

BCPSEA Files Report Card Application at Labour Relations Board Today

BCPSEA filed an application this afternoon with the Labour Relations Board (LRB) regarding the difficulties that school districts are experiencing in obtaining student marks and refusals to prepare report cards.

With the cooling-off period and the 2006-2011 collective agreement currently in effect, teachers must resume any activities that are a normal requirement of the job. The BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) "Bill 22 Action Plan" includes a resolution to agree to write only a year-end report card and advises that BCTF members will not complete report cards for courses completed during the strike with the exception of marks required for graduation. Many locals of the BCTF have also informed districts that teachers will not prepare report cards or enter marks in the usual manner.

Now that the BCTF strike has ended it is important that students, parents, and administrators have access to reports on student achievement prior to the end of the school year. Such reports are necessary for a number of reasons, including providing effective intervention and resources for students who are struggling; assisting with appropriate planning for summer school and the 2012-2013 school year; and determining proper referrals to services for students who are at risk or have special needs or requirements.

BCPSEA's application is filed under Part 5 of the *Labour Relations Code*, which prohibits strikes during the term of a collective agreement. In our view, the advice of BCTF and its locals to teachers to continue to refuse to submit marks and/or to produce report cards amounts to the declaration of strike action contrary to the *Labour Relations Code* and the *Public Education Labour Relations Act*.

BCPSEA is asking the LRB to issue various orders and declarations including that the BCTF immediately rescind any and all directions or advice to members to refuse to submit marks in the ordinary manner, prepare report cards, or mark assignments. We have asked the LRB to convene a hearing into this matter on Monday, April 16, 2012.

We will provide further information as events progress.

Questions

Please contact your [labour relations liaison](#) if you have any questions or concerns.