

Issue 1

September 2005



SURREY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

TOC NEWS

Dear Teachers,

Teacher on Call. Substitute. Stand-in. Chameleon. Stunt Double. By now some of you might be asking yourself, "What have I signed up for? 5:30 wake up calls? A different school everyday? P.E. 9? Did I take another teachers' parking spot? chair? coffee cup? Whether you are a rookie or a seasoned veteran, I hope this September has been a good one for you.

This is a great year in terms of work. There were fewer lay-offs at the end of last year and HR has been busy placing those teachers into positions. If you have checked out the "blue and yellow pages" recently, you will have seen the high number of contracts. What an optimistic outlook compared to the past few years.

This is also a great year to get involved. The TOC Committee needs you. If you enjoy helping out your fellow TOCs, keeping TOCs informed, organizing Professional Development workshops for TOCs, speaking up about TOC issues, writing newsletter articles, and getting first hand information, please put your name forward to be elected at the October 6 meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to put your name forward email me on First Class. You are also invited to attend STA and STARA meetings, and Professional Development activities offered by the District. If you regularly teach at a school, ask the administrator if you could join in the school's Pro-D. Every year Surrey sends delegates to the BCTF Annual General Meeting. If you like meeting teachers from across the province and getting more involved in the BCTF, I encourage you to attend. It's in the spring but I wanted to get it in the back of your mind early. Information on elections will be in the next newsletter.

I look forward to working with you this year. If you have any questions please call me at the STA Office on Tuesdays, 3:00-4:00.

Sincerely,
Elise Rozander

Important Websites:

Surrey Teachers' Association	www.surreyteachers.org
B.C. Teachers' Federation	www.bctf.ca
Surrey School District	www.sd36.bc.ca
CISC Teachers' Centre	www.sd36.bc.ca/sites/cisc/Teachercentre.html



You are invited to attend the following upcoming STA meetings:

<i>General /STARA Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, Sept. 28, 3:30-6:00</i>	<i>EagleQuest Golf Centre</i>
<i>TOC Meeting</i>	<i>Thursday, Oct. 6, 4:00-6:00</i>	<i>District Conference Centre</i>
<i>STARA Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, Oct. 19, 3:30-6:00</i>	<i>District Conference Centre</i>
<i>General Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, Nov. 16, 3:30-4:00</i>	<i>District Conference Centre</i>
<i>TOC Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, Nov. 23, 4:00-6:00</i>	<i>District Conference Centre</i>
<i>STARA Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, Dec. 14, 3:30-6:00</i>	<i>District Conference Centre</i>

TOC Meetings / Workshops

Thursday, October 6, 2005

4:00 to 6:00 pm

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

District Conference Centre - Room #1
9260 - 140 Street, Surrey

4:00 - Welcome and Food and Prizes

4:15 - Union Update

John Wadge, STA President

4:30 - Election of the TOC Committee

4:45 - Classroom Management & the TOC

Kevin Fadum, V.P., David Brankin

A time to talk about the realities of TOCing: in one day and out the next. Bring your scenarios and crazy situations and find practical ways to do more than just "get through the day."



6:00 - Adjournment

**RSVP FirstClass to
Cindy Tierney, Donna Stewart, or
Lorna Sheh**

Wednesday, November 23, 2005

4:00 to 6:00 pm

TOC RESUME & INTERVIEW TIPS

District Conference Centre - Room #1
9260 - 140 Street, Surrey

4:00 - Welcome and Food and Prizes

4:15 - Union Update

4:45 - Career Development

Interview questions and resume hints from Surrey
Principals: Elementary and Secondary

6:00 - Adjournment

*Watch for updates on
the TOC boards*

Professional Development Funds

You are eligible to access up to \$150 in funds for various Professional Development opportunities. This is on a first come first served basis. Check out www.surreyteachers.org /TOC Committee for the application form and list of what the money is allowed to go towards. Remember: you must have worked twenty days in the previous three months in Surrey. You don't count July and August as part of the three months. Apply for funds before the conference. The form will be returned to you saying whether or not you were approved. After you have received the original receipt, send it in with the application that had been returned to you.

TOC Issues

At the BCTF Summer Conference, one hot TOC topic we discussed was Call-out procedures. There are a number of different kinds. In Surrey we have preferential, or request, and rotational. Some districts have only rotational. In some districts they have call-out based on number of days worked in the district. Others have one based on date hired. The BCTF's stand is that districts should move away from the request system. Last year *Teacher* magazine had a fantastic article about it. What do you think? What do you see as the top issues facing Surrey TOCs? Are there things you would like to see changed or added?



Don't let TOCing become an isolating experience.

Come to meetings

Join the listserv

Talk to other TOCs in the schools you go to

You are invited to write an article for

The Examiner or *Teacher* magazine

or even this TOC newsletter.

Reminders from Debbie Anderson:

- ◆ Supplementary Assignment = either a vacant position or possibly floating in the school while the staff meet
- ◆ Web-Connect Log-in is your last name and your employee number
- ◆ Inform Subfinder when you are and are not available to work
- ◆ You do not have to make yourself available on Saturdays and Sundays in order for the system to call you on weekends
- ◆ If you pick up a 1/2 day and you want to work the other half of the day call the dispatcher
- ◆ We only have one district wide Pro-D day, usually the first Friday in May
- ◆ Call Debbie Anderson (604-599-7446) to check your records and make sure there are no errors.
- ◆ Leave your phone on even after you accepted a job - it could be changed

HELPFUL HINTS FOR TOCs

- ◆ Be punctual (the earlier the better)
- ◆ Visit staffrooms while on assignment
- ◆ Dress professionally
- ◆ Wear your ID badge
- ◆ Introduce yourself *before* you get asked: "And who are you today?"
- ◆ Talk to staff reps or neighboring teachers if you have any questions or concerns
- ◆ Network by leaving your business card on teachers' desks; leave the TOC board clear for notices and other important information for TOCs in the school
- ◆ Visit different schools to introduce yourself
- ◆ Attend conferences and workshops
- ◆ CISC (Curriculum and Instructional Services Centre): teaching materials (one free per visit), laminate (book ahead for ten free minutes per visit), and use computers.
- ◆ Looking for a contract? Check out www.sd36.bc.ca (job opportunities), or look for the blue and yellow bulletins in staffrooms.
- ◆ Check your pay stub - sometimes a job won't be there if there is a discrepancy call (Kathy Fournier - payroll 604-599-7449)
- ◆ If injured on the job file, file, file a WCB form, found in the school office

Remember that there are many ways TOCs can stay informed

TOC Hotline 604-592-8396

TOC Website www.surreyteachers.org

TOC Newsletter (mailed to TOCs)

TOC Bulletin Boards in staffrooms

TOC Listserv - virtual staffroom for TOCs

*(to register, e-mail Elise at rozander_e@fc.sd36.bc.ca
with e-mail address, employee number and full name)*

First Class

Be sure to activate your account.

It's a great way to find out about after school Pro-D.

1. www.sd36.bc.ca
2. click on Surrey Net
3. click on SurreyNet Login
4. user name is your last name underscore first initial (ex. johns_s) If you have a common name then try last name underscore full first name (ex. sara_johns) Password = last 2 digits of your Social Insurance Number period employee number (XX.XXXXX)

