

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members  
**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)  
**Date:** September 8, 2023  
**Regarding:** **Weekly Update (1)**

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Welcome back. We hope that all Teachers enjoyed a safe and peaceful summer break.

Welcome also to the 286 New Teachers joining our ranks this September. If you have questions or need assistance, call your Union (519-474-3150). We are here to help.

It is shaping up to be a busy Fall for everyone. Let's stand together and help one another.

## **Local Collective Bargaining Update**

The Local Bargaining Team is in the process of confirming proposed local bargaining dates from early October through to Winter Break.

The Local Bargaining Team has tabled significant proposals that form the basis of a Positive Workplace Framework.

Local bargaining will resume at the beginning of October. The Table Team will bargain hard and in good faith, and it is the expectation of ETFO TVTL that the Board will do the same.

The Local will keep Teachers informed regarding progress at the local bargaining table in a clear, concise and timely manner.

The goal of the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local is to negotiate a fair collective agreement, that addresses working condition issues, through free local collective bargaining.

## **Helpful Reminders**

All Teachers are reminded of the following:

- Preparation Time is 240 minutes in a five-day cycle. It is Teacher-owned and shall be used for professional purposes, as determined by the Teacher, free from supervisory, teaching, or other assigned duties within the instructional day. Preparation time is pro-rated to FTE and cannot be aggregated (**Collective Agreement Article L17.04**).
- Supervision has a hard-cap maximum of 80 minutes in a five-day cycle. This maximum cannot be exceeded, cannot be aggregated, and is pro-rated to FTE (**Collective Agreement Article L17.06**).
- All Teachers shall be entitled to a lunch break of not less than 40 minutes, free of supervision, teaching, or other duties (**Collective Agreement Article L17.04**).
- **Education Act Regulation 298, Operation of Schools, Section 20(f), Duties of Teacher**, requires all Teachers to have a daybook. This should be up to date and accessible. The daybook should be a clear and concise outline of daily learning.

**“The collective agreement is the rule book, not a guidebook.”**

- The use of digital platforms (Bright Space/Google) should be determined by the Teacher, using professional judgement, which would align with pre-pandemic practice of long standing.
- ETFO TVTL and TVDSB recognize the value of extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities are voluntary (**Collective Agreement Article L17.08**). Teachers cannot be assigned to use extracurricular activities as supervision time.
- Sick day allocations will be provided on the first day of each school year (**Collective Agreement Article C 6.1**). Teachers have access to sick days, even though the Board, once again, failed to comply with the provisions of the Collective Agreement.

Questions? Need more information? Call the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Office (519-474-3150) We are here to help.

### **Upcoming Events**

- October 5 Mass Member Meeting/Strike Vote – Budweiser Gardens

### **Communication Protocol**

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, September 18 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 you do. Enjoy the weekend.

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)