

Welcome Back

The entire APPA's executive would like to welcome each and everyone back to work. We truly hope that your summer break has given you time to rest and to recuperate.

Although we know that the beginning of this school year will not be like any other we have ever faced, we are reassured by the fact that we know our members will give their 100% to make sure that their work environment is safe.

The Ministry of Education, the Public Health Office and the CNESST have collaborated to make sure that proper strategies are put into place to counter the Coronavirus in the workplace. Many of our members have requested the specific guidelines that both the employees and the employer must follow to main a healthy and safe environment during the upcoming school year. The following links will provide you with the information regarding the measures that are to be respected in your school or adult centre:

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/covid-19-info-en/Pages/toolkit-school-system.aspx>

The Ministry has indicated that the CNESST's childcare toolkit could be used in day care settings:

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/covid-19-info-en/Pages/toolkit-childcare-sector.aspx>

If you think that the measures to protect your work environment have not been put into place, please contact Paul Robichaud at the APPA with your concerns at probichaud@appa.qc.ca. Please name one person per school to communicate your information to the union. It will: 1) permit a quicker response time on our part to solve the issue(s); 2) avoid having numerous requests for the same problem(s) which will increase our response time to get the situation corrected; and finally, (3) provide a contact to whom the union can send any updates or important changes concerning Covid-19 measures. Ideally, the contact person would be the school delegate (see the article at the end of the newsletter)

Changes at the Helm of the EMSB



In the last weeks, two figure heads of the EMSB community have indicated that they were

submitting their resignations. Indeed, both Ms. Ann Marie Matheson, Director General of the EMSB, and Ms. Angela Mancini, chairperson of the Council of Commissioners, have announced that they will not be

returning to their respective positions for the 2020-2021 school year. Both of these ladies dedicated many years of service to our school board and we wish them both all the best with their future projects.

Quebec English School Boards Association: QESBA applauds major win on Bill 40

«Montréal, August 10, 2020 - The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is very pleased with the Québec Superior Court judgment in our favour on a stay of Bill 40: An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance rendered by Justice Lussier today.

QESBA and its co-applicants filed for an interlocutory injunction or a stay in May of this year to suspend the application of Bill 40 to English school boards, arguing that the new governance model does not respect section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to manage and control our minority language educational institutions. The Québec Superior Court found that the applicants had raised "very serious questions" pertaining to the Bill's constitutionality. Moreover, it found that the disappearance of English-language school boards (and their transformation into English-language school service centres) constituted irreparable harm.

"We are very pleased with the decision today which has the effect of suspending the application of Bill 40 to English school boards pending a decision on the merits of the case. Given the very limited amount of time our boards have to organize school elections, scheduled for November 1st, we are hopeful that the government will not appeal this

decision," said QESBA President Dan Lamoureux.

QESBA is the voice of English public education in Québec and represents 100,000 students in 340 elementary, high schools, and adult and vocational centres across Québec».

Abolished posts in Special Education Sector

Many Special Education Technician and Attendant for Handicapped Student posts have been abolished for this upcoming school year. If you happen to be one of the employees whose post was abolished, we ask that you be vigilant and let us know if your previous post is recreated during the 2020-2021 school year. If so, we would greatly appreciate that you communicate with the union. Before you do, however, you must verify if the recreated post contains the following elements:

- 1) Has the same number of hours as your previous post; and
- 2) Requires the employee to work with same student(s) as your previous post.

You can communicate with either:

Linda Tavolaro: ltavolaro@appa.qc.ca or

Paul Robichaud: probichaud@appa.qc.ca

School Delegates for 2020-2021

It is that time of the year again! The APPA would like you to vote for a delegate to represent your school or centre. An APPA delegate presence helps to keep all our members aware of important information and developments that may affect them. For more information, please contact Kim Watson at kwatson@appa.qc.ca.