

## **Memo #8**

Date: November 9, 2016

To: Executive/Members

From: **OECTA Young Authors; Collaborative Learning Communities Project**

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### **OECTA Young Authors**

Once again OECTA is sponsoring the annual Young Authors Awards for students.

An information package is being forwarded directly to all OECTA Representatives and is enclosed here for your information.

The school package for OECTA representatives includes the following items:

- A flyer for posting in schools
- An entry form (cover sheet for each entry)
- Policies and Procedures for 2016-2017

Each School may submit one entry per category and division to the Unit level of competition. (See attached for explanation of categories.)

Important Dates:

Teachers must submit their classes' entries to the OECTA Association Representative no later than February 13, 2017.

Representatives are to send winning school entries to the local Unit Office no later than February 20, 2017.

### **Collaborative Learning Communities Project**

OECTA with funding provided by the Ministry of Education will support, with release time, a limited number of CLC projects during the 2016/2017 school year. CLC's allow teachers to explore and share solutions to common professional dilemmas through action research, by developing resources, and/or implementing new instructional strategies.

### **Project Focus**

CLC's will provide the opportunity to engage in the themes of mathematics and/or technology. Math: A focus on the use of the Guides to Effective Instruction in Mathematics. Tech: A focus on the use of technology as a strategic tool & used in a cross-curricular manner (i.e. tech tools in a math classroom).

### **Who may apply?**

Regular full time teachers or subject specialists, long term occasional teachers and occasional teachers at

both the elementary or secondary levels are eligible. Choices of topic or participation are not limited by your current teaching assignment.

### **What is required of applicants?**

- 1) Each group selects a facilitator who attends a training session via WebEx on either November 28 at 5pm or November 29 at 6pm.
- 2) Group members meet for eight half-days or four full days to pursue an issue of their choosing based on one or more of the focus areas listed above. Group members are expected to co-ordinate these dates with OECTA staff and submit them in advance. Dates cannot be changed once confirmed. Please ensure dates do not conflict with school/ board activities.
- 3) Group members conduct an action research project, develop materials, conduct lesson studies or jointly implement new strategies in their classrooms.
- 4) Group members, through the facilitator, produce a report on their learning and are prepared to share their learning with others in the spring of 2017.

### **How do members apply?**

Form a learning community of up to four members and submit a team project proposal. One team member, acting as group facilitator, should submit the proposal. Please note that priority will be given to first time CLC participants. **Applications are due November 21, 2016.**

(Application form is attached)

**If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1 800 558 4815  
Thank you for sharing this information with OECTA members.**