



## **TALKING POINTS**

**October Council, 2018**

*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**

Lise gave an update and timeline from the start of the bargaining round up to the current date. As stated last month, PTTA has declared an impasse in our current round of negotiations with the school board. As a result, PTTA has initiated the steps necessary to move to arbitration. This does not stop PTTA from meeting with the board to discuss negotiations while the arbitration process is in effect.

### **2. Government Actions**

MTS President Norm Gould will be meeting with new Education Minister Kelvin Goertzen in early November to discuss education in Manitoba. There is no word yet as to when legislation will be introduced that will allow the move to Provincial Bargaining for teachers or of any possible school division mergers. The government will be launching its Comprehensive Education Review in January and has now indicated that it may extend for a full year rather than the 6 months initially stated. The review will cover funding of schools, as well as school boundaries, and curricula. Members are advised to keep a close watch on the Throne Speech when the new session of the legislature starts in November. The Throne Speech usually indicates what the government will try to accomplish in the session. Any indications of upcoming changes to education that will happen soon are likely to be mentioned in the speech.

### **3. Contact Time Logs**

Teachers will be receiving a link to our Contact Time Survey in early November. The survey will be done online and will take less than 10 minutes to complete. The survey can be done from any computer/tablet. Please take the time to complete the survey. The information you provide is very important to us for discussions with Senior Admin, the School Board and for Bargaining.

### **4. Class sizes**

Please be sure to report your class sizes when you fill in the contact time logs this year. This information is important to have when we meet with the Senior Admin and Board representatives at our BACE meetings.

### **5. MTS Poll**

MTS has contracted Probe Research to conduct a random poll of our members. If you are contacted to participate please be assured that the poll is legitimate and authorised by MTS. Your participation is up to you.

### **6. Resignation Dates**

November 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for teachers to submit their resignation if you wish to leave your position or retire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Teachers who work in schools with two semesters who wish to continue to the end of January are advised to contact Elaine Egan to ensure that their request can be met. The deadline of November 30<sup>th</sup> remains the same however.

### **7. Joint PD Fund**

We urge all teacher to consider making use of the joint PD fund this year. The fund currently has a balance of about \$725,000 that we would like to make sure ends up in the hands of our teachers for autonomous PD opportunities.