

OUR SIDE OF THE TABLE – May 30

From: The Vernon Teachers' Association Negotiating Team

At the table for these meetings:

VTA: Barry Dorval, Lisa LaBoucane (spokespersons and lead negotiators), Cori Huizer, Chris Brandle

Management: Tammy Sowinski (spokesperson and lead negotiator from BCPSEA), Malcolm Reid, Sterling Olsen, Erica Schmidt (observer)

The teams met today for a full day of bargaining.

Items dealt with include:

The withdrawal of F.28 Fundraising and Collection of Monies by the union. This is a result of the employer not recognizing that this is voluntary work.

Discussion of E.27 Staff Orientation, E.23 Principal and Vice Principal Selection, A.24 Staff Representatives, and E.26 Personnel Files.

Signed off items:

F.27 Professional Relations Committee. The language has been slightly improved in that the work of the committee is more actionable as they now have the formal ability to make recommendations to the district.

A.33 Right to Representation. Modest improvements here as well. Formal recognition that teachers have the right to suspend a meeting to seek advice from the union.

D.29 Health and Safety. Obligation on part of the board to make measures to address problems and act in compliance with WorkSafe regulations.

Moving forward, other than Post and Fill, there are only 4 more articles on the table. Locally, we are close to dealing with all items except Post and Fill (including C.20 Employment on Continuing Contract and any other provincial article that it would affect). Both sides will spend the next session on Monday in caucus independently and reflect on options with C.20 and related articles. Face to face bargaining resumes June 10.

Table tone continues to be respectful and productive.