

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Public school employers ratify collective agreement with the BC Teachers' Federation

VANCOUVER – “The BC Public School Employers’ Association (BCPSEA) is pleased to announce that the province’s public boards of education have ratified the Provincial Collective Agreement reached with the BC Teachers’ Federation (BCTF) on March 26,” said Alan Chell, Chair of the BCPSEA Board of Directors.

“BC’s public school districts have now successfully concluded collective bargaining with both our unionized support staff and unionized teachers under the provincial government Sustainable Services Bargaining Mandate,” said Chell.

The proposed agreement, achieved with the assistance of mediator David Schaub, is for a three-year term July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022. The agreement includes general wage increases of 2% on July 1 in each year of the agreement; a 1% increase to the top step of the teacher salary grid in each district effective July 1, 2020; an increase to the starting rate for teachers in a contract position; and a one-time amount of \$12 million to provide mentorship opportunities for early career teachers.

In addition, during the term of the collective agreement and with the assistance of a mediator appointed by the Labour Relations Board, the parties will engage in a process under section 53 of the *Labour Relations Code*, which will include discussion of the bargaining structure.

“We hope that the process established under this agreement will facilitate more productive discussions at the bargaining table in the next round,” said Chell.

“The Board also wants to recognize the integral contributions of all public school system employees, particularly during our current challenges in providing education continuity for our students during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Chell. “BC is known for its high quality and high performing public school system, and we appreciate the efforts of our employees, students, and their parents who are working hard to ensure every student is able to finish the year as positively and successfully as possible.”

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BCPSEA is the accredited bargaining agent for the province’s 60 public boards of education.

For more information and to arrange an interview with Alan Chell, please contact:

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