

# FCTA Executive Meeting

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## Minutes

November 10, 2021

4:30 pm

Via Zoom

**Regrets:** Anderson, Dekok, Sidhu, Lawrence, Smith, Kempenaar

### A. Call to Order

1. Aboriginal Acknowledgement: Carlson
2. Approval of Agenda – Addition of LR report – Polishak/McIntosh: carried
3. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2021 – Haworth/Marvell: carried

### B. Executive/Committee Reports

#### 1. President

**Labour Enhancement** – Class size/composition reviewed. Staff should hold staff committee meetings in order to ask questions and request written answers to draw attention to this issue.

**Inclusive Ed/LA caseload issues** – Lots of issues. District is looking at hiring more teachers. In regular discussion with district admin re the difficulties teachers are facing.

**SEA's: temporary** – Follow up from a question at the last executive meeting. Checked with President of CMAW and postings were posted properly.

**Remedy: LD vs SLD** – Principals can provide lists of students who count for composition.

**Meetings: MLA's and Fraser Health** – Meetings scheduled. Advocating for rapid testing in schools as well as more timely and complete information when exposures occur.

**Vaccine Mandate/Survey** – 94% of teachers according to BCTF are vaccinated

**Grants** – 3 BCTF grants have been applied for to offset our costs: president release, political Action (FSA's) and Bargaining.

**Board Meeting** – Lowest average class size is a skewed perspective by having small class sizes at certain schools

**Off-site Prep** – Superintendent has been informed of the language in our contract which allows teachers to sometimes take prep off-site. Remedy can be taken in the form of prep time and therefore can be taken off-site.

#### 2. Pro-D

\$40,000 in term deposit; \$49,000 from funding – \$26,000 requested. We still have lots of money and days. Form 3 language under review to clarify any misunderstandings. Professional development is teacher-directed. In-service days can be directed by the district. Suggestion that teachers be given feedback forms for the in-service presentations during the district staff meetings. Lynne will approach Balan on this issue.

#### 3. Committee Reports

None

### C. School Reports

**Hope Secondary** – Competency-based assessment is rolling out in a few classes. Parent-teacher interviews were done over 2 nights with a full day off in lieu – there was mixed feedback on this.

November 15 date can be moved, but it has to be voted on by all schools in February. Committee

meeting will be held on Friday, Nov 19 to discuss inclusive education district-based initiative and class size and composition. Positive cases of Covid not being reported to classroom teacher.

**Silver Creek** – Issues with cleaning in classrooms (floors unswept). Parent-teacher interviews are booked over a week at teachers’ discretion. Serious lack of communication from district re job descriptions. Meetings to coordinate adults are taking away from time spent with students. Covid notification is still problematic.

**Coquihalla** – 3 teachers and 1 prep teacher in remedy with more potentially moving into remedy based on testing. There are still issues with Covid notification. Shortages of SEAs are putting pressure on staff. Winter concerts and the associated risks with crowds are a concern. The gym is the planned venue for multi-grade cultural presentations. Parent-teacher interviews were allowed to be inside or outside or zoom or phone calls. This was left to the teacher to decide.

**District** – 5 new ELL students have registered at AESS; 1 at HSS. We are not set up for students who have little to no English language skills. These students need a full block of instruction in English Language. Principals are not entering all the data into the system at registration.

**Kent** - After the committee meeting, 2 new SEA’s were hired.

**D. Unfinished Business**

**E. Any Other Business**

LR Report (Nickerson) – Representative Assembly – Budget is in good shape. Inflation will impact future budgets. 80% of teachers are on board with mandatory vaccination. Teachers are reporting negative impact on their mental and physical health because of Covid. Overall teachers are not satisfied with Covid notification. Pension is in good shape. FSA’s may be changing in the future.

**F. Next Executive Meeting**

Date: **Jan 12, 2022**

Time: **4:30**

Location: **Via Zoom**

**ADJOURNMENT – Hrynyk/Kneller: carried.**