Distribution of this Bulletin: Please ensure this bulletin is circulated to all administrative staff in both the district office and schools as appropriate.

COVID-19: Issues and Resources

NOTE: The information and advice in this bulletin is subject to review and amendment as matters related to COVID-19 continue to evolve.

Post-April Employment and Compensation Continuity

From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, public sector employers have been working within direction issued in March by the provincial government with respect to employment and compensation continuity for the months of March and April.

BCPSEA has today received direction from the Public Sector Employers’ Council (PSEC) Secretariat with respect to continuity of employment and pay for the post-April period (attached). This direction is applicable to the broader public sector, including the K-12 public education sector.

When determining the school district’s approach, we recommend consideration of the following guidelines:

1. Determine what work is required to be done.
2. Liaise with your local union to discuss the assigning of staff for that work.
3. Determine if any additional meaningful work can be found for staff who have not otherwise been deployed/assigned.
4. Engage in discussion with your local union to determine placement of the individuals who will not be working; for example, unpaid leave vs. layoff, sick leave, vacation leave or, in rare circumstances, special paid leave.

Questions

BCPSEA is working within a coordinated framework with organizations across the broader BC public sector facilitated by the Public Sector Employers’ Council (PSEC) Secretariat and the Ministry of Education. Please contact your BCPSEA labour relations liaison with any questions on how to apply the above-referenced guidelines and provincial government direction in the context of the district’s specific circumstances.

Attachment: Letter from PSEC Secretariat dated April 27, 2020