



MTA Newsletter

Fall 2026 Edition

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

As we begin a new school year, I want to extend a warm welcome to each of you and thank you for the dedication, professionalism, and care you bring to our schools and centres every day.

The start of a new school year is always filled with possibility. It is a time to reconnect with colleagues, welcome new students and families, and continue the important work of supporting our students as they learn and grow. While we know there will be challenges along the way, we also know that our greatest strength is the solidarity we share as educators.

I am also pleased to share an important update regarding our **MTA-EMSB 2026-2028 Local Agreement**. The agreement will be signed on **September 28**. I am sure you will agree that this is long overdue! Once the agreement is signed, it will be posted on the MTA website, and physical copies will be sent to all schools and centres.

And, believe it or not, **2026-2027 will also mark the beginning of member consultation for the next round of provincial negotiations – yes, already!** 😊 Our collective demands will be deposited in

October 2027, which means that a lengthy preparation and consultation phase will begin this fall and winter. MTA will send consultation information and questionnaires to all members. When you receive these links, please take a few minutes to participate. Your input is essential. The strength of our collective voice begins with the participation of each and every member.

Your union remains committed to supporting you throughout the year — to advocating for fair working conditions, protecting your rights, and ensuring that your voice is heard. Together, we will continue working toward schools and centres where educators are respected, supported, and equipped to do their best work.

As we start this new school year, I hope it brings you meaningful connections, moments of joy, and many successes, both in your professional and personal lives. Most importantly, remember to take care of yourselves and one another as you care for your students.

On behalf of the MTA Executive, Union Advisors and office staff, I wish you a **healthy, rewarding, and successful 2026-2027 school year**.

In solidarity,

— Lori

Content

[AE & VT Student Breaks](#)

[Home and Auto Insurance](#)

[Details of New Local Agreement](#)

[Telework for OPD \(All Sectors\)](#)

[MTA Professional Staff Dossiers](#)

[Professional Improvement Committee](#)

[Salary Scale & Pay Dates](#)

[Retiree Substitute Teachers](#)

[QPAT Convention 2026](#)

[CTF/FCE Resources](#)

[OPD Credit for VT Teachers](#)

[QPAT Scholarships](#)

[MTA Committees 2026-27](#)

[Starling Minds](#)

AE & VT Student Breaks

Please note that any student breaks (excluding the lunch period) should be accounted for in the Other Professional Duties (OPD) section of your workload. Please contact [Domenico](#) with any questions.

Home and Auto Insurance

QPAT has partnered with The Personal to give you access to special rates not available to the general public for home and auto insurance. You can find [more information here](#).

Details of New Local Agreement

The 2026-2028 MTA-EMSB Local Agreement will be signed on September 28. All clauses of this agreement are now fully implemented. There have been significant changes to certain parts of the agreement, notably:

- Special leave, particularly bereavement leave and serious illness in the family
- Youth recall list criteria
- Teacher categories (youth sector)
- Recognition of qualification through experience for youth sector recall teachers
- Calculation of absences
- Staffing process for E2 teachers (youth sector)
- Multilevel classes in CCBE and Academic English classes in Adult Education
- OPD credit for 6 hour days of teaching in Vocational Training

Please consult [this document](#) for more information.

Telework for OPD (All sectors)

Don't forget that as of 2026-2027, **the five hours of the "personal presence"** section of the Other Professional Duties (OPD) (200 hours per year within the total annual workload of 1280 hours) of your workload can be done at the TIME AND PLACE of your choosing. These hours should be reported on your annual workload form as you are accountable for doing them, but you are NOT required to record these 200 hours on your weekly/cyclical schedule.

MTA Professional Staff Dossiers



Not sure who to talk to at the MTA concerning a particular issue? [Here is](#) a chart highlighting the dossiers of each MTA professional staff member.

Professional Improvement Committee (PIC)

Did you know that teachers can apply for funds for many kinds of professional development? University tuition, workshops, collective and community projects, major conferences, language proficiency courses and tests are just a few examples of activities that can be funded by the EMSB-MTA PIC. Please take the time to carefully read the funding rules and application deadlines, as there can be changes from one year to the next. The 2026-2027 PIC booklet will be posted on our website shortly and sent by email to all members as soon as we receive it.

Salary Scale & Pay Dates

The first pay of 2026-2027 is September 3 and every second Thursday thereafter until August 19, 2027. You can find the current salary scale in the [document](#) attached to this email, and [online](#).

Retiree Substitute Teachers

A recently-signed agreement between QPAT and the CPNCA has renewed the provisions for payment for any retired teacher who does occasional substitution. These provisions apply to June 30, 2027, and may or may not be renewed after that date. Instead of the hourly rate paid to occasional substitute teachers, these retirees are paid 1/1000th of their salary step for each hour of substitution. If a retiree accepts a contract that lasts for at least one month, they are paid to scale, and also receive a 12.5% premium. Please contact [Peter](#) with any questions.

QPAT Convention 2026



QPAT's Annual Convention will be held October 15 & 16 at the Hôtel Bonaventure. Please [check out this link](#) for information about keynote speaker Dave Foley, all-day pre-convention workshops on October 15, and shorter workshops on October 15 and 16. Don't forget that pre-convention workshops on October 15 and substitution for the day are eligible for [PIC funding](#)!

CTF/FCE Resources



Did you know that as a member of MTA and QPAT, you are also a member of the Canadian Teachers Federation/Fédération canadienne des enseignants? CTF/FCE offers many great resources to classroom teachers. You can find them [here](#).

CTF/FCE has also written a policy brief concerning the use of AI in education. "Protecting Students, Educators, and Public Education in the AI Age" summarizes four evidence-based areas of concern which the federal government needs to address, and offers concrete recommendations. You can [read it here](#).

OPD Credit for Vocational Training Teachers

If you are a teacher in Vocational Training who is also enrolled in a Bachelor of Vocational Training program at university, don't forget that you may be entitled to a credit in the assigned presence portion of your Other Professional Duties (OPD). For each university credit successfully completed in 2025-2026, 15 hours of OPD shall be recognized for the teacher up to a maximum of 45 hours in the following school year. These hours can in no way be accumulated, compensated or redeemed at the end of the school year. Please contact [Domenico](#) with any questions.

QPAT Scholarships

Did you know that your child, grandchild, or nibling may be eligible for a QPAT scholarship? Please see [this memo](#) for more information.

MTA Committees 2026-27



The MTA is once again asking for volunteers to serve on various internal MTA Committees, as well as several MTA-EMSB Parity Committees. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on any of these committees, [please complete the Google form here](#).

Internal MTA committees include: Finance & Budget, Nominations, Adult Education, Vocational Training and New Teachers.

MTA-EMSB parity committees include: Educational Policies (EPC), the EPC sub-committees for Adult Education and Vocational Training, Professional Improvement (PIC) and Special Education (SEC).

A detailed description of each committee [can be found here](#). Please contact [Lori](#) with any questions related to committees.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, September 18, 2026**.

Starling Minds



Starling is an online mental health and wellness tool that helps you assess, monitor and improve your mental wellbeing. It's an interactive, online program that teaches you about your mental functioning and gives you practical techniques for building stress resilience and boosting mental fitness.

As a member of a QPAT affiliated union, it's available to you to use anywhere and anytime you want, for free. And it is and will always be 100% confidential!

N.B.: Your school board is not involved in this project and will **NEVER** have access to any information relating to your personal use of the Starling Minds program!

More information can be found [here](#).

Contact Us



The MTA Office is open from 8:30 – 4:30 Monday to Thursday, and from 8:30 – 4:00 Friday.

514.487.4580

4999 Ste. Catherine O., suite 300, H3Z 1T3

mta@mta-aeem.com

lori@mta-aeem.com

psutherland@mta-aeem.com

nadia@mta-aeem.com

domenico@mta-aeem.com