

Ideas Booklet

Teachers count!

Inspiring

a
lifetime
of **learning**



Québec
Ministère
de l'Éducation

Teachers count! Inspiring a lifetime of learning

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Teacher Appreciation Week

Just as it takes a single spark to light a fire, a teacher can provide the spark that lights a lifetime of learning. The theme of this year's Teacher Appreciation Week, to be held from February 4 to 10, 2001, focuses on how teachers instill a love of learning in their students. In choosing this theme, the Ministère de l'Éducation, the Fédération des comités de parents du Québec, the Fédération des syndicats de l'enseignement, the Conseil pédagogique interdisciplinaire du Québec and the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec wish to acknowledge all of the effort and energy that teachers put into their work with students.



Teachers need the support of school administrators throughout the school year, just as they need to know that parents trust them and are working with them. During Teacher Appreciation Week, it is hoped that teachers will hear, see and feel that they are appreciated by those around them.

Teaching is a demanding profession that calls for ongoing commitment and a love of students. So don't hesitate to show teachers your appreciation and respect, whether through a simple thank you or a special gesture. Remember: it's the thought that counts. What really matters is that you, in your own way, let teachers know how much you value their work.





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The success of Teacher Appreciation Week depends on the school community, i.e. students, administrative staff, governing boards, parents' committees, and other partners in education. Because you are in direct contact with the teachers in your community, you are in the best position to know what will make them feel appreciated.

This ideas booklet is designed for and distributed in schools to help them put on activities to mark this special week. Most of the activities can be organized on short notice and at little expense. The activities described in this booklet are, of course, suggestions. If you have ideas for other activities, feel free to go ahead with them.

The Ministère de l'Éducation and its partners will promote Teacher Appreciation Week in various ways. Press releases will be issued

and a press kit will be distributed to the media. A special television ad will be broadcast on the major French-language networks from February 4 to 24, 2001. As well, a new electronic directory listing teachers who won awards in the year 2000 will be launched in time for Teacher Appreciation Week. The directory will be accessible on the Internet, at

<www.meq.gouv.qa/dftps/> under "Valorisation de la profession enseignante," and will be updated on an ongoing basis.

At the end of the booklet, you will find an evaluation form. The information you provide on this form will allow us to add new ideas to next year's edition and to better promote Teacher Appreciation Week. The evaluation form will also be posted on the above Web site.



Preschool and Elementary School



WITH THE HELP OF THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND PARENTS, STUDENTS COULD:

- Decorate the school with balloons, messages or a banner to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week
- Decorate the teachers' lounge
- Make a giant thank-you card, have it signed by the whole class, and put it on display by the doorway of the classroom or of the teachers' lounge
- Make a small apple tree and put up a paper apple for each teacher, with his or her name on it and a special note for him or her
- Put a fruit or flower basket in the teachers' lounge along with a letter of appreciation
- Present teachers with a gift (a plant, special teas, a framed picture or painting, etc.) that they can enjoy together in the teachers' lounge
- Write a group poem for the teaching staff
- Write a short note to express their appreciation
- Display Teacher Appreciation Week posters throughout the school (posters supplied by the Ministère or home-made ones)
- Put out a special newspaper featuring thank-you notes to their teachers
- Display thank-you messages to teachers in the school windows

- Hang a grab-bag of thank-you notes on the classroom door
- Write an expression of appreciation for their teacher on a paper apple and give it to him or her
- Place a balloon arrangement by the classroom door

THE PRINCIPAL COULD:

- Go around to all the classrooms to congratulate the teachers on doing a good job
- Hold an after-school meeting with school partners to mark the beginning of Teacher Appreciation Week
- Recruit a group of volunteers to replace teachers during lunchtime or recess supervision
- Prepare an after-school snack for the teachers in cooperation with other school staff
- Organize a social activity followed by a meal with all staff members
- Organize a schoolwide contest for the best cards and posters promoting Teacher Appreciation Week
- Host a special breakfast for the teachers and have parent volunteers supervise their classes
- Hold a draw for movie tickets among the teachers



Secondary School and Adult Education

STUDENTS COULD:

- Write a poem for the teachers, read it over the school's P.A. system to mark the beginning of Teacher Appreciation Week and publish it in the school newspaper
- Write the name and a special quality of each teacher on a balloon and display the balloons
- Write a card or note to a teacher explaining why they like or appreciate him or her so much
- Write an acrostic using their favourite teacher's first name and listing the teacher's best qualities
- Present each teacher with a certificate of appreciation stating his or her best qualities
- Delegate a student to say thank you to a teacher on behalf of the whole class
- Make a corsage or boutonniere with a special message on it for each teacher
- Make up and sing a theme song for Teacher Appreciation Week or write a telegram to be sung by a clown
- Play teachers' special requests on the school radio throughout Teacher Appreciation Week
- Treat their teacher to a cup of coffee and a muffin at recess

STUDENTS, IN COOPERATION WITH THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER PARTNERS, COULD:

- Decorate the teachers' lounge
- Put up a wall of fame featuring photos of their teachers in action

- Hold a humorous awards ceremony where students present awards to teachers and vice versa
- Host a luncheon for the teachers with special entertainment
- Designate a "hobby day" devoted to a teacher's particular areas of interest
- Profile their teachers in a video or photostory to present them in a different light
- Organize an improvisational theatre event where students compete against teachers
- Hold a hockey, soccer or other sports match where students compete against teachers
- Hold olympics-style events where teams of students compete against teams of teachers
- Hold a game show featuring teachers (Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?, Family Feud, Hollywood Squares)

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER PARTNERS, COULD:

- Host a wine-and-cheese or cocktail party for the teachers
- Give each teacher a coffee mug with the school logo on it
- Hold a draw for movie tickets among the teachers
- Organize a nature outing for teachers and students during Teacher Appreciation Week
- Have teachers switch classes for one period



Vocational Education



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENTS COULD DRAW ON THE SKILLS THEY ARE DEVELOPING IN THEIR FIELD OF STUDY.

- Students in professional cooking could prepare a meal for their teachers.
- Students training to become florists or taking ornamental horticulture could present each teacher with a plant or flower and a note explaining why they chose that plant or flower for him or her.
- Students in tinsmithing or glass-cutting could design an original piece of art for their teachers.
- Students in secretarial studies could prepare a scroll with a text paying tribute to their teachers.



It's hard to think of appropriate activities for each and every vocational education program but, for some programs, it's really quite easy. In any case, it's certainly worth a try.

HERE ARE SOME MORE GENERAL SUGGESTIONS.

- Display Teacher Appreciation Week posters (those supplied by the Ministère or homemade ones) prominently in the vocational education centre.
- Give each teacher a thank-you card with a picture of the class.
- Decorate the vocational education centre, especially the areas where teachers spend a lot of time.
- Prepare skits for the teachers and present them at lunchtime.
- Organize a treasure hunt or any other activity and encourage teachers to participate.
- Make a calendar with a picture of the class and present it to the teacher.
- Organize a buffet for the teachers featuring dishes prepared by students.
- Divide into small groups, adopt a teacher for a day, and lavish treats and special attention on him or her.

Partners and Sponsors

CALL ON YOUR VARIOUS PARTNERS AND SPONSORS FOR HELP IN ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES:

- the director general of your school board
- the governing board
- the parent participation organization
- the student council and class presidents
- nonteaching staff
- the council of commissioners
- parents
- student teachers
- businesses
- others



Media Relations

You can give your school's activities greater exposure by writing articles, publishing photos and printing thank-you letters:

- in the school newspaper
- in the school newsletter
- in the local newspapers
- on community television stations
- on the school or school board Web site

You can also get ideas from the press materials produced by the Ministère. They are available on the Internet at www.meq.gouv.qc.ca.





Evaluation Form

*A few minutes of your time now
for a better week next year*

1) **WERE ACTIVITIES HELD FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN YOUR SCHOOL OR CENTRE?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

2) **IN YOUR OPINION, WHICH ACTIVITIES DID THE TEACHERS LIKE BEST?**

3) **IN YOUR OPINION, WHICH ACTIVITIES DID THE TEACHERS LIKE LEAST?**

4) **DO YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN THOSE MENTIONED IN THIS BOOKLET?**

5) **WHO WAS INVOLVED IN ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN YOUR SCHOOL OR CENTRE?**

☐ Students

☐ Parents

☐ Administrative staff

☐ Teachers

☐ Governing board

☐ Other: _____



Evaluation Form (cont.)

6) TO WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS DO YOU BELONG?

- ☐ Students
- ☐ Parents
- ☐ Administrative staff
- ☐ Teachers
- ☐ Governing board
- ☐ Other: _____



7) DO YOU NEED OTHER RESOURCES OR MATERIALS TO PUT ON ACTIVITIES FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN YOUR SCHOOL OR CENTRE?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please specify: _____

8) DO YOU HAVE EXPECTATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉDUCATION AS REGARDS TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please specify: _____

Thank you for your cooperation!

Important

***Please fax your completed
evaluation form to
Karina Loignon at (418) 643-2149
or
complete the electronic
version of the form at
<www.meq.gouv.qc.ca/dftps/>
under "Valorisation de la
profession enseignante."***



La Fédération
des commissions
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