



BURNABY TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
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# Report From Henning Drive

## MASKS

Since the recent announcement of a province wide K-12 mask mandate, we know many members have questions and concerns. If you have specific questions don't hesitate to contact the BTA Office.

This link provides full details on the mask wearing guidelines: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/.../k-12-covid-19-health-safety...>

Helpful reminders for the K-12 mask mandate:

- No student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask
- Schools can support students to practice personal preventive measures by:
  - Having staff model these behaviours.
  - Sharing reliable information, including from the BC Centre for Disease Control and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, to parents, families and caregivers.
  - Promoting safety measures in the school through the use of visual aids like floor markings and signage.
- Staff should utilize positive and inclusive approaches to engage students in preventive practices and should not employ measures that are punitive or stigmatizing in nature
- Staff should also utilize a trauma-informed lens when planning school activities (e.g. gatherings and events) and interacting with other staff and students, including considerations around respecting others personal space
- Students and staff may choose to wear face shields or other personal protective equipment in schools beyond the required circumstances outlined in this document, and those choices must be respected.
- School administrators are encouraged to review the information in this section with their school community, to increase awareness and support from staff, students and families.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Pro-D Contacts Networking & Training Day  
October 14
- General Meeting & Rep Assembly  
October 19

### BTA Office Hours

8 am - 4:30 pm

604-294-8141

[bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)



## COVID LEAVE

Colleagues there are three options for COVID Leave in the district ADS:

### 1. COVM (COVID-19 Medical):

This is for staff attending a COVID-19 related appointment. You are to log the absence in the Atrieve (ADS) as absence code COVM. This code should only be used if a staff member is attending a COVID-19 testing appointment. The COVM code pulls from the staff member's sick bank.

### 2. COVI (COVID-19 Illness):

This is for staff needing to stay home because they are COVID-19 positive (symptomatic). Staff should advise their Administrator/Manager and log the absence in the Atrieve (ADS) using absence code COVI. This code should only be used if a staff member has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and should be used until the staff member has been cleared to return to work. The COVI code pulls from the staff member's sick bank.

### 3. PLCV (Paid Leave - COVID):

This is for Staff needing to stay home because they are COVID-19 positive but are asymptomatic (are able to work) or directed by a public health official (not by 8-1-1 or a physician) to self-isolate due to potential exposure to COVID-19 and are asymptomatic. Staff should advise their Administrator/Manager and log the absence in Atrieve (ADS) using absence code PLCV (Paid Leave - COVID). The paid leave code does not require you to use sick days.

BTA members, please call your Administrator/Manager if you are using the PLCV code.

## REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT

From September 27 until November 5, the government is inviting teachers, parents, and the public to share feedback on the draft K-12 Student Reporting Policy. Teachers reaction to the proposed changes are critical. Teachers are experts on assessment and reporting and our voices need to be heard. Teachers are strongly encouraged to participate in providing feedback to government on this important issue.

An updated policy is expected to be released in January 2022, to be implemented at the start of the 2022–23 school year.

The following points may be of interest to you as you consider your feedback.

1. Teachers will be required to provide “learning updates” on student learning, in all subject areas, five times per year (three of these reports must be written).
2. The first update must be provided within in the first 25% of the learning period for a particular subject or course.
3. All updates on student learning must include student-generated content.
4. K–9 updates must use the provincial proficiency scale/Grade 10–12 must use grades and percentages and may also use the proficiency scale.
5. The Ministry is replacing the current “I” (incomplete) grade with a new ‘IE’ (insufficient evidence) grade.

As professionals and experts in learning and assessment, you care deeply about how teachers report about student progress to families. Further, this new order may impact your workload. It's critical that the Ministry of Education hear directly from teachers. You can provide feedback through this link <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/studentreporting/> on this new policy.

Thank you for all you continue to do for public education.

## TOC CORNER

Did you know....

That we will have our first TOC town hall on October 27th. We will send out the link closer to the date.

### BTA Contacts

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Health & Safety Chair

#### BTA Office

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## FSA CAMPAIGN WEBPAGE IS NOW ACTIVE

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is a divisive and unhelpful standardized test that takes away from valuable classroom learning time and worsens existing inequities. The BCTF has created several campaign materials to help teachers and parents learn more about the FSA. Visit the new [FSA webpage](#) to access the BCTF's statement on the FSA, links to the withdrawal form, videos from BCTF President Teri Mooring, and commentary from teachers on why we oppose the FSA.

You can also sign and share [this petition](#) to show your support for cancelling the FSA.

## ANTI-RACIST BOOK CLUB

### Is Everyone Really Equal? An Anti-racist Bookclub

How do you define racism? What does it mean to be anti-racist? What is white supremacy? How you define this language can affect your interactions and your ability to navigate a changing world. Start the journey with us as we explore our understanding of these concepts through the book, "Is Everyone Really Equal?" by Ozlem Sensoy and Robin Diangelo. A copy will be provided for all participants.

Our meetings will be virtual from 4:00 – 5:00 the following Thursdays: November 25, January 13, March 31, May 12.

If you are interested in coming aboard, sign up by sending your name and email address to [bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)

## ANTI RACISM DATA LEGISLATION

Until November 30th British Columbians are invited to participate in a government survey on racism. The data from this survey will help government learn about the gaps and barriers BIPOC communities face in relation to systemic racism. The government website explains, "We know that systemic racism exists in policies and programs, and this has a negative impact on people and communities. This legislation will ensure that services are delivered equitably and allow communities to better advocate for themselves."

The BTA is encouraging colleagues that identify as BIPOC to fill in this survey (<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism/data/>) at their earliest convenience.

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THE PROVINCIAL PRO-D DAY, OCTOBER 22ND?

If you still haven't found a calling, try heading here ([www.psaday.ca](http://www.psaday.ca)) for some ideas. The Provincial Specialist Associations have put together some wonderful workshops in a wide array of topics. These associations are run by teacher volunteers. If you have not considered joining one before, think about it this year. The funds you spend on supporting the association go into providing you with strong presenters at their conferences and curriculum development in their area of specialty.

## TEACH BC RESOURCE

Colleagues, the school district has shared with us that they will be engaging members in discussions regarding ShareEd BC. Information regarding ShareEd BC can be found here <https://www.shareedbc.ca/>. The BCTF has discussed many concerns regarding this platform with the ministry of education. Of primary concern is the corporatization of resources. In response the BCTF created Teach BC (<https://www.bctf.ca/classroom-resources>) where teachers can find resources developed by colleagues from across the province. As well, you can share resources by uploading them to the website. We encourage you to share TeachBC in your school communities and in teacher networks you participate in.