SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 VOLUME 28 EDITION #1

Class Size, Composition, and Non-Enrolling Contractual Limits

Early indications are that school enrolments may exceed student projections made in the spring. The district provided staffing to schools based on those numbers, which could mean additional staffing may need to be provided to comply with class size and composition requirements. September 30th is the deadline for the district to bring all classes and worksites into compliance with the contract language, but the district will review enrolments and staffing at the end of this week to determine if staffing adjustments, either up or down, may be required. Compliance with the contract requires that no class size exceeds the maximum number of students allowable.

In primary situations, classes enrolling kindergarten students must not exceed 20 students, and classes enrolling grades 1-3 must not exceed 22 students. At the intermediate level, any split intermediate class enrolling grade three students cannot exceed 24 students, and other intermediate classes are limited to a maximum of 30 students. However, all the intermediate classes within a school must not exceed an average of 26 students. As for composition, all elementary classes are limited to 2 students with special needs designations of categories A-H, excluding Category G.

In secondary schools, class size maximums of 30 are in effect, and any class enrolling more than 2 students with designations in categories A-H, excluding G, will have their class size maximum reduced by one for every student over this limit. Special needs classes are capped at 12 students. Secondary schools are also required to meet an average of 28 students for all their classes school-wide. Non-enrolling compliance is a district-wide calculation, and the district-wide student enrolment will determine the FTE levels of counseling, learning support, ELL, and teacher librarians based on the ratios the ratios established in the contract.

2021-2022 Executive Committee Vacancy To Be Filled

This year's CCTA Executive Committee is comprised of the following members:

President – Murray Helmer	Vice-President – Jessica Hill
Local Rep – Jessica Hill	Secretary – Jacqueline Ferguson
Pro D Chair – Ryan Hanley	Bargaining Chair – Marianne Okrainetz
Treasurer – Kaarina Fichtner	Health and Safety - Anna Donaldson
Membership – Stephanie Cowan	Social Justice – VACANT
Aboriginal Ed – Lacey-Dawn Testawich	Education – Tracy Walton
Communications – Matt Tyne	Regional Rep North – Robert Fahoum
Regional Rep South – Marissa Ball	Regional Rep West – Tess Riley

At our Annual General Meeting in April, Melanie Baerg was acclaimed to the role of Social Justice Chair, This summer, Melanie accepted a job with UNBC and resigned her position with the district. Under CCTA Policy, the Executive Committee asks for members who may be interested in the vacant position to put their names forward, and an appointment is made to the position at our first EC meeting. If you would like to join the ranks of the Executive Committee (which meets on the first Monday of each month), submit your name to the CCTA, with a brief statement of your qualifications / interest, and we will fill the Social Justice Chair position from among those interested at our Monday meeting on September 13th.

Assigned Hours of Instruction Requirements Under Discussion

The CCTA is currently engaged in discussions with the district over the length of the instructional day in elementary and secondary schools, and hopes to have the matter resolved soon so that appropriate bell schedules can be determined. At issue is elementary school recess, which the contract defines as instructional time, but we have historically treated it as non-instructional time by refusing recess duty during job action, which we couldn't do if it was instructional time, and not having prep time scheduled over recess, which would be possible if it was instructional time. Secondary hours of instruction are much clearer, and course change time is seen to be instructional time. We hope to resolve the issue in the next two weeks.

District Day Well Received

I would like to pass along my appreciation to the district for including all employees in yesterday's district day, including paying TTOCs to attend. All indications are that the day, and Mr. Lamoureux, were well-received, and very motivating.