

Class Size Update

Reminder: Schools Operating Under the Semester System

This past summer the Class Size Regulation was amended to include a definition of "consult" for the purposes of the class size provisions under the *School Act*. The term "consult" in those sections is now defined in section 1(4) of the Regulation to mean:

- (a) *provision by the principal of a school to the teacher of a class with*
 - i. *information relevant to a proposal for the size and organization of the class, and*
 - ii. *2 school days before a decision is made respecting the size and organization of the class for the teacher to consider the proposal and provide the principal with the teacher's views in that regard, and*
- (b) *consideration by the principal of the teacher's views, if any have been provided, and "consulted" has a similar meaning.*

We want to remind districts for those schools operating under a semester system that the requirements of subsections (2.1) to (2.3) of the *School Act* apply throughout the year and to the classes that are starting up in the second semester. The consultation process, and requirements of the *School Act* and Regulations in this regard, should be consistent with that followed in September.

In order to assist districts with its implementation, please refer to:

@issue 2008-11 <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/access/publications/aissue/2008/ai2008-11.pdf>

@issue 2008-12 <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/access/publications/aissue/2008/ai2008-12.pdf>

Grievance and Arbitration Update

The most recent *Grievance and Arbitration Update* discussing the 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 provincial grievances (No. 2009-02), was distributed via e-mail to districts on January 20, 2009 and can also be found on the BCPSEA teacher issues members only website.

Class Size and Composition Background

BCPSEA has also prepared a backgrounder reviewing the history of legislative changes related to class size and related arbitral decisions. The backgrounder can be accessed on our public website at <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/access/media/backgrounder/backgrounder.html>.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact either Brian Chutter (brianc@bcpsea.bc.ca; 604.730.4520) or Stephanie Tassin (stephaniet@bcpsea.bc.ca; 604.730.4521).