



The Bare Essentials



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Proposed 2010-2011 School Year Calendar

- ✓ Possibility of PA day(s) **prior** to Labour Day – don't make vacation plans until official calendar is released
- ✓ 2 PA days for purposes of assessments and report card writing

Ontario Moving to 2 Formal Report Cards

- ✓ Proposed new reporting requirements appear to be reality
- ✓ 2 formal report cards issued – Jan/Feb and June
- ✓ Details regarding informal progress reports still unknown
- ✓ Please see press releases included with mailing

Watch for Falling Teachers

- ✓ Slip, trips and falls one of the leading workplace accidents
- ✓ Wear the appropriate footwear for the season (boots/shoes with wide soles and deep grooved treads)
- ✓ If injured at work, report the accident to your administrator and fill out an accident report immediately

Pop Culture Trivia Night – fun for 500

- ✓ Congratulations to Trivia winners: 1st Park, 2nd Princess Elizabeth, 3rd Lakeview, 4th Martha Cullimore, 5th Reservoir Dogs
- ✓ Although cost per team is \$100.00, event subsidized by Social Committee
- ✓ A special thank-you to Joe Coles for organizing the event

Winter General Meeting

(Local Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions to Provincial Annual Meeting)

- ✓ Winter General Meeting scheduled for February 10, 2010 – Club Capri
- ✓ Members can make amendments to local constitution (document that governs how local is organized) due by **January 22, 2010** (see forms in schools)
- ✓ Members can put forth resolutions to provincial annual meeting in August. Annual Meeting sets the direction of the organization. Proposed resolutions due by **January 22, 2010** (see forms in schools)

Poster Contest for Elementary Students

- ✓ DSBN's Employee Energy Conservation Committee is looking for a new poster to promote energy conservation in schools
- ✓ Winning student will receive a \$100.00 Chapter's gift card
- ✓ Please see included flyer for details

Staffing Processes Have Begun

- ✓ Teacher request forms for Transfer/Exchange are in schools
- ✓ Teacher requests for Increased Teaching Time (ITT), and Decreased Teaching Time (DTT) are also in school
- ✓ **PLEASE consult ETFO Niagara before applying for Decreased Teaching Time** as this is very different than a Personal Leave i.e. collective agreement entitlements
- ✓ * Please note deadlines for submission on specific forms to ensure eligibility

Enhancement to CAREpath Services

- ✓ CAREpath is a Canadian-owned and operated health care organization that specializes in cancer-related service programs
- ✓ Services eligible to all OTIP Long Term Disability plan members i.e. Niagara elementary teachers who pay LTD premiums
- ✓ New, no charge service, that gives members access to cancer-related information for extended family members, colleagues and friends who have been diagnosed with cancer
- ✓ CAREpath Cancer Information Line can be reached by calling **1-800-290-5106** or via email at info@carepath.cab

“Joining Our Voices” – Workshop Focused on Parent Engagement in the Early Years

- ✓ Community based workshop put on by DSBN, Niagara Catholic DSB and Early Childhood Development Centre
- ✓ Presented by Dr. Debbie Pushor
- ✓ Focus on how schools can move from practices of parent involvement to practices of parent engagement and leadership
- ✓ Thursday, January 21st, 6 pm – 8:30 pm, Quality Parkway Hotel, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines
- ✓ Please see flyer for more details

Payroll Deduction Reminder

- ✓ E.I. and C.P.P. contributions to begin again
- ✓ Ontario College of Teachers Fees \$120 – **teachers on leave have until April 15th to make their contributions directly to the College**

Directories are Ready

- ✓ Are being packaged and should be received via courier within a week
- ✓ Long-Term Occasional Teachers do not receive directories
- ✓ Members who are at more than one site will receive their copy at the school listed first alphabetically
- ✓ Members on Leaves of Absence were contacted directly and we are forwarding directories to schools based on their request. Please help us ensure that teachers on leave get their copy.

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

January 19	ETFO Niagara Executive Meeting
January 22	Deadline for Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions to AGM
February 3 & 4	ETFO Provincial Representative Council
February 10	ETFO Niagara General Meeting (Club Capri)
February 15	Family Day
April 21	ETFO Niagara Silent Auction