



Issue # 2

September 14, 2006

NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

President's Column

Collective Agreement Topics

Signing Bonus

The Board is hopeful that the signing bonus will be paid out by the end of September, but this depends upon the Ministry of Education forwarding the necessary funds to the Board.

12 Month Pay (optional)

The Human Resources department believes the 12 month pay plan will be operational by the mid-month advance in October. Sixteen (16) percent of net pay will be deducted twice a month and will be returned to teachers in four equal payments in July and August. The turn around time from when the information appears in schools and when it is due back at the Board for processing will be minimal. **Pay attention to the deadlines!**

Mid-month Advance

The Board will continue to pay teachers thirty (30) percent of gross pay, which equates to approximately forty (40) percent of net pay. With the exception of the optional 12 month pay plan, other deductions will continue to be removed at the end of the month.

Elementary Prep Time

The Board has determined that the extra ten (10) minutes a week of prep time for full time elementary teachers (and pro-rated for teachers working .5 or greater) equates to one full day plus one afternoon of time. **Teachers will be able to access this time one half day at a time, between Tuesday and Thursday by phoning the SEM system and providing the code number 25 (Elementary Prep).** Teachers can access one morning and two afternoons of prep

time in this way. There are only ten codes (20 times) available on any given day so book the time as soon as you know the date you would like.

Bill 33 (Class Size and Composition)

The DTA and the Board have been meeting regularly to discuss the ramifications of Bill 33 in Delta schools and to develop Record Forms that will document classrooms that are not in compliance with the legislation. School administrators **must** consult with teachers if classes are being proposed that exceed the numbers of students with special needs. Classes at the grade 4 – 7 level **cannot** exceed 30 students unless the teacher provides informed consent by signing the record form. Teachers are urged seek the advice and support of their Staff Union Reps. and colleagues and to list their concerns and expectations for extra services and supports that would make enable their classrooms to be effective learning environments for *all* students.

In cases where limits are being exceeded, Principals/Vice Principals must sign the form, indicating that the class is “appropriate for student learning”. Nevertheless, teachers should make known their views as well and make sure they are documented on the Employer’s record form, especially when, in their professional opinion, the class composition is not appropriate for student learning.

School Planning Councils (SPC)

DTA members are reminded that the BCTF Annual General Meeting in March, 2006 voted to have members withdraw from SPCs. Teachers want to discuss issues with parents through Parent Advisory Councils, and to work together with parents on behalf of students and quality public education.

Committee Vacancies

The DTA has the following vacancies:

Executive – Adult Ed Rep

Committees – Bargaining, Public Education Advocacy, Health & Safety, Social Justice and Professional Development



Thank you to all who attended my retirement social on August 30th. Your many cards, gifts and good wishes were really appreciated.

It has been a pleasure to serve Delta teachers over the last 16 years. I take with me many fond memories of life in the DTA office.

Best wishes to everyone.

Carol Gowan

Have you changed your name, address or phone number over the summer?

Please contact the DTA office (604 946-0391) so we can update our records. You will also need to contact the Human Resources Department at the Board (604 946-4101) and Member Records at the BCTF (604 871-2192).

Condolences

The DTA sends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Lisa Ehwalt. Lisa taught at Delta Secondary School for many years.

Boycott Killer Coke!

Support Colombian Workers' Right to Organize!

This includes any products that say:

Tab	POWERade	Fanta
Fresca	Fruitopia	Hi-C
Seagram's	Sprite	Evian
Minute Maid	Dasani	
Nestea	Barq's	

For more information on the Colombia Action Network and the Campaign to Boycott Killer Coke visit www.colombiaactionnetwork.org or contact info@colombiaactionnetwork.org or 866.473.7431.

PB + 15 Information:

Article G3 of the Collective Agreement states that salary category changes as a result of the completion of PB+15 will be effective at the beginning of the term following notification from you to the Board that you have completed PB+15. If you know you will complete your PB+15 during the summer, please notify the Board in writing before school starts in September in order to be placed in your new category for September. You can forward your transcript to the Board once you receive it. The same applies if you finish your PB+15 in the fall; you must notify the Board before the end of December.

Canucks Game!



The DTA has an opportunity to purchase tickets to the last Vancouver Canucks pre-season game against Edmonton on Saturday, September 30th. The tickets are on the second level and in Vancouver's attacking zone. Because of the short time frame and cost involved, we will not be able to arrange for transportation for this event. The ticket price is \$50.25. If we have enough interest for this, it will give us priority for regular season tickets next year. Please express interest by emailing Richard Kirincic at rkirincic@deltasd.bc.ca before lunch on Monday, September 18th.