

To: ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members
From: Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)
Date: November 3, 2023
Regarding: **Weekly Update (9)**

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).

Remembrance Week November 5-11

A link to the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Remembrance Day Communiqué accompanies this update.

There are also links to the Government of Canada/Veterans Affairs and Royal Canadian Legion websites.

To all ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members who make the act of remembrance an important part of what is done in all schools and our communities, a heartfelt thank you. The work you do with students helps to ensure that we will continue to remember those who have given so much.

Unfilled Vacancies

There appears to be an uptick in unfilled vacancies. Here is the basic order to cover vacancies:

- TVARRIS should continue to call out for Occasional Teachers throughout the day.
- Principal/Vice Principal provide coverage until the Occasional Teacher arrives.
- Itinerant LTOs should be deployed (there are very few of these now).
- Non-classroom teachers reassigned (last resort).

None of this is ideal. The ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local continues to push the Board to resolve this issue by ensuring there are an adequate number of OCT Certified ETFO TVOT Occasional Teachers to cover absences where and when they occur.

Preparation Time

Teachers are reminded that they are assigned a minimum of 240 minutes of preparation time per cycle of five (5) instructional days. Preparation time shall be used for professional purposes **as determined by the Teacher**. Preparation time shall be free from **supervisory, teaching, or other assigned duties**.

Missed preparation time shall be rescheduled within twenty (20) instructional days.

Teachers are further reminded to report all violations of the Collective Agreement to the ETFO Local Office.

TVDSB Inclement Weather/Emergency School Closure Learning Days

A link to ETFO's response to TVDSB's Inclement Weather/Emergency School Closure Learning Days memo accompanies this update.

Upcoming Events

- November 7 Get Unstuck Workshop
- November 14 New Teacher Event
- November 15 ETFO TVTL General Meeting – Hellenic Centre

Communication Protocol

Teachers are reminded that the **Communication Protocol** remains in effect, **from** Friday, November 3 at 6:00 p.m. **until** Sunday, November 5 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