca.

Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day

By Sarah Adams

National Indigenous Peoples Day is this Sunday (June 21). It is an opportunity to celebrate the rich histories, cultures, languages, and contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. We raise our hands in honour and deep respect to the x̱w̱məθkʷəy' əm (Musqueam), S̱ḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and sə̱lilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples for caring for these lands since time immemorial.

As a classroom teacher and Teacher-Librarian, I have spent time examining the stories, perspectives, and voices represented in my classrooms and libraries. I have learned that Indigenous ways of knowing and being are not an “extra” topic to add, but an important part of understanding the land we live on and the diverse histories and cultures that shape our country. Our students and children notice what we value, and I want my actions to demonstrate that learning about and celebrating the people and histories of this land is something we should carry with us all year long.

There are many local events happening this month and especially on Sunday. From art exhibits, musical performances and markets to sporting events and film festivals, there is something for everyone:

Indigenous Tourism BC

National Indigenous Peoples Day | District of West Vancouver

National Indigenous History Month and Indigenous Peoples Day Events in Lower Mainland

While June 21 provides an important moment for recognition and celebration, we need to continue learning, listening, and reflecting throughout the year.



Image from www.indigenoustbc.com



Image from westvancouver.ca

Inclusive Education Funding

By Greg Canning

As we approach the end of one school year, we look forward to the next. When undergoing class castings, we carefully look at the needs of our students and how best to support the diverse learners as they move to the next grade. Have you ever wondered how much money actually comes into the system for students who may have learning challenges?

There are three levels of supplemental funding for inclusive education.

Level 1

- Physically Dependent (A)
- Deaf and blind (B)

Level 2

- Moderate to Profound Intellectual Disability (C)
- Physical Disability or Chronic Health Impairment (D)
- Visual Impairment (E)
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing (F)
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (G)

Level 3

- Intensive Behaviour Interventions or Serious Mental Illness (H)

Although there was an increase in all funding last year, the following amounts will not see a change this year. The basic allocation of per-pupil funding is estimated to remain at \$9,015 for the 2026/27 school year. Students who fall within level 1 funding for inclusive education receive a supplemental grant of \$51,300. Level 2 funding is \$24,340. Level 3 supplemental funding will remain at \$12,300. What teachers need to keep in mind is that these funds are not targeted to specific students; however, they are provided to boards of education to support the needs of students within their district. If interested in reading more about this topic, I have included a link to the government of BC website where this documentation was found.

[2026/27 Estimated Operating Grants - Province of British Columbia](#)

Adult Education Graduation Celebrates Achievement and Hope

By Marjorie Dumont, C'tan

The 2026 Adult Education Graduation Ceremony was held at South Hill Education Centre on Friday, June 12, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event celebrated the hard work, perseverance, and accomplishments of this year's graduates.

During the ceremony, VEAES proudly presented two VEAES bursaries to Salma Hossain and Autumn Prince in recognition of their dedication and achievements.

The spirit of the ceremony was perhaps best captured by fellow graduate Zinat Amarkhil, who summed up their experience by saying, **“South Hill holds the world in its walls!”**

VEAES would also like to extend its sincere thanks to Adult Education Local President Rob McGowan and the dedicated staff of adult educators. Their countless hours of support, encouragement, and commitment help students overcome challenges, achieve their goals, and reach this important milestone. Their work plays a vital role in the success of every graduate.



Congratulations, Greg Canning, on Your Graduation to Life! Greg Canning, Vice-President for VEAES

By Marjorie Dumont, C'tan



Today, we celebrate an extraordinary career and an exceptional individual as Greg embarks on a well-earned retirement after more than 30 years in public education. Throughout his distinguished career, much of it spent in primary classrooms, Greg dedicated himself to nurturing and guiding young learners during some of the most important years of their lives. His patience with the very young was truly remarkable. He possessed a unique ability to meet every child where they were, helping them grow with kindness, understanding, and encouragement. Countless students have been fortunate to have Greg as their teacher, mentor, and role model.

Beyond his work in the classroom, Greg brought a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and experience to every role he undertook. His understanding of the teaching profession was second to none, and his insights were invaluable to those who had the privilege of working alongside him.

Over the past two years in the union office, we have been especially blessed and honoured to get to know Greg more closely. He contributed so much to our team-not only through his extensive knowledge and thoughtful guidance, but also through his calm and steady presence. In moments when challenges arose and emotions ran high, Greg's calmness helped keep us grounded. More often than not, it was exactly what we needed.

His professionalism, integrity, and genuine care for others have left a lasting impact on all of us. While we certainly miss his wisdom, perspective, and reassuring presence, we are grateful for the time we have shared and for the many contributions he has made throughout his career.

As Greg turns the page to a new journey, we do so with immense gratitude and appreciation. We wish him every happiness, adventure, and opportunity that retirement brings. May this next journey be filled with joy, good health, relaxation, and the freedom to enjoy all the things that bring him fulfillment.

Congratulations, Greg, on graduating to life-also known as retirement! You have earned it, and we couldn't be happier for you.



**THANK YOU FOR
EVERYTHING, AND
BEST WISHES FOR THE
WONDERFUL JOURNEY
AHEAD!**



**IMPORTANT
DATE** →

**VEAES Retirement Dinner on June 22 at
7:00 pm at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.
RSVP to support@veaes.ca.**



2025-26

veaes.ca

VEAES MEMBER PORTAL

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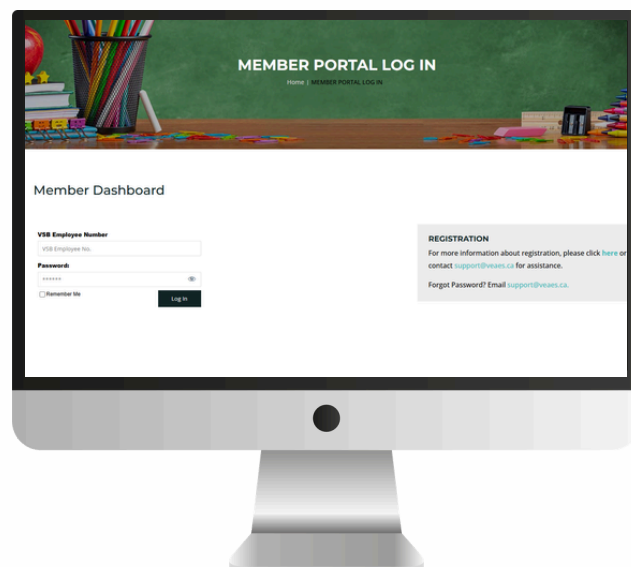
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To access the portal, go to the [VEAES website](#). From the menu, scroll down and select [Member Portal Log In](#).

When you become a VEAES member, your Member Portal profile is created for you. After careful consideration, we have chosen to use members' VSB employee numbers as the usernames, as this allows us to verify members. You will need your VSB employee number ready in order to login to the portal.

To set your password, click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact support@veaes.ca.



VEAES

**The Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators' Society is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.
Thank you all/ ċ-iθamə cən**