

ADETFO INFO



JANUARY 2015

PROTECT YOURSELF IN THE NEW YEAR

Technology has changed the way we teach and communicate! Along with all of the benefits, comes challenges and potential dangers for members. Maintaining professional boundaries in all forms of communication, technology-related or not, is vital to maintaining appropriate professional relationships with students. It is every member's responsibility to exercise good judgment at all times while integrating digital technology into classroom practice. Prevention is key.

Consider the following to protect yourself:

1. Equipment—Leave your own at home, leave the school's at school!
2. Understand the Board's IT policy.
3. Obtain written permission from parents for board approved videotaping of students (parents must also receive notice that personal information about a student has been collected).
4. Discuss a school plan for storing private information (videotapes, etc).
5. Communicate your practice. Inform admin, and parents before using social networks for classroom activities.
6. Limit communication with students and parents to within the work day (blogs, emails, websites etc).
7. Maintain formality. (Never share information or communicate in a way that you would not be willing to post on a school bulletin board.)
8. Teach students appropriate online behaviour. Post Digital Citizenship expectations.
9. Remember that use of board email and board computers (information stored and transmitted is subject to searches/investigation) is not private. Your employer may monitor your time and activity on the computer.



Reflecting on your professional practice as it relates to social media, digital and electronic communication, and the use of technology is essential. When in doubt, call your Local office to clarify rights and responsibilities. ETFO's new DVD, *Think Before You Click*, is an excellent resource for members/schools. It is available through the ADETFO office lending library and contains real life scenarios and ETFO's legal counsel narrating.

Kelly

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Back: White lettering



OTIP Announces 5% Decrease in LTD Pool Rates & Continued Partnership with Manulife

We are pleased to announce a **5% decrease** in long term disability (LTD) rates for all plans in the OTIP LTD pool, effective **March 1, 2015**.

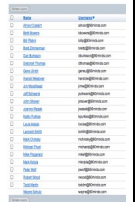
This rate decrease is a result of a number of factors, including the growth of the OTIP pool, a decrease in new claims, continuous improvements in plan design, improved early intervention opportunities, and savings in administration costs.

If you would like an ADETFO jacket, please contact Kitty at the office 705-942-3379 to place your order.

The total cost: \$54

TO ALL ADETFO MEMBERS: ACTION REQUIRED

The ADETFO office is now setting up a database with all ADETFO members' email addresses so that all members will receive important messages electronically. If you did not submit a personal email address in September to your Steward, or have since changed your email address, please contact Kitty at **705-942-3379** or by email kzorzi@shaw.ca. A trial run email will be sent to all members on **January 20, 2015**. Please check your email. If you do not receive this email, please contact the office. Please submit **NON BOARD EMAIL ADDRESSES ONLY!**



Pregnancy and Parental Workshop
March 11, 2015~4:30 p.m.
Comfort Suites & Conference Centre
Sault Ste. Marie

If you are interested in attending, please contact Kitty at the ADETFO office 705-942-3379 or by email kzorzi@shaw.ca. Watch for the flyer coming in early February for more details.



FSL Committee

On Dec. 5th, the ADETFO FSL Committee planned and sponsored a half day PD Session for French teachers. This Round Table Discussion included 8 ADETFO members. The session focussed on sharing of best practices, the new FSL Curriculum, integration of technology and connections to reading strategies used in the English classroom. It was a valuable and inspiring afternoon filled with professional and meaningful dialogue.

Participants shared the following: "It was awesome!"

"I love to share and hear the stories and see what everyone is doing-It's motivational!" "It is eye-opening to see how teachers are putting past PD into practice." "This is such a valuable learning experience for a new teacher. I would love to do the same thing with Immersion teachers." "It was a very helpful PD session."

A huge thank you goes to ADSB for their support and partnership.

Vive le francais!

Angela Coccimiglio ~Chair, Victoria Burzese, Jean-Marie Wissell & Jennifer Mathison

EARLY YEARS COMMITTEE CORNER

Thank you to all of the E.L.K.P. teams that took the time to complete and submit the survey we sent out. Look for upcoming information for a Spring workshop with Tracy Pickard and her E.C.E partner. We have two resources that we want to share with you that are worth checking out. The first is Tracy's blog at passionatelycuriousinkindergarten.blogspot.com which covers all aspects of a Reggio inspired classroom and program. The second is the book *Natural Curiosity-Building Children's Understanding of the World Through Environmental Inquiry*. Happy New Year and Happy Reading!

DEFENSIVE TEACHING

Common Sense Tips For Avoiding False Allegations

Part Two:

The best way to protect your rights as a member is to follow that old quote, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." This is particularly true at certain times of the school year when members are more vulnerable due to stress, fatigue, the need to complete report cards, participate in parent interviews, attend meetings or other extra-curricular activities or to prepare for the approaching holidays. The following are some practical suggestions:

1. When disciplining students or discussing a contentious issue e.g. a student's grade on an assignment, call in another teacher or do it quietly while other students are present.
2. Do not go behind tall room dividers or tall freestanding bookshelves which may hide your actions.
3. If you have a window in your door, do not cover it.
4. Do not go into a small physical education room off the gymnasium, concealed cloakroom or storage room with only one student.
5. Show your concern for students by listening to them, being verbally supportive and understanding and treating them fairly. Refrain from making an appropriate "off the cuff" comments about colleagues and students.

ATTENTION: All ADETFO Health, Wellness and Safety Reps.

Mark Your Calendars!

Your ADETFO Health, Wellness and Safety Committee is sponsoring a workshop scheduled for



Thursday, February 19, 2015
Grand Gardens, SSM, Dennis Street Location
4:30 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Presenter: Valence Young, Health and Safety Officer, ETFO

If you are the Health, Wellness and Safety Rep. from your school/workplace, please contact the office at 705-942-1054 or by email kzorzi@shaw.ca to confirm your attendance.

We strongly encourage your school/worksites is represented.

FESTIVAL OF TREES 2014



Gavin Zaccato and mom Lori Zaccato writing a letter to Santa at this year's Festival of Trees. Gavin is a student at FH Clergue French Immersion in Mrs. Lang's JK/SK class.

The Lung Association's Festival of Trees was held at the Bushplane Museum on Nov. 20th ~ 24rd. A very special thank you to ADETFO members for their generosity. Many books were donated! Also, a special thank you to Allison Corbett, Karen Russon-Offidani, Jane Vienneau and Kelly Holley for organizing this event and for the setup of the display.

ETFO AWARDS DEADLINE: February 1, 2015

For further information:

- ⇒ Visit the ETFO website www.etfo.ca AboutETFOAwardsandScholarships
 - ⇒ Contact 416-962-3836 or 1-888-838-3836
- You may download applications forms at

<http://www.etfo.ca>AboutETFO>AwardsandScholarships>

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

February 21, 2015

Bundle up and walk with us on Feb. 21 in the Coldest Night of the Year, a 2, 5 & 10 km fundraising walk in support of St. Vincent Place and the hungry, homeless and hurting in Sault Ste. Marie. The walk begins and ends at St. Vincent place, located at 222 Albert St., East. It's cold out there!

Event. Dir.: Jennifer Sarlo
Phone: 705-942-5805
Email: sarlojen@gmail.com
Walk*lead a team*volunteer*give

Please visit our website at:
www.adetfo.on.ca