

To: ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members
From: Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)
Date: April 8, 2022
Regarding: Weekly Update (29)

There are 55 days until the provincial general election.

Wear **Red 4 Ed** on **Fridays**.

Advice from Public Health Units

Both the Middlesex-London Health Unit and Southwest Public Health strongly recommend wearing masks while in public indoor spaces.

Teachers are encouraged to follow public health recommendations.

The Government of Ontario should implement a mass rapid rollout of fourth vaccine boosters, made readily available to those who choose to receive them.

School Closures

TVDSB has temporarily closed two (2) schools to in person learning and pivoted them to online learning. It has been made clear to the powers that be, and the media, that these closures are the result of teacher absences caused by COVID-19 and **not** because of deliberately chronic staff absenteeism.

Collective Agreement Highlight – Administrator Assignments

Effective January 2021, the Board will provide the Local with the Administrator assignments for the following September school year by May 1 (Collective Agreement Article L40.01, Administrator Assignments). This is new collective agreement language secured in the last round of local bargaining.

Political Action

Teachers will note that the Political Call to Action on the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local website now includes links to the following:

- Elections Ontario.
- Websites of political parties currently represented in the legislative assembly.
- ETFO Provincial's Building Better Schools platform.

EQAO (May 19 - June 2, 2022)

At the April staff meeting the Board presented a slide show related to EQAO. Within that slideshow there was reference to timelines, some sample questions, and links to further training. ETFO initiated discussions with the Board holding the stance that if training is required to administer and deliver EQAO the employer should provide this time and not expect teachers to undertake this on their own personal time. To this end the Board has committed more time dedicated to EQAO training to occur at the May staff meeting. The Board indicates that this training time will be sufficient for a Teacher to be able to administer and deliver the EQAO program without the Teacher having to commit to participating in or viewing any other

webinars/videos etc. ETFO recognizes the value of the precious commodity of time. Teachers are thanked for all their hard work and ongoing support of student learning.

Communication Protocol

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m.

It is the duty of the Local to:

- Defend the **Collective Agreement** and the rights of Teachers under it.
- Ensure that the provisions of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act** are vigorously 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.

Stay well and have a good weekend.

For more information regarding this **Communiqué**, please contact the Local office by email at 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