



Educational Assistants Association

E-News Updates



[Honouring Hidden Heroes: From Oktoberfest Traditions to Everyday Acts of Inclusion](#)

What began in 1973 as a heartfelt request to include a special education class in Bingemans' Oktoberfest celebrations has grown into a cherished tradition of joy, music, and belonging. Though Mike Schuster—who made that first request—passed away, his legacy lives on thanks to the kindness of Jonas, Esther, and Lawrence Bingeman, who created a dedicated day for participants with exceptionalities to join in the fun.

This beautiful tradition is a powerful reminder of the everyday champions like Educational Assistants and Child and Youth Workers whose quiet work helps make inclusion real for so many children and families.

We encourage you to take a moment to read [The Invisible Woman](#), a short story about a mother navigating the education system with her special needs child. It's a moving reflection on unseen labour, love, and the deep impact of those who walk beside our most vulnerable students.

As we move into this long weekend, we recognize that Thanksgiving means many things to many people—a time of gratitude, family, and reflection. It's also important to acknowledge that for some, it's a moment to consider history, resilience, and reconciliation.

harvest festivals, and cultural gatherings across our communities. Whatever and however you celebrate, may this be a time of connection, gratitude, and inclusion for all.

Wishing you a safe and joyful weekend.
Gemütlichkeit!



EAA SPIRIT WEAR!

Many of you have been asking about our new spirit wear — and it's finally here! The EAA Spirit Wear Shop is now open.

This time, you'll be able to pick up your order at our Nov 17th PD Day event, so there's no need for an extra trip.

As we head toward bargaining in the spring, let's show our pride and unity across every school community. Wearing our spirit wear is a great way to demonstrate that we are a strong, united, and a valuable group.

 Shop closes October 24, 2025

 [EAA Spirit Wear Shop](#)





Reminders

- Register for one of the bargaining townhalls
- Complete your Offence Declaration
- Double-check that your absences are recorded correctly
- Ensure your address is up to date on the WRDSB Self-Service Portal

EAA Bargaining Information Town Halls

Meeting Dates:

- Virtual – Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM
- In-Person – Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM
 - Location: The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave, Kitchener, ON N2C 2H6

Light snacks will be provided at the in-person meeting.

Register here:

<https://forms.gle/6iU5JEZiuScPgfy77>

We encourage all members to attend one of these sessions to better understand the process.

Questions

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