

Issue Session on Public Education, Safety, Professionalism, and COVID-19

That the BCTF, pursuant to the recent EC Motion regarding a government Planning Committee, Leadership Priorities for 2020-21, Policies 11.01, 9.A.01, 9.A.15 (#14), 9.A.17, 9.A.19, 9.A.25, 9.A.69, and Procedures 3.J.01, 9.A.02, 9.A.10, 9.A.34, that the BCTF organize an “Issue Session on Public Education, Safety, Professionalism, and COVID-19” that:

1. Includes participants who are BCTF members (or possible BCTF members) of the proposed Planning Committee and additional participants from a range of perspectives within the BCTF, especially any perspectives that are not expected to be formally represented on the proposed Planning Committee,
2. Helps prepare participants for their potential roles as representatives of the BCTF,
3. Identifies and helps develop strategies for pushing back on government actions that may increase teacher automation through the adoption of digital instructional platforms,
4. Develops professional guidelines for schools during COVID-19, based on teachers’ professional expertise that would adapt schools to COVID-19 while also providing individual students with accommodations without requiring major changes to the provision of public education, and addressing assessment and reporting issues, and
5. Ensures that the BCTF committee members have time to understand how COVID-19 plans will affect student health and well-being while at school, member health and safety, the BCTF’s policy commitments to racial justice and reconciliation, the BCTF’s policy commitments to meeting the needs of equity-seeking students, and any other professional or health and safety issues that are related to the pandemic.