



**NWTU**

# UNION NEWS

**October 2018**

## President's Message

*Eric Young*

With the theme song to "Welcome Back Kotter" playing on the radio on the first day of school, I was quickly reminded that for the first time in 18 years I wasn't going to be teaching. Despite starting my new job this summer, the first school week back required a bit of an adjustment period for me, as it did for many of you I'm sure! Personally, I missed my colleagues, but I especially missed the sights and sounds of being back at school.

As we end the first month of school I am reminded of the many changes and challenges our members' face. Even with our Supreme Court of Canada win, getting our class size and composition language fully implemented has been a challenge. Right now, despite best efforts, too many of our classrooms are still in violation of our contract language. Effected teachers will be offered monthly remedy; but let's be clear, this is not a long term solution. We also face teacher shortages not only here in New Westminster, but across the province. However, it seems that for the first time in forever we are in a position to start bargaining locally again, alongside the BCTF at the provincial bargaining table. Many of our local Collective agreement articles have not been improved since the early 90s, and there is a need for some improvements.

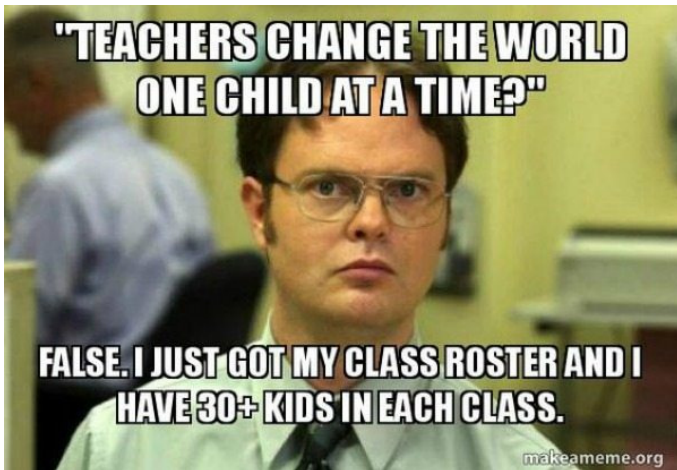
There is a lot of work to be done this year, and in my new role as your president I am looking forward to the challenge and working hard on your behalf. One of my first official duties will be welcoming our new members on Monday, October 1 at Herbert Spencer Elementary for our NWTU/BCTF Induction Ceremony.

Lastly, if you've ever been interested in getting more involved with our Union, please do, as we welcome all newcomers.

## Important Dates

- **October 1**  
New Member Induction Ceremony & District Teacher Mentorship Program Meeting  
3:30-5:00 @ Herbert Spencer Elementary
- **October 3**  
District Collaboration Day (pm)
- **October 8**  
Thanksgiving
- **October 9**  
NWTU Executive meeting – NWTU Office
- **October 10**  
NWTU Staff Rep training (SURT)
- **October 12-13**  
BCTF Zone Meeting
- **October 19**  
Provincial Pro-D Day
- **October 26-27**  
BCTF Bargaining Conference

# KNOW YOUR RESTORED CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION NUMBERS



## Specialist Teacher Ratios

With our restored language, this shouldn't happen – but if it does, you are owed remedy for every violation.

So what is the restored language surrounding class size and composition?

Kindergarten	20
K-1 20	20
Grades 1-3	22
Grades 1-3 split	22
Grades 1-3 multi-age	22
Grades 3-4 split	24
Grades 4-7	30
Grades 4-7 split	28
Grades 8-12	30
Shop classes, Home Ec., Lab Sciences, Computer	24
ELL 15	15
Band/Choir	30

## District Specialist Teacher Ratios

- a) Counsellors 1:535
- b) Teacher Librarians 1:702
- c) Learning Assistance Teachers 1:387
- d) Special Education Resource Teachers 1:342
- e) ELL (ESL) Teachers 1:61.4 (per funded ELL student)

Note:

c, d, & e are grouped together into a combined District wide ratio. These teachers are now called Learning Support Teachers (Resource and ELL).

## Class Composition Language

- If a student is designated as high incidence/low cost or low incidence/high cost, the class size limit will be reduced by 1 student.
- If there are 3 students with special needs enrolled, the class size will be reduced by 2 students.

---

*If your class is violation of these numbers after September 30, you are owed remedy. Please see a staff rep to find out more.*

---

Image taken from <https://www.weareteachers.com/back-to-school-memes-for-teachers/>

## Meet Your 2018-19 Executive

Position	Name	Site
President	<i>Eric Young</i> <a href="mailto:lp40@bctf.ca">lp40@bctf.ca</a>	NWTU Office
Vice President	<i>Glenn Bullard</i> <a href="mailto:glenn.bullard@gmail.com">glenn.bullard@gmail.com</a>	Virtual School
Vice President	<i>Sarah Wethered</i> <a href="mailto:sarahwethered@gmail.com">sarahwethered@gmail.com</a>	NWSS
Treasurer	<i>Rome Lavrencic</i> <a href="mailto:rlavrencic@shaw.ca">rlavrencic@shaw.ca</a>	NWSS
Recording Secretary	<i>D'Alise Marsh</i> <a href="mailto:dalicem@gmail.com">dalicem@gmail.com</a>	FRMS
Bargaining Chair	<i>Pat Dyer</i> <a href="mailto:pdyer@dccnet.com">pdyer@dccnet.com</a>	NWSS
Pro-D Chairs	<i>Leanne Ewen</i> <a href="mailto:lewen@shaw.ca">lewen@shaw.ca</a> <i>Kristie Oxley</i> <a href="mailto:oxleyk@live.com">oxleyk@live.com</a>	District District
Social Justice Chair	<i>Neesha Blajberg</i> <a href="mailto:neesha@shaw.ca">neesha@shaw.ca</a>	District
Health & Safety	<i>Eric Hartmann</i> <a href="mailto:hartofman@gmail.com">hartofman@gmail.com</a>	GMS
Local Reps	<i>Bruce McCloy</i> <a href="mailto:bmccloy@gmail.com">bmccloy@gmail.com</a> <i>Darryl Schelp</i> <a href="mailto:dschelp@telus.net">dschelp@telus.net</a>	NWSS Lord Kelvin
Alternative Local Rep	<i>Eric Young</i>	NWTU Office
TTOC Rep	<i>Katie Dittrich</i> <a href="mailto:kjdittrich@gmail.com">kjdittrich@gmail.com</a>	Lord Kelvin
Aboriginal Education Rep	<i>Mary Joanne Hunt</i> <a href="mailto:mjhunt@gmail.com">mjhunt@gmail.com</a>	NWSS
Political Action Contact	Vacant Position	Please contact the NWTU office.
Labour Council Rep	<i>Pat Dyer</i> <a href="mailto:pdyer@dccnet.com">pdyer@dccnet.com</a>	NWSS
Local Elections Contact	Vacant	Please contact the NWTU office.
Bargaining Advisory Committee	<i>Pat Dyer, Chair</i> <a href="mailto:pdyer@dccnet.com">pdyer@dccnet.com</a> <i>Neesha Blajberg</i> <a href="mailto:neesha@shaw.ca">neesha@shaw.ca</a> <i>Maureen Gilhespy</i> <a href="mailto:mgilhespy@telus.net">mgilhespy@telus.net</a> <i>Yves LaForest</i> <a href="mailto:yves_laforest@hotmail.com">yves_laforest@hotmail.com</a> <i>Bruce McCloy</i> <a href="mailto:bmccloy@gmail.com">bmccloy@gmail.com</a> <i>Darryl Schelp</i> <a href="mailto:dschelp@telus.net">dschelp@telus.net</a>	NWSS  District  Lord Kelvin  GMS  NWSS  Lord Kelvin