

Unit Update June 16, 2023

August 31 Optional Staff Meeting

Your Principal will be inviting you to a **VOLUNTARY** staff meeting on August 31st. Please note that this year, it is the second last day of your summer holidays and not a paid professional development day like the last three years. You are under no obligation to attend the meeting or any events that day or any day before September 5th. This information supersedes all communications from the Board (and its administrators) on this topic.

Work/Life Balance and Professional Development

The Elementary Committee created this short [video](#) to remind you that your work/life balance is in your hands, and that PD outside of the instructional day and over the summer is optional.

Beginning Teachers Conference

In your first 10 years of teaching? The Beginning Teachers Conference is quickly approaching and is scheduled for August 24th and 25th, at the Westin Harbor Castle Hotel in Toronto. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply by June 19, 2023.



Young Author's Winners

Congratulations to all the Young Author/Jeunes Ecrivains winners across the province. The winners and their texts can be found [here](#). Félicitations to St. Paul's student Léonie Christelle Lado Nguedam for winning the grade 11-12 non-fiction category with, "La ligne fine entre l'aide humanitaire et le néo-impérialisme."

Book Club

OECTA Provincial is facilitating another summer Book Club highlighting *Scarborough* by Catherine Hernandez and *Love Lives Here: A Story of Thriving in a Transgender Family* by Amanda Jette Knox. More information and registration can be found [here](#).



June Member Care

The Association would like to treat 100 members to a BBQ meal kit from Meatings BBQ. You will have your choice of a vegetarian or non-vegetarian meal kit valued at \$130. Please complete [this form](#) no later than June 22, 2023 at noon. Good luck!



Catholic Teachers Magazine

The recent issue of [Catholic Teachers Magazine](#) highlights the progress that has been made as an Association in relation to accessibility, inclusivity, equity and diversity. There is also a very interesting article addressing teachers' use of social media, *Teachers, social media, and freedom of expression* which can be found [here](#).

The International Barometer of Education Staff

I-BEST is an Education International -affiliated survey on educator well-being which aims to make health and well-being of educators a priority! The I-BEST obtains data to inform national and international advocacy and recommendations to governments. Interested classroom teachers are asked to complete [this survey](#) by June 30, 2023.

Next week we celebrate the summer solstice!
Michele Pierce, President, Ottawa Catholic Teachers