



## Bargaining continues, pivotal meeting ahead

The K-12 provincial bargaining committee met this week with their counterparts from the B.C. Public School Employers' Association for another three days of discussions.

Talks continued on a wide range of topics during face-to-face, safely distanced meeting.

Agreements were tentatively reached at the table on several non-monetary issues for a new provincial framework agreement.

Bargaining will resume with three more days of talks scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup> through to the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The K-12 committee expects this to be a pivotal phase of bargaining and are planning to tackle our significant monetary proposals.

The K-12 committee remains committed to reaching a deal at the table. From the start of this round, the K-12 bargaining committee has been clear that the top priority for K-12 school support workers is the need for wage increases that recognize the vital role they play in our communities. A renewed provincial framework agreement will greatly depend on advancement on this issue.

Following this next bargaining session with BCPSEA, the bargaining committee will be meeting with the K-12 Presidents Council to either ratify a tentative agreement or to discuss strategies for next steps in the bargaining process. Members should watch for that bulletin at [bcschools.cupe.ca](http://bcschools.cupe.ca), directly from your local, and on our social media - @cupek12bc.



***Bargaining in a pandemic has looked much different compared to previous rounds. Committee members have been following preventative measures – including masks, and physical distancing. While this has been challenging at times, these measures have kept committee members safe, and meeting have stayed productive.***

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