

Sept 2011

No.346

RTU-SER Newsletter

• WELCOME BACK

WELCOME BACK

I'd like to extend a warm welcome back to all our teachers, new and not so new. A new year brings new challenges, wishing you all a successful year!

• SEEKING UNION DELEGATES

SEEKING UNION DELEGATES

We are always looking for teachers to get involved, and there is no better way than becoming a school delegate. Delegates play an important role in our schools, specifically representing teachers at our union meetings and passing on information to their colleagues. Many schools have not yet sent in their school's delegate's name, please, if a delegate has been chosen at your school, forward it to us at the RTU office. [450-465-2523]

• TEACHERS WORKLOAD

TEACHERS WORKLOAD

The workload includes time spent teaching, duty, and remediation.

Level	Maximum	9-day Cycle	10-day Cycle
Elementary	1,380		
High School	1,200	2,160	2,400

In addition, teachers are required to do 5 hours of personal work time per week. It is up to the teacher to decide on the work, and time to do it. A teacher's personal work schedule can be changed, provided the school administration is notified 24 hours in advance. Note: time spent attending teachers' meetings and parent-teacher meetings is to be considered personal work time, and should be deducted from the weekly personal work schedule.

• SCHOOL COUNCIL

SCHOOL COUNCIL

As usual, the School Council must be formed by September 15th. Teachers elect the Council members, however the union delegate automatically gets a seat on Council.

• SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

This Committee, mainly composed of teachers, must also be formed by September 15th. The union delegate is automatically part of this committee. This Committee plays a "**decision making**" role in the allocation of resources to support teachers with special needs students. Each decision is subject to a vote during meetings, the minutes of each meeting should be sent to the Union. These minutes can be very useful to follow up with the School Board.

• RECALL LIST

RECALL LIST

Again this year, the school board was able to offer contracts to all the teachers on the list. In order to get on the list, teachers need two part-time contracts in the

• **CLASS SIZE**

course of three consecutive years.

CLASS SIZE

Here are the numbers for the class sizes, and these numbers can also be affected by the new weighting of high coded students. If you have any concerns call us at 450-465-2523

	Average	Maximum
Preschool: 4 years olds	15	18
Preschool: 5 years olds	18	20
Grade 1: disadvantaged area	18	20
Grade 1: regular area	20	22
Grade 2: disadvantaged area	18	20
Grade 2: regular area	22	24
Grade 3: disadvantaged area	18	20
Grade 3: regular area	24	26
Grade 4: disadvantaged area	18	20
Grade 4: regular area	24	26
Grade 5: disadvantaged area	22	24
Grade 5: regular area	27	29
Grade 6: disadvantaged area	22	24
Grade 6: regular area	27	29
Secondary I:	29	31
Secondary II:	29	31

• **PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

This year's allocation has been reduced to \$1200.00 from \$1400.00. This was due to all our money being spent last year. This is a good sign teachers are seeking to improve themselves all the time. Keep up the hard work!

• **LOCAL AGREEMENT**

LOCAL AGREEMENT

Since the signing of our new collective agreement, our local agreement now must be negotiated. We have signed an extension until Dec.31st, so this will be an on going topic for the first part of the year. If there is anything that you think we should look at during this round of negotiations please let us know, again at 450-465-2523 or by e-mail.

• **ADDED VALUE**

ADDED VALUE

This will be another interesting topic this year. There is money for those teachers who go beyond the call of duty and participate in extra-curricular activities. More news to come, as we have further discussions with the School Board.

• **MCGILL STUDIES**

MCGILL STUDIES

Again this year McGill University has the Distinguished Educators Seminar Series offer to our teachers, there are many interesting seminars planned and I hope you take full advantage, don't forget to apply for PIC money. For more information you can contact Sylvia Sklar at 514-398-8267 or go online at <http://www.mcgill.ca/edu-dise/centres/celseminar/>

Have a great year and don't forget to check our website!

Steven Le Sueur
President Riverside Teacher's Union

