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R T U - S E R

Newsletter

NEW TEACHERS DINNER

The school year is well under way! Progress reports are due and the first part is coming to an end. If there are any workload issues, see your delegate or call our office.

NEW TEACHERS DINNER

We had a great turnout, which included Richard Goldfinch, QPAT President as well as Julie Montpetit from QPAT Professional Staff. 'New Teachers' is one of Julie's dossiers and she was happy to have the opportunity to meet our new members

A special thank you to Anne St Pierre for organizing the event and to Terri Pine and Ramona Romanuk for their usual hard work with all the activities.

DELEGATES WORKSHOP

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This years' workshop will be held at the Château Bromont on October 25th-26th. On the agenda:

- ✓ Psychological injury - CSST;
- ✓ Consultation for 2015 negotiations;
- ✓ Social media and the teacher:
- ✓ Mentoring

Also, depending on attendance, a session on Staff Council.

We are looking forward to a productive two days.

There are still some schools that are without a Union delegate. It is unfortunate for those schools not to be represented and informed. There is always something new for you!

SPECIAL LEAVE DAYS

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Since 2008, individual schools now have the responsibility of processing requests for special leave days, not the board. Principals have to deal with this 'not so new' budget item. If there is a deficit in this area, it has to be covered by the school budget, and in some cases the department budget. As a result some Principals and even Department Coordinators have put pressure on teachers/colleagues not to use too many Special Leave Days, because any unspent money would be beneficial to their school department. Let's make this very clear:

"The Collective Agreement allows for 8 Special Leave days to cover certain specific situations that arise from time to time initially, deaths, weddings, religious rites, and acts of god. The local arrangement has expanded the use of these days to include among others: medical appointments for the teachers that cannot be scheduled outside your work hours. Your school administration may wish to verify that the appointment was for you and that it could not be scheduled outside working hours by asking you. If you need any assistance on this issue, do not hesitate to speak to a delegate or call the Union office at 450-465-2523."

VALUE ADDED

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Value added is in its third year, with even more money allocated to this program. This is a reminder to keep a record of all your **extra-curricular activities** (contact with students) to make your file.

PIC

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All forms and guidelines are available on our website as well as the School Boards Portal. As a courtesy, if you do not attend a workshop conference, please let the Committee know, as the money is reserved for you once the Committee approves your request, so as to not prevent colleagues from attending a workshop. Our funds are limited.

AESOPS

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Just a reminder to our teachers when they are entering their absences, please pay special attention to your times, as the office has received some e-mails and phone calls from our substitutes asking if we can be more careful.

MENTORING

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The School Board and the Union are working on a new mentoring program, and are looking for mentors and mentees. Anybody can submit his or her name as well as recommending someone for this program. The School Board will contact those teachers that have been recommended, but remember, this program is all on a voluntary basis. There will be an information session and YOU can decide to join or not!

Remember to check out our website, you never know what you can learn!
www.rtu-ser.ca

Steven Le Sueur
President

