RIVER EAST TRANSCONA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

RETTA REVIEW

president@retta.mbteach.org vicepresident@retta.mbteach.org treasurer@retta.mbteach.org

SEPTEMBER 2026

YEAR-OPEN PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year!

As we begin another year together, I am feeling incredibly excited and optimistic about what lies ahead for RETTA. I am honoured to continue serving as your President and especially excited to have Gord alongside me as Vice-President. We are coming into this year with lots of energy, plenty of ideas, and a shared commitment to making RETTA an Association that our members feel connected to, supported by, and proud to be part of.

One of our biggest goals this year is **connection**. We want RETTA to be visible and accessible to our members—not just when there is a problem, but throughout the year. You can expect to see more of Gord and me in schools, at events, and creating opportunities to connect informally with members. We want to hear what is going well, what is challenging, and what you need from your Association.

We also want to continue building a stronger sense of community among our members. Teaching can be incredibly demanding, and sometimes we become so focused on the day-to-day work that we forget just how valuable it is to connect with colleagues beyond our own classrooms and schools. This year, we hope to provide more opportunities to come together through social and wellness events, professional learning, and other opportunities to connect, learn, laugh, and support one another.

Another priority will be making sure members are aware of the many **supports, resources, professional development opportunities, and learning experiences** available through RETTA and MTS. There are tremendous resources available to teachers, and we want to do a better job of connecting our members with them.

Of course, advocacy will remain at the heart of what we do. We will continue listening carefully to the experiences of our members and advocating for workplaces that are physically and psychologically safe, respectful, and supportive. We will continue working with MTS and engaging with the Division on the issues affecting teachers, while making sure our members understand their rights and know where to turn when they need assistance.

Most importantly, I want our members to know that **RETTA is here for you**. Whether you need advice, support, advocacy, information, or simply someone to listen, please reach out. Every conversation helps us better understand what our members are experiencing and helps shape the work we do as an Association.

We have some wonderful ideas for the year ahead, and I am genuinely excited about what we can accomplish together. We will continue learning, improving, and finding new ways to serve our membership—and hopefully have some fun along the way!

Here's to a year of connection, collaboration, advocacy, learning, and looking out for one another.

Welcome back, everyone. We're ready for a great year—and stay tuned, because there is lots more to come!

-Erin Bergeron
RETTA President

RETTA MEMBERSHIP FEE

RETTA is pleased to advise members that, following discussions at the June **Executive** and **Council** meetings, the **RETTA membership fee will remain unchanged** at $260/year, which works out to **$21.66 per month**, for the 2026-2027 school year.

This decision reflects RETTA's continued ability to operate effectively and responsibly within the current fee structure. Members can be assured that the Association remains committed to sound financial management while continuing to provide the services, support, and representation that members rely on!

MTS PD DAY

MTS PD Day is an annual event hosted by SAGE (Special Area Groups of Educators) that allows you to take charge of your professional learning. It is an expectation that all members across the province participate in PD on MTS PD Day. We encourage all RETTA members to find a PD session that is relevant to your classroom, interests, goals, and student needs.

All registration takes place online and can be found here and opened on **Monday, September 14, 2026**.

PD OPPORTUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

We are beginning to gather and compile information on popular PD opportunities for members!



- We have already put together a resource with information on **Union specific learning** and **grant opportunities** here - check them out. They are available to all members.
- We are working on a more robust repository of reviews on past PPDF that will be live soon.
- We are working on creating a resource to help find relevant PD in subject and grade levels for members.

RETTA COUNCIL & CONTACT REP TRAINING:

Thank you to the approx. **50 RETTA Council Members and Contact Reps** that attended our **training session on Friday, September 18th**. We really appreciated the energy and engagement of all the attendees. The goal of this session was to re-affirm to our council the importance of their role within RETTA and their individual worksites. As these members are often the first point of contact between RETTA and our members, they are invaluable in their ability to keep that connection strong.

PPDF SEMESTER 2

The PPDF fund will be opening to accept applications for **SEMESTER 2**, for PD that take place between February 2027 and June 2027. The application form link will go live and accept applications at **6:30am on October 1st,** the application form will be locked until this time.

Members who are considering applying are asked to first review the **PPDF Guidelines**, as well as the **Question Guide preview** before registering to know what is required as part of your application.

Below are some important PPDF related links:

DESCRIPTION	PPDF LINKS	NOTES
SEMESTER 2 Application	2026-2027 PPDF Request for Support SEM 2	Opened at 6:30am OCT 1st
PPDF Guidelines	PPDF-Guidelines-2026-2027.pdf	Review **prior** to applying
PPDF Question Guide	PPDF Question Guide - for review only	Review **prior** to applying

As of **12:00pm October 1st**, we have received over **50 PPDF SEMESTER 2** applications from our membership.

Applications that have been submitted will be brought to the PPDF Committee for review within the next 2 weeks. Following this Committee review meeting, applicants will receive a letter indicating their status (approved/denied/or require more information). These letters will be emailed **the week of October 12th**.

If you have any questions regarding PPDF application process or the current status of your application, **please contact the RETTA office**.

PPDF SEMESTER 1

All funding for **SEMESTER 1** (for PD taking place between **July 2027 - January 2027**) has been allocated out, supporting 40 RETTA members! These members have already been contacted via a personalized letter advising their acceptance and next steps. A waitlist is currently in place for **SEMESTER 1**. If additional funding becomes available for this period, waitlisted members will be contacted

MATERNITY/PARENTAL LEAVE SEMINARS



Do you have any questions about maternity or paternal leaves? The RETTA Maternity/Paternal Leave information seminars are available to you.

This seminar provides members with valuable information and resources on topics such as **parental leave** and **Employment Insurance benefits**. If you are interested in attending, please register for the event.

- **Session 1** this year will be taking place at **4:30pm on October 14th**. If you are interested in attending this session, please complete the registration form linked here:
  RETTA Maternity/Paternity Information Workshop

- **Session 2** will be taking place at **4:30pm on February 17th**. This registration form will be provided at a later date.

Please contact Raquel at treasurer@retta.mbteach.org if you have any further questions about the session, or registration process.

WELLNESS EVENTS



RETTA's **annual Volleyball Social** is taking place on **Friday, November 6th**.

8:00am on Friday, October 2nd our registration link went live. Only one registration is required per team**, registration form is to be completed by your team captain**. Check out the poster located on your RETTA boards and included in this package!

This event includes:

Free admission	Free food
Music	Cash bar
Volleyball	Costume contest

REGISTRATION LINK BELOW:
RETTA VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

If you have any questions about this event reach out to the office @ treasurer@retta.mbteach.org

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RETTA EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

RETTA has created a voluntary personal email distribution list to help ensure members receive important updates directly and in a timely manner throughout the school year.

Participation is completely voluntary (but strongly encouraged), members can **join** or **unsubscribe** at any time.

Personal email addresses will be used only for RETTA communications and will not be shared beyond distribution purposes.



Please sign up to this distribution list so RETTA can stay in contact with you for the 2026-2027 school year.

SIGN UP THROUGH THE LINK BELOW:
RETTA Email Distribution 2026-2027

RETTA COUNCIL & CONTACT REP TRAINING:

We discussed ways in which our council members can help to inform their colleagues of information passed along from RETTA, how they can support members in accessing support through RETTA or MTS, and we did some brainstorming around ways that RETTA can better meet the needs of all of our members. We are excited about the opportunity to work with all of our council members this year – whether they are brand new to the role or have been involved for many years – to strengthen the role of the Council and better support all of our members.
If you have any questions about the role of our Council Members and Contact Representatives, you can learn more about the Council of the Local is Section 7 of our Bylaws, found here: 2025 RETTA Bylaws or by getting in touch with the RETTA office.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Are you new or "new-ish" to RETSD? We'd love to meet you for an informal get together and to answer any questions you might have about RETTA.

No questions, no problem? Just come out to expand your network of educator colleagues. Contact reps and Council members are also welcome to come along with you. Please make sure you **register for the event**. We will provide some appetizers and soft drinks, with other beverages available for purchase.

See the poster for more details!



SIGN UP THROUGH THE LINK BELOW:
RETTA New Member Welcome Event

Contest Time!

WHO WANTS TO WIN A FREE COFFEE??

THIS MONTH'S SECRET WORD IS:

PUMPKIN SPICE

SEND US A DM ON INSTAGRAM OR FACEBOOK WITH THE WORD AND WE'LL DRAW A WINNER OCT 9TH!



RIVER EAST TRANSCONA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

what is RETTA?

RETTA stands for the **River East Transcona Teachers' Association**. We are an association under the umbrella of **Manitoba Teachers' Society** that serve our membership within the **River East Transcona School Division**. We are the second-largest of 40 Teachers' Associations in Manitoba.

RETTA is led by two full-time teachers from the division, **elected by our membership** to serve as **President** and **Vice-President** of the association, they are assisted by elected **Executive Table** and **Council** who play a key role in **representing** and **supporting** its membership.

Who is a RETTA member?

There are many types of members within RETTA:

- Teachers
- Consultants
- Principals and Vice Principals
- Counsellors
- Guidance
- Psychologists

Have any QUESTIONS?

How RETTA supports YOU

- **Represents** its membership
- Guides you through your **contract**
- **Listens**, **advocates**, and **resolves** member **issues**
- Provides **professional growth opportunities**
- Offers **member resources**
- Provides member **Wellness Events**

.....and **more**!

Connect with RETTA

Members can reach out to RETTA by in various formats: **phone**, **email** or by filling out the **form**.

Reach out in the way that works best for you!

Contact Information:

- **President** – Erin Bergeron: president@retta.mbteach.org
- **Vice-President** – Gord Fritzsche: vicepresident@retta.mbteach.org
- **Admin Assistant** and **Treasurer:** Raquel Waterman – treasurer@retta.mbteach.org
- **Office Phone:** 204-661-1823
- **Address:** 206-1100 Concordia Avenue

NEW MEMBER WELCOME EVENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2026 @ JUNCTION 59 4:30-6:30PM

(COME AND GO, WITH A SHORT PROGRAM AT 5:30PM)

COME ENJOY SOME APPETIZERS AND GET TO KNOW YOUR RETTA REPRESENTATIVES!

Erin Bergeron
President





Gord Fritzsche
Vice-President

REGISTER HERE!



VOLLEYBALL SOCIAL

COSTUME CONTEST – FOOD – CASH BAR – AND FUN!

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2026

6:30 PM – 12:00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS ON:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00am

TEAM CAPTAINS, please register through the link or QR code.

RETTA VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMEMT

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Only **TEAM CAPTAINS** can register teams.
Teams must be **RETTA** members only.

Registration **must** include:

- Worksite Name
- Team Captain Name and Email
- Number of members on a team

Space is limited and acceptance is based on the order registrations are received. Plan your teams now and **be sure to register early** to secure your team!

TEAM CAPTAINS will be contacted at a later date with your team's status.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!



Maternity / Paternal Information Workshop

Wednesday October 14, 2026

95 Bournais Drive

(2nd floor, Educational Resource Centre)

4:00pm – 6:30pm

Doors will be open at 4:00pm, event begins for **4:30pm**

TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

Maternal / Paternal Leave provisions
Employment Insurance Benefits
Employment Insurance Benefits Top-Up
Other Benefit related provisions

For more info contact the RETTA office at treasurer@retta.mbteach.org

REGISTER

BY SCANNING THE BARCODE

RETTA

EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST



Be part of an informed membership

RETTA is building a voluntary personal email distribution list to ensure members can receive timely, direct, and reliable communication throughout the school year.

Using a personal email address helps ensure that important RETTA updates reach you consistently, even if workplace or divisional email systems limit access or filter messages.

WHY JOIN?

By opting in, you will:

- **Receive important RETTA updates** directly and in real time
- **Stay informed** about events, initiatives, and member opportunities
- **Ensure you don't miss information** due to workplace email filters or access changes
- **Have a direct line of communication** with RETTA

Your choice. Your control.

Participation is completely voluntary. You can join at any time and request removal from the list whenever you choose.

Your contact information will be used only for RETTA communications and will not be shared beyond distribution purposes.

Stay connected

If you would like to be added to the RETTA email list, please scan the QR code below or click the link provided to opt in.

Because staying informed should be simple and accessible.

RETTA Email Distribution 2026-2027

RIVER EAST TRANSCONA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



Teaching is deeply emotional work and it's okay to need support. Whether you're a beginning teacher, seeking workplace safety guidance, or exploring wellness resources, support is available through the Manitoba Teachers' Society. Scan the QR codes below to learn more about the services and supports available to you.

Mental health matters and **MTS Kii** is here for you. Scan the QR code for 24/7 support, or call 1-866-814-0018 anytime.

Medical Intervention: Planning for daily or non-emergency medical procedures.

Resources for reporting **violent incidents** in schools.

Allyship: How to support 2SLGBTQIA+ colleagues.

Online safety resources for MTS members.

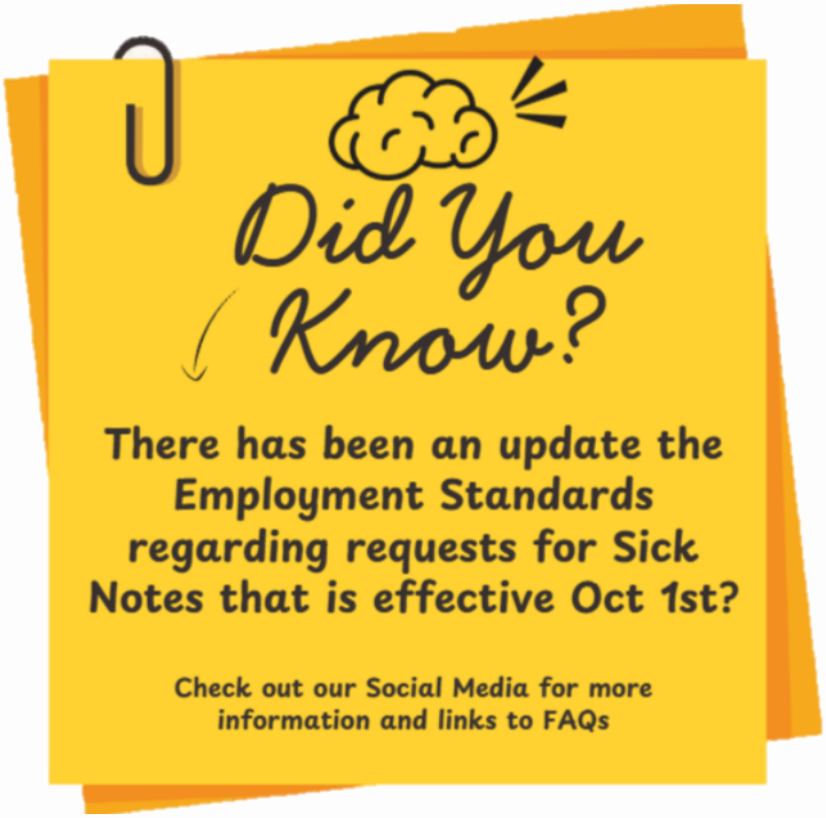
Beginning teachers resources.

Explore **health benefits** provided by MTS.

Workplace safety, health resources and more.

THE MANITOBA TEACHERS' SOCIETY

Explore additional resources and more by visiting **mbteach.org**



IMPORTANT LINKS

River East Transcona Teachers' Association – Working For Our Teachers

RETTA New Member Welcome Event

RETTA Maternity/Paternity Information Workshop

2026-2027 PPDF Request for Support SEM 2

RETTA VOLLEYBALL SOCIAL 2026

RETTA-Union-Learning-and-Grant-Opportunities-2026.pdf

RETTA Email Distribution 2026-2027

RETTA - Let's Chat!