



# Appalachian Teachers' Association

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## Congratulations to our Retirees!



Nicole Gregoire, Lori Lane, Megan Seline, Nancy Dixon and Richard Goldfinch at the ATA's AGM.

### This year's retirees...

**Henry Blumenfeld** - MVHS  
**Susan Burnham** - Heroes'  
**Nancy Dixon** - MVHS  
**Richard Goldfinch** - AGRHS  
**Nancy Loadenthal** - ACES  
**Diane Munzar** - Parkview

**Congratulations!**

This was a tough year on teachers; negotiations, strike vote, strike days... It all added up to a stressful year compressing courses and making sure that students would be prepared for exams, despite all the upheaval. We did it, though, and our actions ensured that students would continue to receive the resources they need in order to be successful.

There will be no more strike days for this year's retirees, no more wondering if we are doing the right thing, no more hitting the pavement.... They've handed off the baton to younger teachers, whose job it will be to protect all of the gains that have been won for both students and teachers.

Well done! Enjoy the summer and when August rolls around again, ignore the impulses of habit - checking the calendar, seeing what might be in your email - RELAX! ENJOY! YOU'RE DONE!



*"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer."*

- F. Scott Fitzgerald,  
The Great Gatsby

### *President's Prose*



Have a wonderful  
summer, everyone!

Cheers,  
megan

### ATA Executive Committee 2016 - 2017

- President - Megan Seline
- Treasurer - Marty Roberts
- Secretary - April Blampied
- High School Vice-President (MVHS) - Peter Maingot
- High School Vice-President (RRHS) - Vacant
- High School Vice-President (AGRHS) - Mathieu Michaud
- Elementary School Vice-President (AGRHS cluster) - vacant
- Elementary School Vice-President (RRHS cluster) - Marie-Michele Fradet
- Elementary School Vice-President (MVHS cluster) - Liane Flynn
- Adult Education Vice-President - Megan Maclean
- Vocational Training Vice-President - Ghislain Gravel
- Member at Large (MVHS & cluster) - Barbra Plouffe
- Member at Large (RRHS & cluster) - Lynzee Portfors
- Member at Large (AGRHS & cluster) - Alana Russell

**Thank you for your service to your colleagues!**

### Short Notes

**Retroactivity Payment** – The 2015-2020 collective agreement between QPAT and the CPNCA was signed June 16, 2016. It provides for retroactivity on salary. This retroactivity will be paid before September 30, 2016 for those employed during the 2015-2016 school year. Those who only worked during the 2014-2015 school year will be paid retroactivity fifteen days after those who worked the 2015-2016 school year are paid.

**Leaves of Absence and Pension Buy-back** - Teachers who are taking a leave of absence greater than 20% should consider a "buy-back" of their pension. If this is you, you should contact QPAT to get the details of how to do it.

**Years of Experience on a LOA** - A new regulation has been negotiated for **full-time teachers**. To recognize a year's experience, it will be necessary to work 155 days in order to advance a year on the salary scale. An exception was negotiated in the case of secondary teachers in order to ensure that release from a single group of students, corresponding to less than 155 days, would not imply the loss of an experience step.

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## Contact Us

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### Have you got a burning question you'd like to ask the School Board?

June 28 is the last Council of Commissioners meeting this year. If you've got a question on your mind, don't carry it with you all summer long; get rid of it at the C of C - 7:00 pm. Megan will be glad to see you!

... *Short Notes continued*

**Bill 105 Replaces Bill 86** - Bill 86 might be gone, but only in so much as it has been replaced by Bill 105. J-P Fossey, QPAT's expert on Bill 86, has created a comparative document to illustrate the new proposals. He has also put together a document outlining QPAT's orientation to the Bill. You can download both documents at: [http://ataunion.org/?page\\_id=239](http://ataunion.org/?page_id=239)

**New Teacher Federal Tax Credit** - Don't forget that the Federal government has established a new tax credit of up to \$1000 for teachers who reach into their pockets to pay for classroom items. Keep your receipts!

**Reminders about Insurance Coverage for Retirees and Part-time Teachers** - Part time teachers whose contracts expired prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> will cease to be covered as of the last day for which premiums have been paid.

Part time teachers whose contracts expire on June 1<sup>st</sup> or later will be covered until September 30<sup>th</sup> 2015. This is to ensure insurance continuity should they be rehired. If they are rehired, extra premiums will be deducted to cover any premiums that may be missing. If they are not rehired, no action will be taken to recover the lost premiums.

Retiring teachers will be covered until August 31<sup>st</sup> as in the past. They should be enrolled in the retiree plan as of September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Links of Interest

- |                           |   |                |
|---------------------------|---|----------------|
| • QPAT                    | <a href="http://www.qpat-apeq.qc.ca">http://www.qpat-apeq.qc.ca</a> | 1-800-361-9870 |
| • Parental Insurance Plan | <a href="http://www.rqap.gouv.qc.ca">www.rqap.gouv.qc.ca</a>        | 1-888-610-7727 |
| • Quebec Pension Plan     | <a href="http://www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca">www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca</a>          | 1-800-463-5185 |
| • CARRA                   | <a href="http://www.carra.gouv.qc.ca">www.carra.gouv.qc.ca</a>      | 1-800-463-5533 |
| • MELS                    | <a href="http://www.meq.gouv.qc.ca">www.meq.gouv.qc.ca</a>          | 1-866-747-6626 |
| • Industrial Alliance     | <a href="http://www.inalco.com">www.inalco.com</a>                  | 1-800-363-3540 |
| • Strathcona Credit Union |   | 1-888-350-5111 |

*Have a wonderful summer!*