

Message from Denise Moffatt, STA President
To Staff Reps
Re: Phase One Job Action - School Based Teams

Hello Staff Reps,

Attached is the order of the LRB on School-Based Team meetings.

Our collective agreements had provisions for SBTs prior to the illegal stripping in 2002. Since that time, teachers have continued to conduct SBT meetings on a voluntary basis, often outside of instructional hours, for the benefit of the students.

You will recall that during Phase 1 of our strike the District has been supporting AOs' assertions that they were entitled to attend SBT meetings called by teachers. At many school principals forced themselves into SBT meetings whether their presence was required or not. We are hopeful that this award will settle the dispute and resolve the uncomfortable situation at many schools.

Our original advice to members was that during Phase 1, like IEP meetings, SBT meetings could continue but without attendance by AOs unless the AOs were providing direct service to the students under discussion.

However, this LRB order strictly limits the attendance of AOs at SBT meetings to discussions of custody issues, confidential matters such as Ministry of Families issues, police issues and legitimate safety issues. The inclusion of the term "legitimate safety issues" clarifies that the notion of a safety concern cannot be an excuse for an AO to attend an SBT meeting.

Here's a summary of the main points of the award:

- Notice is provided to AO of time and place of SBT meeting
- AO can request a different time for the meeting
- Names of students and agenda, if any, provided to the AO
- AO may only attend for discussions of:
 - Custody issues

- Confidential matters such as Family and Children's Services issues
 - Police issues
 - Legitimate safety issues
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- AO will inform SBT if he/she will attend or what portions of meeting he/she will attend
 - If not attending, AO will provide SBT with any information that will assist the discussion
 - Any recommendations and minutes of SBT will be provided to AO
 - AO may request information to ensure proper follow up by AO

Please contact the STA office if you have any questions about implementing this process.

Regards,
Denise

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