

JUNE 2012

No.355



RTU-SER

Newsletter

**END OF YEAR**

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The end of the school year is fast approaching, and I'd like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Enjoy the summer!

**RTU EXECUTIVE**

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I'd like to thank Adam Velin for his loyalty and dedication to the RTU and wish him well as he discovers Japan next year! Good luck and enjoy your experience. As well, I would like to welcome Ramona Romanuk from St John's High School to our Executive as Secondary Representative for next year. Rounding out our Executive for next year are Tony McGuinness, our new Chair, Laurent Boulanger and Sylvia Hancheruk Dawson as our Elementary Representatives: Michel Gagnon, our Treasurer: and Terri Ann Pine, our other High School Representative, who will be on maternity leave as of September, but is ready to continue to support RTU throughout her leave. I wish you all the best and enjoy the time with your newborn!

**SURPLUS TEACHERS**

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This year, surplus was not as bad as in previous years. Everyone was placed, so there were no teachers non-reengaged or placed on availability. It even left room for more voluntary transfers to be granted.

**RESTRAINING STUDENTS**

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Should we, or shouldn't we, that is the question?  
Again this year, RTU is advising not to touch or restrain any of your students. This is due to the actions of the school board, if you are not trained in restraining – DON'T DO IT!

**RECALL LIST**

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The School Board will offer contracts on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012, in the usual manner, by telephone, so make sure the board has all available numbers for that day. We have asked for more transparency on this issue to no avail. Talks will continue.

**VALUE ADDED**

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This was the first year for the Value Added and with anything new, there are growing pains. This year, there was approximately \$57,000 to distribute to all teachers involved in extra-curricular activities. This year, each credit was worth \$3.23 each, which should be on your next pay. In the fall, we will provide better guidelines, as well as all activities from this year. Next year the money will be more significant, so keep up the great work, and don't forget Value Added is in addition to the compensation already in our Local Agreement.

**LOCAL  
NEGOCIATONS**

**LOCAL NEGOCIATIONS**

Local negotiations are on-going, and hopefully, we will reach an agreement by the end of June or early in the next school year. This means we will be having a General Meeting to ratify our agreement. Our biggest issue is Student Teacher money, which we hope to resolve amicably.

**LONG-TERM  
DISABILITY  
INSURANCE**

**LONG-TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE**

Teachers are reminded that if you are within two years of retirement, you may cancel your long-term disability coverage.

**THE SOUTH  
SHORE  
WOMEN'S  
CLUB**

**THE SOUTH SHORE WOMEN'S CLUB**

The club invites you to their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Tour on Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 from 1 pm to 5 pm. Visit 6 local gardens: 3 are in the St Lambert area and 3 in Brossard, rain or shine. Refreshments and homemade goodies will be served at host gardens. Tickets are \$7.00. Call Karen at 450-671-2484 for tickets or more information.

In closing, I would like to thank Anne St Pierre for keeping me in line and on time, and Frank White who is always there to help me through all the preparations and meetings. You are both indispensable!

Thank you and have a great summer!

Don't forget our Website, you never know what you might find!

Steven LeSueur  
**President**  
**Riverside Teachers Union**

