

OCTOBER 2022

# REPORT to CSBA

*Report to the Canadian School Boards Association*

## Local Elections

On October 15, over 150 new school trustees were elected. They will be joining boards of education across B.C. along with approximately 250 returning trustees, according to the association's analysis of preliminary election results. As the majority of elected trustees were incumbents, B.C.'s boards of education will retain steady leadership moving forward. Some noteworthy changes included the election of B.C.'s first openly transgender school trustee and two trustees under 25.

BCSTA's efforts to attract more candidates in the months leading up to the election included publishing a guide for trustee candidates, a video and other resources aimed at increasing interest in school trustee elections and explaining the role of a trustee in a corporate board.

[Read our media release](#)

[Review the resources](#)

## Budget 2023 Feedback

B.C.'s provincial budget was released in February but fell short of covering increased education costs for districts. BCSTA advocated to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services on behalf of B.C.'s boards of education regarding their needs for the upcoming school year and followed up with a robust letter focused on the need for additional capital funding and new money for unfunded cost increases. BCSTA continues to work with the Ministry of Education and Childcare on the issue of surplus to ensure that the treasury board better understand district budgeting and reserves.

[Read the letter](#)

## BC Government News

B.C.'s government has made several commitments to support students and families in the province. BCSTA and our member boards of education, through our co-governance relationship with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, have advocated for and supported the work in these areas. We look forward to supporting their implementation and building upon these initiatives.

[Families will save big as child care fees cut as much as \\$550 more per month](#)

[New funding helps make back-to-school more affordable for families that need it most](#)

[New grad requirement ensures students expand their knowledge about Indigenous perspectives, histories, cultures](#)

## Member Resources

BCSTA continues to provide learning materials for its members. We are updating our members-only Learning Guide with two modules ready for download. Additional models will be made available through the fall as updates are completed.

[Communications, Engagement and Community Relations Development and Leadership](#)

## BCSTA Leadership Update

At the October 20 board meeting, BCSTA's board of directors elected Tracy Loffler as the association's interim vice-president, in accordance with BCSTA bylaw 4. The selection of an interim vice-president from within the board was required due to Tim Bennett not seeking re-election as a school trustee.

At BCSTA's February 24-25 Provincial Council meeting, provincial councillors will select a permanent vice-president. Councillors could also be tasked with voting on a replacement director should the position be filled by a current member of BCSTA's board.



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[bcsta.org](http://bcsta.org)

# New Trustee Orientation & Academy

BCSTA will offer a New Trustee Orientation as part of our upcoming Academy to support newly elected trustees.

BCSTA's New Trustee Orientation and Academy takes place December 1-3. The event features a wide variety of content to onboard new trustees and to help boards in their work of supporting student achievement. Guided by the theme "Better Boards, Brighter Futures," the event will provide networking and professional development opportunities for new and returning trustees as they start the new term.

[Learn more about Academy](#)

## Provincial Bargaining Update

The public sector unions continue to bargain in B.C. Out of the 400,000 public sector employees, more than 137,000 have tentative or ratified agreements reached under the Shared Recovery Mandate. The BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) and the K-12 Support Staff Presidents' Council successfully reached a Provincial Framework Agreement. This framework will assist union locals and the 60 districts in negotiating and ratifying their local agreements. The agreement term is three years, beginning July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025. July 1, 2022, will see an \$0.25 per hour wage increase plus an additional 3.24%. July of 2023 will see a 5.5% increase and up to 1.25% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), for a maximum of 6.75%. July 1, 2024, will add a 2% increase and up to a 1% COLA for a maximum of 3%. The BC Teachers Federation and the BC Public School Employers' Association remain at the bargaining table, with dates set to meet through the end of November.



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