

# **NVTA Budget Priorities**

April 6, 2021



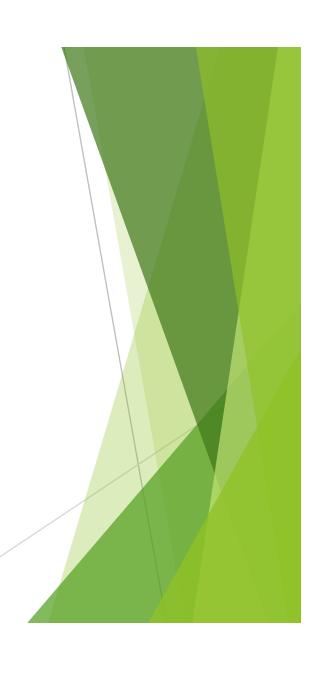
Resources
Professional Development Funds
Mentorship Coordinator

#### Resources

- ▶ A wide variety of updated resources are needed in schools.
- ► Teachers cannot reasonably find all the resources needed simply by searching the internet and those resources they can find are not the high quality, purpose-made, audience appropriate resources that can be purchased.
- Beyond the subject based lessons, updated resources support teachers to meaningfully incorporate important social justice learning (ex. Black History, Climate Justice, SOGI).

#### Resources

- ► Textbooks include extensive supports
- ▶ On-line resources
- ► Library books
- ► Classroom books
- ▶ Teacher Guides
- Resource kits locally developed
  - ► Subject specific
  - ► Issue Specific



## Professional Development Funds

- There has been no change to the Professional Development funds provided to teachers since 1996.
- ► The current level of PD funding provides considerably less than \$100 per teacher each year.
- ▶ Other districts augment PD funds to ensure teachers can access opportunities.
- ► The cost of PD opportunities has increased even more than simple inflation costs.

## Professional Development Funds

- In order for teachers to engage in meaningful professional development outside our District, they must spend hundreds of dollars of their own money.
- This makes attending workshops and other paid PD opportunities out of reach for many teachers.
- ► The district organizes learning opportunities for teachers but teachers also need to be able to participate in professional development that meet their personal goals for improvement and growth.

# Mentorship Coordinator

- ► In recent years, there has been a huge influx of new teachers.
- ► The Joint Mentorship Program has struggled in recent years to build on progress from year to year, exacerbated by the lack of a coordinator.
- Currently, all members of the committee are doing this work in addition to full time assignments.

# Mentorship Coordinator

- Many Metro Vancouver school districts have a mentorship coordinator whose focus is on building a structured mentorship program and supporting new teachers.
- Investing in mentorship now will support teachers and students for years to come as both new teachers and mentors benefit from participation in a strong mentorship program.
- Robust mentorship programs have also been shown to support teacher recruitment and retention.