



MTA Newsletter

December 2022 Edition

President's Message

I don't know about you, but the last four months have absolutely flown by!

The annual MTA Reps Workshop was held on November 5 and 6 in Bromont, and those present had the opportunity to hear from QPAT President Heidi Yetman and QPAT staff, as well as to network with fellow MTA reps and a small delegation from the Châteauguay Valley Teachers Association. Thank you once again to those who chose to spend their weekend with us.

QPAT and our nego partners at the FSE tabled their demands for the new round of provincial negotiations in Quebec City on October 31. Stay tuned for more information about mobilization efforts once the government tables their demands right before the Christmas holidays.

The MTA Negotiating Team has also begun work on the local demand. All members will have the opportunity to provide feedback on this demand before it is tabled with the EMSB in early 2023.

On behalf of the MTA Executive and Office and Professional Staff, best wishes for the holidays, and for health and happiness throughout the coming year.

— Lori

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Covid Absence Update

As of November 4, the Quebec government has decided to end the mandatory isolation period for individuals who test positive for covid. This means that any teacher who tests positive for covid can continue their regular activities, including going to work, as long as they are fever-free. More information about how you should proceed in the event of a positive covid test [can be found here](#).

If you are too ill to work, then the EMSB will use your sick days, as for any other illness. If you feel there is strong evidence that you caught Covid while at work, [please contact Nadia](#) for advice on filing a CNESST claim.

If you tested positive for covid and were in isolation using sick days prior to November 4, [please contact Peter](#) with the details so a grievance can be filed on your behalf.

The most recent information related to Covid [can always be found here](#) or on the QPAT app (available for download on both Apple and Android platforms).

Sick Days for Hourly-Paid Teachers

Hourly-paid teachers in Adult Education and Vocational Training have access to a certain number of paid days for some life events, such as illness, a death in the family, or the birth of a child. If an hourly-paid teacher is ill, they have a maximum of two days paid by the EMSB. [More information can be found here.](#) [Please contact Peter](#) should you have any questions.

PIC Information on MTA Website



Teachers continue to have access to funds for professional development through the Professional Improvement Committee (PIC). Please keep in mind that each teacher must send in their own application once it is signed by the Principal, and that there are application deadlines. More information on the types of funding available and how to claim reimbursement [can be found in the Documents section](#) of our website, under Professional Improvement.

School Council and ARC

Please remember to send the draft minutes of your School Council and ARC meetings to [Nadia Greco](#). This helps us to recognize potential issues early on, and have a sense of common hurdles that schools may be facing. It also gives us an idea of how well these committees are functioning.

2023 Insurance Premiums

The current health, dental and long-term disability insurance rates [can be found on the QPAT website](#).

The QPAT Executive and Board of Directors have approved the new premium rates for 2023. While there are increases for health and long-term disability, there is also a decrease for dental insurance. New rates are in effect as of January 1, 2023.

EFAP



All EMSB employees and their families have access to a free, confidential **Employee and Family Assistance Program** through LifeWorks (formerly Morneau Shepell). If you need help with any work, health or life concern, please contact LifeWorks. [More information can be found here](#).

Concordia Initiative for Teachers



Have you figured out some new and exciting ways to deliver the curriculum? Have you used mobile or computer technology in a fresh and innovative way in your classroom? Do you know a fellow teacher who is implementing creative teaching practices?

Concordia University's Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance (CSLP), a government-recognized educational research centre, is launching a new initiative to recognize and celebrate the outstanding work that teachers are doing in their classrooms – the CSLP Pedagogical Innovation Awards.

These awards have three purposes: first, to recognize innovative teaching practices; second, to bring teachers together with educational researchers to discuss how their innovations connect with recent research findings; and third, to spread the word about these innovative practices to other teachers and researchers. This year, the CSLP will offer two awards of \$1000.

Winners will be invited to present their innovation at a CSLP Symposium held in April 2023, at which educational researchers will be on hand to dialogue with them about their work.

In addition, with technical assistance from the CSLP, winners will also be invited to make a YouTube capsule to showcase their work to other teachers in Quebec.

[Please complete the brief initial application form](#), describing the teaching innovation you or your colleague has developed. It only takes a few minutes to enter.

The deadline for contest entries is January 15, 2023.

Finalists will be notified by February 1, 2023, with finalists' applications (which will consist of a longer description of the innovation) due February 22, 2023. Winners will be announced on March 1, 2023, and the awards symposium will be held in April of 2023, the exact date to be determined later.

New Teacher Event (Youth Sector)

The MTA is hosting a welcome event for all new teachers in the Youth Sector (those who are not yet on recall) at Pius Culinary Centre on February 9, 2023. [Please contact the MTA](#) if you did not receive an invitation.

MTA Office Holiday Schedule



The MTA Office will be closed for the Holiday period, from December 24 until January 8 inclusively. We will be back on Monday, January 9, 2023 with our regular hours: 8:30 – 4:30 Monday to Thursday, and 8:30 – 4:00 Friday.

514-487-4580

mta@mta-aeem.com

lori@mta-aeem.com

psutherland@mta-aeem.com

nadia@mta-aeem.com