



TALKING POINTS February Council, 2019

Please note that Talking Points are intended only to assist you in your PTTA report. Feel free to add any information from the meeting you think is important to share with your staff.

1. **Collective Bargaining**

PTTA and the school board met February 12th where the board presented its opening package. More meetings are being scheduled. Even though there are meetings taking place, we are continuing on our path to arbitration as well, with dates to be determined soon. Legislation regarding Provincial Collective Bargaining is slated to be introduced by the government in March after the budget, which will be presented in the Legislature on March 7, 2019.

2. **MTS Priority Issues Update**

MTS has released a series of updates on the MTS positions on what it considers the priority issues facing the Society today. Each update describes the issue, states the MTS position on the issue and outlines what you as a member can do to help. Every member has been emailed a copy of the update. The update is also available on the PTTA website.

3. **Education Review**

The Education Review Commission is now taking written submissions. Dates for online surveys and face to face meetings are being worked on. PTTA will inform you when these options become available.

4. **Draft School Division Budget**

The overall budget for 2019 – 2020 has increased by 6 million dollars over last year. The division is projecting an enrollment increase of about 400 students. In the last 3 years, the enrollment in the division has increased by 1300 students. The draft budget calls for an increase of 36.3 FTE teachers and a decrease of 1.5 EA's.

5. **Employee Benefits**

- Staff will be asked to give their opinion on whether we should be considering a vision option in our insurance plan.
- Teacher total sick days are tallied on the lower right-hand corner of their pay stub.
- The \$850 yearly maximums for benefits such as massage and chiropractic services are for **each** service and not a total for those services combined.

6. **Spotlight on PD**

Jerrold Wiebe spotlighted the online math training that 20 teachers participated in with the support of SDC over the course of 6 evenings. Participants reported a positive impact in their classrooms. The math workshop was chosen as it focused on inquiry and sparking curiosity and it centered on the teacher as decision-maker.

If anyone wishes to share their PD experiences for Spotlight on PD, please contact Debra Morrissey at pttavp@mymts.net

7. Notice of Call for Nominations

Nominations are now open for PTTA Executive. All positions are open for nominations except President which is a two-year term. Interested members can contact Dan Mitchell (pttapastp@mymts.net) with your name and position that you are interested in before March 1st. After March first, members can still be nominated in writing with the signatures of ten members. The final deadline for nominations is March 15th.

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