

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members  
**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)  
**Date:** January 10, 2025  
**Regarding:** **Weekly Update 15**

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## **Acadience**

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) #1 is an agreement between ETFO, the Ministry, and the Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA) about the administration of Early Reading Screeners. This MOU was negotiated during the 2022-2026 round of central bargaining and is binding and enforceable.

The Teacher/Occasional Central Agreement, through the MOU, has provided provisions that the administration of the Early Reading Screener (ERS) is mandatory for year 2 kindergarten, grade 1, and grade 2. This is also reflected in the Ministry's Policy and Program Memorandum (PPM) 168: Reading Instruction and Early Reading Screening. All other diagnostic testing, including early reading screeners in grades 3 to 8, are subject to teacher professional judgement as per the Teacher/Occasional Teacher Central Agreement language in Article C9.00.

Teacher Participation in meetings to discuss results of the Early Reading Screener must come with the provision of release. Any meetings scheduled before or after school, during teachers' preparation time or lunch is strictly voluntary.

## **Financial Empowerment**

Accompanying this update is a link to the Educators Financial Group (EFG) online estate planning webinar. This webinar will be held on February 5, 2025.

## **RTO Retirement Planning Workshops**

Accompanying this update are links to January 2025 retirement planning sessions offered by Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO).

## **Transfer and Staffing Timelines**

Accompanying this update is a link to the Transfer and Staffing Timelines.

## **Upcoming Events**

- Workplace Stewards' Meeting – January 22, 2025
- Health and Safety Representatives' Training – January 29 and 30, 2025
- ETFO Skate Night – February 7, 2025
- Workplace Stewards/Principals' Training – February 11 and 12, 2025
- General Meeting – February 13, 2025
- Experienced Teacher TPA Workshop – February 26, 2025
- Retirement Planning Workshop – March 5, 2025
- 25 Year Celebration – March 26, 2025
- Pregnancy/Parental Leave Workshop – April 2, 2025

## **Communication Protocol**

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, January 12 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

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)