

**To:** ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members  
**From:** Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)  
**Date:** March 10, 2023  
**Regarding:** **Weekly Update (22)**

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March Break is upon us. Huzzah!

### **Collective Bargaining Update**

ETFO TVTL and TVDSB met on Wednesday to discuss local bargaining ground rules. Proposed local bargaining date, for March through to the end of June, have been shared and will be confirmed shortly.

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.

### **Violence in Schools**

In February there were 703 reported incidences of violence in schools.

Teachers are reminded that the deadline to complete the ETFO Provincial All-Member Violence Survey has been extended to March 22.

The ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local continues to push for the creation of a Provincial Anti-Violence Action Plan to address the issue of violence in elementary schools.

### **Ontario Court of Appeal Decision**

The Ontario Court of Appeal issued a majority (2 to 1) decision striking down the Ford government's restrictions on election ads when it amended the *Election Finances Act* in 2021. This Court decision says the provincial government's change to the limits on third-party elections spending violated Section 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, which protects the "right to meaningful participation in the electoral process" and is not subject to the notwithstanding clause.

A link to the Ontario Court of Appeal ruling accompanies this update.

### **ETFO Provincial EQAO Advisory**

A link to the ETFO Provincial EQAO Advisory for Teachers accompanies this update.

### **Long Term Leave of Absence Without Pay**

Teachers are reminded that requests for long term leaves of absence without pay must be received by the Board by March 15.

## Communication Protocol

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, March 19, 2023 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 a safe, peaceful, and well-deserved break.

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

c. *ETFO TVTL Released Officers*  
*Terry Card, President, ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teacher Local*  
*Elizabeth Kettle, ETFO Provincial CB Staff Officer*