

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members  
**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)  
**Date:** March 28, 2024  
**Regarding:** **Weekly Update (26)**

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Current Collective Agreement language, provisions, and past practices are subject to a statutory freeze during the period of central and local collective bargaining bargaining (**Labour Relations Act, 1995, Section 86, Subsection 1**). Violations of the collective agreement must be reported immediately to the ETFO Local office (519-474-3150).

## EQAO

Accompanying this update is a link to the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local EQAO Communiqué.

## Kindergarten Timetabling

Teachers are reminded of the following:

- Kindergarten Teachers teach 300 minutes per day which cannot be exceeded, as per the Collective Agreement.
- Kindergarten-Grade 8 Teachers and students follow the same school schedule.
- During instructional time, an OCT must be present with the class.
- Instructional time, preparation time, lunch/nutrition break, supervision, and recess must be clearly delineated on the school schedule and Teacher timetables.
- Outdoor education is instructional time and must be scheduled within the 300-minute instructional day.
- Recess time is not instructional time.
- Kindergarten Teachers cannot exceed 80 minutes of supervision in a 5-day cycle, as per the Collective Agreement
- Kindergarten Teachers are entitled to a 40-minute lunch, as per the Collective Agreement.
- In schools with traditional day schedules, Kindergarten students must receive two 15-minute recesses and a scheduled lunch.
- In schools on balanced day schedules, Kindergarten students must receive the same nutrition break and recess minutes as other students.

## **April 8 Professional Activity Day/Total Solar Eclipse**

Teachers are reminded of the following:

- The Professional Activity Day is a workday to which all the provisions of the Collective Agreement apply.
- The usual start and end times at schools/worksites are maintained.
- Attendance at staff meetings is expected, but not mandatory (Article L17.07, Staff Meetings).
- Participation in any rescheduled staff meeting is voluntary.

## **Upcoming Events**

- Affirming the Identities of 2SLGBTQ+ Families in Schools Workshop – Wednesday, April 3, 2024
- Pregnancy/Parental Leave Workshop – Tuesday, April 9, 2024
- Wellness Workshop – Thursday, April 11, 2024
- All Candidates Session – Tuesday, April 16, 2024
- Local Annual Meeting – Wednesday, April 24, 2024
- ETFO Golf Tournament – Saturday, May 25, 2024

## **Communication Protocol**

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Monday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board's **Disconnecting from Work Employee Procedure** came into effect on Thursday, June 2 in compliance with the **Working for Workers Act, 2021**.

Violations of the **Communication Protocol** and the **TVDSB Disconnecting from Work Procedure** must be reported to the Local office immediately.

## **Duty of the Local**

- Defend the **Collective Agreement** and the rights of Teachers under it.
- Ensure that the provisions of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act** are enforced.
- Bring to the attention of TVDSB ongoing Teacher concerns, with the expectation that these concerns will be taken seriously and resolved quickly.
- Communicate with Teachers in a clear, concise, and timely manner

Thank you for all your good work.

For more information regarding this *Communiqué* please contact the Local office by phone at 519-474-3150, or by email at [etfotvtl@etfothamesvalley.com](mailto:etfotvtl@etfothamesvalley.com)