



Our Agency Connection— A Grove Perspective December 2019

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Dear Partners

As the 2019 year comes to a close we wanted the opportunity to share a couple of items that we will be focusing on in the new year.

Labour Action

As you are probably aware, negotiations between the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) and the province stalled last week. It was suggested by the mediators that the union representing Ontario high school teachers and the government take the holidays to consider their positions and meet up again in the new year. At this point, we have no new updates to share. It is important to keep in mind that the striking staff members are valuable members of our school and Board communities as well as our friends, colleagues and, in some cases, family. It is an expectation that we respect the process as well as the rights of the union represented employees.

Cell Phones

I have attached the memo from Georgette Davis, Superintendent of Education, Safe Schools/Mental Health & Well Being regarding use of cell phones at school.

Our Grove teachers are required to enforce this safe school directive as well as be a role model for students. We will be revisiting this expectation with our staff in January and would appreciate your support in directing agency staff to respect the Ministry of Education's direction, and be a positive role model in class by not using cell phones during the instructional day.

Transition of students

A smooth transition of students out of the Grove program is extremely important and could directly impact the future academic success of the student. We continue to work on a process that will allow for the sharing of information to ensure receiving schools are prepared adequately to support the needs of students transitioning back to mainstream schools. A special thanks to all our agency partners that give us advance notice of students being discharged or removed from treatment. It has allowed us to make the required arrangements to meet with all the stakeholders in a timely manner to discuss transition.

Student Attendance Management

School boards are responsible for keeping accurate records of enrolment and attendance. The full-time equivalent reported for a child or youth in an Education Program must be supported by timetables, education plans, and attendance records. Regulations regarding school attendance management requires that emerging attendance issues be identified and closely monitored by school administration. Prolonged absences without medical documentation can result in a student being removed from the register. Effort must be made to re-engage a student with prolonged absences within a 15 day period of consecutive absences.

GAC

The next Grove Advisory Council meeting will take place on Wednesday February 19, 2020 at Grove Central in the DASS HUB on the first floor. Please mark the date in your calendar.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season....Cheers

Growing with Grove