



STA Connection January 20-24, 2020

THIS WEEK: Special General Meeting



Our next STA Special General Meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 22** at the Bombay Banquet Hall. At this meeting, we will be voting on who will get to represent Surrey as delegates to the BCTF AGM, which is taking place in Vancouver this year! Did you forget to get your write-up in on time? That's ok, you can still be nominated or nominate yourself at the meeting!

There will also be a bargaining update, which will include a much anticipated report on the results of the survey that many of you participated in a few months ago.

Of course, let's not forget the free butter chicken and other delicious dishes that we get at our Bombay meeting. You do not want to miss it!

NB: We are no longer allowed to take leftovers home from the Bombay, so come and enjoy the meal as it is served!



- January 20-23 - Staff Rep Training
- January 20 - TTOC Committee
- January 20 - Status of Women Committee
- January 21 - Executive Committee
- January 22 - Special General Meeting @ Bombay Banquet
- January 24 - Cross Border Conference Planning
- January 28 - Executive Committee
- January 28-30 - Rookie Staff Rep Training
- January 31-February 1 - BCTF Representative Assembly

Call for Nominations: Canadian Labour Congress Convention, May 4-8, 2020

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) is holding its Convention in Vancouver this year, from May 4-8, 2020. The STA is an affiliate of the CLC, and will be sending up to nine delegates to the Convention. (The precise number will depend on whether delegates require a union leave for the full week, and whether they stay in a hotel or at home). Delegates will be elected at a Special General Meeting/STARA Meeting February 19, 2020 at the Bombay Banquet Hall. If you wish to put your name forward, please send your name and a short (150 word max.) write-up to Stamata Massautis at reception@surreyteachers.org by 4:00 Monday, February 4, 2020.

School Visits

We are working hard at the STA to provide up-to-date information about bargaining. We organized two information sessions after school in November, and we have been visiting many schools at lunch hours to discuss it all! We have visited 62 schools so far; reps: if your staff would like a visit from a table officer please contact our new Rep Support staff person, Stacy Johnson at repsupport@surreyteachers.org to arrange.

Remember, **twice per year** we provide up to **\$80 per elementary school**, Learning Centre, Adult Education centre and other smaller worksites, up to **\$100 for schools with a registration of over 700 students**, and up to **\$120 per secondary school for refreshments at school union meetings**, with a recommendation that school staffs also use those meetings in part to create group initiatives such as letters to government and/or social media action.

Staff Rep Training 2020:BCTF Code of Ethics January 20, 21, 22, 23



Objectives:

- to better understand the BCTF Code of Ethics (the “what”)
- to understand the rationale for a professional Code of Ethics (the “why”)
- to apply knowledge to situations in schools (the ‘how’)
- to consider the role of the staff rep and all members in promoting ethical conduct (the “who”)
- to acquire knowledge about procedures used to deal with alleged violations of the BCTF Code of Ethics (the “how”).

Lunch and snacks provided. [Register](#) now!

Rookie Staff Rep Training 2020: Role and Function of the Staff Rep January 28, 29, 30

For all NEW Staff Reps - please register for your first staff rep training! (If you have never received rookie training, you are eligible)

Objectives:

- To determine the role and function of the Staff Rep
- To become familiar with the format and content of the provincial and local collective agreement
- To identify where to go for help
- To understand that union work is social justice work.

Lunch and snacks provided. [Register](#) now!

STA New Teachers' Conference on Feb 4th



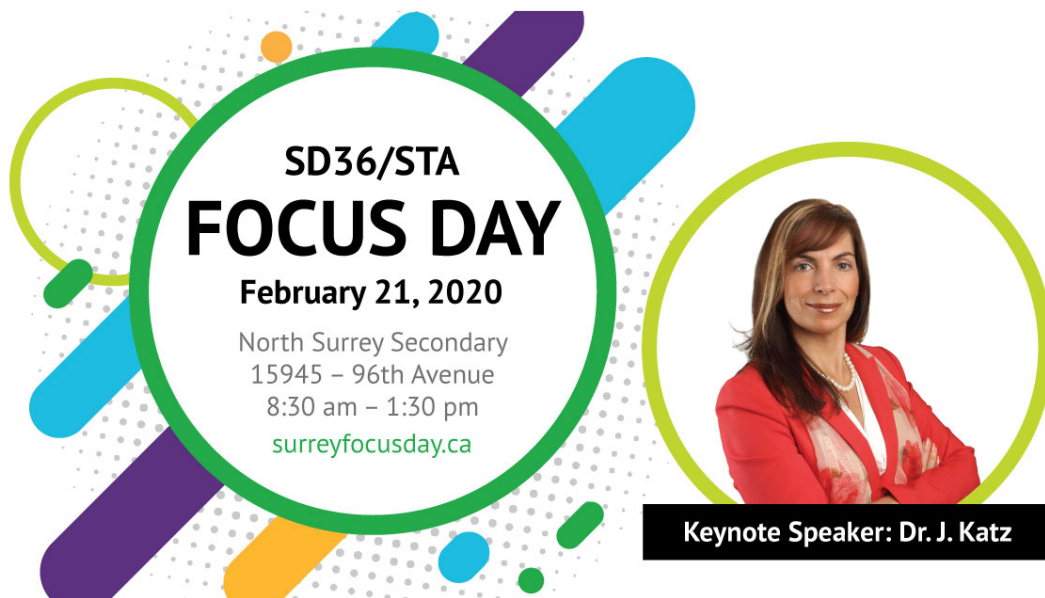
Tuesday, February 4th is the day when we will be hosting our popular New Teachers' Conference here at the STA. If you are a new teacher, either first or second year, and you haven't already attended this before, please feel invited to sign up to attend. We review topics such as preparing for your first year evaluation, how to understand your paycheque, Pro D opportunities, and legal pitfalls for teachers. You will be inducted into the provincial union; each teacher will receive a certificate and a pin. [Register](#) now!

Job Share: All the Information You Need



Join your colleagues on **Thursday, February 13, 2020** at Eaglequest to connect with potential job share partners and learn about your rights when it comes to job shares. The STA will facilitate this information session and answer any questions you may have. In addition to taking you through the application process, you will learn about possible denials and what options you have available to you. Bring your questions! Snacks and beverages will be provided. Babies welcome! [Register](#) now!

Focus Day

A graphic for SD36/STA Focus Day. It features a large green circle in the center containing the text "SD36/STA FOCUS DAY" in bold black letters, followed by "February 21, 2020". Below this, it lists the location "North Surrey Secondary", the address "15945 – 96th Avenue", the time "8:30 am – 1:30 pm", and the website "surreyfocusday.ca". To the right of the green circle is a circular portrait of a woman with brown hair, wearing a red blazer over a white top, with her arms crossed. Below the portrait is a black rectangular box with the text "Keynote Speaker: Dr. J. Katz" in white. The background of the graphic is white with various colorful abstract shapes (blue, purple, orange, green) and a pattern of small grey dots.

**SD36/STA
FOCUS DAY**
February 21, 2020
North Surrey Secondary
15945 – 96th Avenue
8:30 am – 1:30 pm
surreyfocusday.ca

Keynote Speaker: Dr. J. Katz

Do you do great things in your classroom? Both Focus Day (**February 21, 2020**) and the STA Convention (**May 1, 2020**) are professional development conferences put on by teachers for teachers. We know Surrey teachers are doing great work with their students and the websites for both of these conferences are now open for workshop proposals. If you have a great idea you would like to share with your colleagues, please submit your proposals to <https://surreyfocusday.ca> and <https://staconvention.ca>.

Cross Border Conference

LEAPING INTO ACTION

TEACHERS RISE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

A SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE FOR BC, WASHINGTON, AND OREGON TEACHERS

Kids are rising up to demand real climate action, and teachers' work is part of this struggle

Educators, parents, students welcome!

Only \$50 CAD
\$25 for Students
& Student Teachers

Snacks & Full Dinner
included

Teen Climate
Activists Panel



CLIMATE STRIKE, LONDON 2019
IMAGE CREDIT: MARK LUNNANT

**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 29, 2020**

12:00 PM - 7:30 PM
KWANTLEN PARK SECONDARY
(10441 132 STREET, SURREY, BC)



CROSSBORDERCONFERENCE.COM



Registration open for Cross Border Conference and workshops are now posted on our website
www.crossborderconference.com.

SPTA Workshop: Math Inquiry Inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach



How can we use the practices and principles of the Reggio Emilia approach to inspire and guide our mathematical inquiry? Come on **Thursday, February 6 from 3:45 - 7:30 pm** to the Sullivan Community Hall and explore how to use inquiry questions, provocations and a responsive teaching approach to invite students to engage in rich mathematical tasks. This is a dinner workshop, which will include snacks, refreshments, and door prizes. Registration www.spta36.weebly.com is limited and must be received by January 24. Please see the attached poster for more details.

Workshops available for Black History Month

February is Black History Month, which is a great time (though not the only time!) to address issues of racism and promote antiracism strategies in your classroom. If you have a Pro-D day coming up in your school, consider booking one of these free BCTF workshops: "Responding to racism in the workplace and the classroom" or "Advancing equity and inclusion in our schools and communities."

#RedforBCED - On Wednesdays, We Wear Red!



Pictured are staff at Senator Reid wearing their #RedforBCED on their red couches!

Surrey teachers, please send us photos and videos of your staff wearing their red, holding walk-ins, Burma Shaves, and any other acts of solidarity. Let us know if we can help support you in any way. We need a fair deal that includes better working and learning conditions, and fair salaries!

Please post your pictures on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram using the hashtag #RedforBCED

QUESTIONNAIRE: UBC Research Study on Teacher Collaboration

Chantal Goguen, Jas Kooner, and Jacqueline Reyes are graduate students at UBC conducting a research study to fulfill the requirements of their Masters of Education program. They are interested in studying the conditions that promote collaboration for elementary school teachers. They are collecting information through a questionnaire that does not link personal data to responses. The complete details of the study and a link to participate are in the attached letter.



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 Jodi Pulvers to Laura Gerber:

“I would like to give a shout out to Laura for always being supportive, encouraging and helping another teacher prep work for while they are sick.”

Thank you Jodi, you and Laura 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!