



STA Connection

October 3, 2019

THIS FRIDAY! STA World Teachers' Day Pub Night!



Come on over to Central City Brew Pub, Baseline Pub, or Townhall Public House any time after school this Friday, where we will be treating you to some yummy appetizers and a free drink! We will also be giving away prizes throughout the event. Bring your colleagues with you, or cheers to the weekend with some new friends. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register Now

Brace Yourselves - FSA Tests Are Coming

Grade 4 and 7 teachers are currently receiving the letters in the courier, asking parents to request that their children be excused from taking the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) tests. These are also available in Punjabi and Chinese. We are concerned about the way the data from these tests are used to rank schools and the time they take away from meaningful teaching and learning. More information can be found on the BCTF website.

Call for Resolutions

As you may know, BCTF policy is ultimately created by its members through the AGM, so locals are encouraged to submit resolutions.

If any policy adopted through a resolution were traced back to its source, its origin would probably be in the mind of an individual member, who concluded, as a result of experience or of reflection on problems confronting members, that BCTF policy was lacking or deficient on a particular issue. Every individual member can therefore initiate policy. In other words, if you have a good idea for the BCTF, this is your opportunity to put it forward.

Please submit your idea as soon as possible using our [resolution form](#) to the STA office at courier #000, or fax: 604-594-5176, attention: Resolutions Committee. You can also send ideas by email to Jatinder Bir at 2vp@surreyteachers.org.

Clause of the Week: Professional Days for TTOCs

A Teacher Teaching On Call on assignment may attend the school's professional day with pay on the approval of the school's Principal / Vice Principal providing the Teacher Teaching On Call is on assignment in the school on the day previous and the day after the school's professional day. This approval shall not be arbitrarily denied.

Staff Committee Chair Training



Are you a new chair of your school's staff committee? Would you like to talk over how an effective staff committee can be run? Please feel invited to our training session. We have had 3 sessions so far this September, and 2 further sessions have been added for 3:30 pm on October 16th and 22nd at the STA.

Register Now

THIS WEEKEND: BC BIPOC (Black. Indigenous. People of Colour) Educators' Conference

This Saturday, October 5 is the first ever BC BIPOC Educators Conference! Open to all members, and only costs \$35 to register. The STA Executive Committee has approved a grant to fund up to 30 members who self-identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or a person of colour to attend on a first come, first served basis. In order to have your funding secure, please email Isaac Louie (co-chair of the Ad Hoc Committee for Members of Colour) at louie_i@surreyschools.ca. Once confirmed, members will be able to have their conference registration fee reimbursed (\$35) as well as claim up to \$25 in mileage for driving or transit.

Visit PAGEBC.ca to register now.

Calling all Union Troublemakers!

The STA would like to send some Surrey teachers to hone their activist skills! If you are interested in a unique opportunity to learn some campaign methods from some union brothers and sisters south of the border, please feel invited to attend the first ever Labor Notes Trouble Makers school in Vancouver. We have set aside funding for 20 attendees. Check out this website <https://www.labornotes.org/vancouver> for more information, and

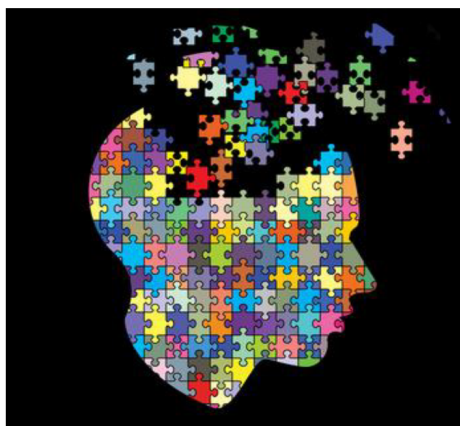
let Julia know by email to 1vp@surreyteachers.org that you would like to attend. The event is on October 26, 2019.

Surrey Primary Teachers' Association

What is the SPTA and why should you join? The Surrey Primary Teachers' Association is a local specialist association which offers pro-d and networking opportunities FOR Surrey teachers organized BY Surrey teachers. Did you know last year we organized over 10 workshops and social get togethers, sponsored Colleen Drobot at the STA Day, and brought in Adrienne Gear for a dinner workshop? We are committed to improving primary teaching practice to benefit all of our Surrey students.

What do you need to do to join the SPTA? Our annual membership fee is \$20. The annual fee is valid from September to June of the current school year. (We will be having a "One Day Sale" membership drive on October 2nd with a half-price membership incentive. You must be physically on site to enjoy this one day discount rate of \$10.). We use the membership fees to cover speaker costs, honorariums to presenters, rental space (if needed), catering (if needed), snacks/refreshments at workshops, door prizes (we like to hand out a lot of them), and to put on social events for primary teachers. You will receive a receipt for your membership fees which can then be claimed back from your school pro-d funds. If you have volunteered to be the primary contact at your school, you can ask your admin if they will cover your membership fee so that you may keep your primary staff in the know.

Registration for our workshops is done through our website: www.spta36.weebly.com. The workshops put on by the SPTA are not advertised on the HUB or linked to registration there. We often put information out in the weekly "STA Connection". If you would like to join our Facebook page, you must be a Surrey district teacher. Please answer the questions posted there so that we may process your application to join.



SURREY PRIMARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

NUMBER SENSE ROUTINES FOR K-3

(THIS IS A REPEAT WORKSHOP FROM LAST YEAR)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2019

3:45 – 5:00 P.M.

HAZELGROVE ELEMENTARY

ROOM 201 (UPSTAIRS)

7057 191ST STREET, SURREY

Presenter : Stephanie Turner

Come and learn some short/quick warm ups (5-10 min) that are deep in math, and will promote rich discussion and metacognition among students. High tech and low tech ideas to get students pumped up, alert and ready to succeed in Math.

Like every other challenge we take on, we need to warm up the left side of our brains to prepare for mathematical processing.

Many examples of math warm ups that you can start in your classroom the next day.

Snacks, refreshments, and door prizes included.

SPTA Members:
Free

Non-members and out-of-district: \$10

**SURREY
PRIMARY
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION**

Register:
www.spta36.weebly.com/workshops

Register Now

Call for Workshops: BCTF New Teachers' Conference

The BCTF New Teachers' Conferences are now accepting proposals for workshops. The conferences will be taking place on January 25, 2020 in Richmond, and on May 23, 2020 in Nelson. Please submit your proposals [online](#) by Monday, October 7.

Shout Out!

We are *so* proud to be Surrey Teachers and we know there are amazing things happening around the district that we would love to hear about. In the spirit of acts of kindness, we would love for our members to send us a “shout out” about a colleague who inspires you and who you think deserves recognition, whether it is for their kindness, a great resource they shared recently, or an awesome lesson they teach.

This week’s shout out is from Helen Kelsey to Gavin Hainsworth:

“This is a Shout Out for Gavin Hainsworth, a teacher of Special Education at North Surrey Secondary. He is presently a member of four committees of the STA: Indigenous Education, STARA Advisory, the Green Committee, and Labour Affairs. In addition, his efforts has encompassed volunteering for the past 28 years as a delegate to the BCTF AGM, 28 years as a Staff Rep, work previously as 2nd. V.P. of the STA 1990-1992, BCTF local rep for 5 years, and many more contributions to a variety of committees, projects, and other important tasks. Gavin's actions for union workers have made a difference to us all over the long history of Gavin's unwavering participation in STA and BCTF undertakings.”

Thank you Helen, you and Gavin are now entered into our monthly draw for a \$25 Indigo! gift certificate. Please submit your “shout outs” to Angela via communications@surreyteachers.org to spread the kindness around our local and for your chance to win a gift card too!