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K-12 Bargaining focuses on key issues

BURNABY—Representatives of the CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council Provincial Bargaining Committee continued provincial bargaining discussions with the BC Public School Employers' Association September 26 & 27 in Vancouver.

CUPE is engaged in these provincial discussions in an effort to seek respectful collective agreements for our 27,000 members who work in BC's schools and public education system.

Discussions at this latest round centered on several key areas for school support staff including:

- Job security protections to deal with school calendar changes, declining enrollment and future funding changes;
- Full recognition for the work of Education Assistants, highlighting the need to ensure collaboration in the implementation of Individual Education Plans (IEPs);
- Extending professional development opportunities for CUPE members across BC; and
- The potential impact of government plans for a shared payroll system.

The committee's next meeting with the employer is slated for Tuesday, October 4, in Richmond.

The CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council, with representatives of our 55 member K-12 locals is set to meet Wednesday, October 19. The Provincial Bargaining Committee will report out to local presidents and the group will discuss CUPE's provincial bargaining strategy.

You can read all of CUPE's bargaining updates at <http://bcschools.cupe.ca/>.