

SECTA SAYS

South East Cornerstone Teachers' Association Bulletin
February, 2026

Dear Educators,

On behalf of the SECTA Executive, we wish you great start to the second semester of school! This year seems to be moving along at quite a pace.

At SECTA, we have some important deadlines coming up for members, so please take note of the information included in this month's bulletin. Our calendar committee has been busy preparing calendar drafts, which is a collaborative effort between our division and Holy Family. ♥ There is a lot of background work that goes into the calendar drafts, and our calendar vote will be coming out to members soon.

As a local association we are also busy preparing for provincial work. At the beginning of February, our Local Leadership Gathering and LINC "Lead the Change" training with the STF is coming up where we will have the opportunity to learn and collaborate with other locals. ♥ We have also been preparing a resolution for the STF Annual Meeting of Council which takes place this spring. Feedback sessions and town halls for Provincial Collective Bargaining have already started and it has been great to see so many of you involved in these. Please make sure to take part in these sessions as your input is very important!

As always, continue to stay up to date with information from your SSRs & SSLs as we continue to move forward this school year. Your voice matters. No questions are too big or too small. We look forward to connecting with all of you soon.



Whitney Paul-Joseph

SECTA President

Contact Information:

Redvers School / whitney.paul@secpsd.ca / (306)452-6161 ext. 6144
whitneydawnpaul@gmail.com / (306)861-2605



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 1 – SECTA Intern Scholarship Deadline
- 5 & 6 – STF Local Leadership Gathering
- 6 – STF Resolutions Due
- 7 – STF LINC Training
- 10 – PCBA Virtual Meeting
- 12 – PCBA Virtual Meeting

MARCH

- 5 – Director's Meeting
- 10 – SECTA Executive Meeting
- 13 – PD/Prep Day
- 27 – Day in Lieu

[STF Events Calendar](#)



South East Cornerstone
Teachers' Association



cornerstone teachers

REMINDER: February 15th Deadlines

SECPSD uses February 15th as a closing date for the following items:

- Leave Without Pay - Article 5.10
- Early Notification of Superannuation - Article 10.1.2
- Transition to Retirement – Article 10.2
- Education Leave - Article 11.1
- Bursaries - Article 11.2
- Transfers – Teacher Requested Transfer – Article 14
SECPSD Administrative Procedure 420
- Part-Time teacher request for contract increase

Above information was shared through each school's Principal.

Visual Land Acknowledgement

On behalf of SECTA, we are so incredibly honoured to present our SECTA Visual Land Acknowledgement.

We have been working with Indigenous artist, Emilee Steffensen from White Bear First Nation and Carlyle, SK to create this meaningful design that is near and dear to our hearts. As we walk this path of learning, connection, and community, this was but one way we could honour and support reconciliation while being stewards of this land.

We are all at different parts of our journey, but we invite you to see this artwork as a seed of inspiration. Our hope is that you can take this artwork as an opportunity to grow as a staff, to learn as an individual, and to create your own meaningful acknowledgement with words and actions that mean something near and dear to you. To foster reconciliation and reconcili-action in a good way.

The words and images you see before you are a collaboration of thoughts and feelings from our SECTA Executive that Emilee was able to capture in a beautiful design.
This process was an absolute honour to be a part of.



South East Cornerstone Teachers' Association respectfully acknowledges that we have schools on Treaty 2 and Treaty 4 territories, which are the traditional territories of the Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, Dakota, Lakota, and the Metis Nation.

We believe reconciliation begins with listening, learning, and acting together. As teachers, we have a unique role in helping students understand Canada's true history, while also celebrating the strengths, languages, and cultures of Indigenous Peoples.

Together, we are committed to creating safe and inclusive spaces for all students, staff, and community members, by honouring reconciliation in education.

May we gather in respect, trust, and friendship, and may our relationship with the land teach us to live, learn, and educate in meaningful ways with one another.

South East Cornerstone Teachers' Association

Advocacy and Engagement for our Members

www.cornerstoneteachers.ca



VISUAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our SECTA land acknowledgement will be shared with SSRs. You are invited to print it for your staffrooms, classrooms, and offices. ♥ The image without the wording will be shared as well for you to create your own land acknowledgment.



SECTA SAYS CONTEST

It's back! Please email whitney.paul@secpsd.ca by **February 13th** with the number of ♥ found in this bulletin for your chance to win a \$20 Amazon gift card. Congratulations to **Kyle Vibe** of **Pleasantdale School** for winning our January draw.

SECTA COMMUNICATIONS

If you have any congratulatory, get well, or sympathy events for cards to be sent on behalf of SECTA, please email whitney.paul@secpsd.ca



SK EMPLOYMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

As of January 1st, 2026, amendments to the employment standards provision of *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* came into effect. As teachers, "limiting when employers can request sick notes" is important to note.

Section 2-40-3: Restricting employers from asking for a sick note unless the employee has been absent for more than five consecutive working days or has been absent twice for two or more days in the preceding 12 months. This will reduce administrative burden for employers and the health care system.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2025/september/03/supporting-businesses-and-workers-through-amendments-to-employment-standards>

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2024/december/04/ensuring-modern-fair-and-balanced-employment-laws-that-support-economic-growth>

EMAIL PHOTO SETTINGS

Please remember to upload a photo to your school division Office 365 account. ♥ This helps all of us put faces to names when we use email communications.



Whitney Paul

Whitney.Paul@secpsd.ca

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"Advocacy and engagement for our members."