

AUGUST 2013

The Public Interest

News you can use from the Ontario College of Teachers



Back-to-school: By the numbers

A look at what the big day looks like:

- Ontario schools expect to welcome 1,854,679 students on the first day of school – 10,000 less than in 2012 (Source: Ontario Ministry of Education)
- \$1.5 billion: the amount of money spent in 2011 on back-to-school supplies (Source: Statistics Canada)



Teaching with tech: “A” is for Android, “B” is for “Blackberry”

With new and different technologies emerging every day, Ontario Certified Teachers must look at each with a critical eye to ensure only the ones that make sense make it into the classroom. From gadgets to apps, here’s a rundown of what works well (or not).

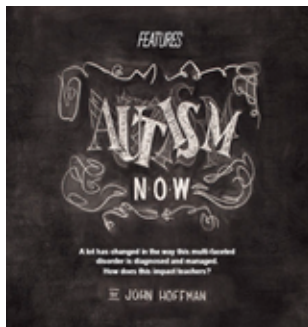
Learn more: Did you know 69% of high school students believe mobile devices will replace text books in five years?



The anatomy of popular school lunches

You know the saying: you are what you eat. Thanks to the *Healthy Food for Healthy Schools Act*, which resulted in a province-wide ban on junk food and vending machine pop, healthier snacks and lunches are being served in our schools. But we're not there just yet. See what we learned.

From pizza to pasta: the ins and outs of popular school lunches.



Autism in the classroom

A lot has changed in how Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), a multi-faceted disorder, is diagnosed and managed. Thirty years ago, schools and teachers weren't equipped to teach ASD students. Much has changed – for the better.

Read about: ASD in the classroom.



Remarkable Teachers: Inspiring those who inspire us

Every issue of *Professionally Speaking*, the College's magazine, features a story of scholarly inspiration from a Canadian celebrity or notable figure. Actor William Shatner, actor-director Sarah Polley and many others all have a teacher who changed the course of their lives forever.

This month: Meet Luc Renaud, OCT, former teacher to actor Kevin Zegers.
