



*District 2, Algoma
Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit
President's Report for District Meeting
January 25, 2024*



It has been an interesting couple of months since our last Meeting! It seems like the months just fly by and before we know it, it will be March break! Happy days!

Highlights from the OTBU

PREPARATION & APPROVAL OF THE OTBU BRIEF

The brief was prepared, endorsed and submitted to Provincial Office in December. We had to make a few changes, but overall, the brief was approved.

- I have been keeping in close contact with the TBU for updates on their progress (or lack of progress) from the TBU Negotiations. Many of their issues will affect the OTBU. It is important that we do not table and/or agree to language that might be contrary to the TBU negotiations. I will be scheduling a meeting with the TBU members after next week as they are in the middle of important discussions at this time.
- The Table Team for the OTBU is: **Ellen Jardine (Chapleau), Kevin Hogan and Steve Pavlik** from the Sault. I am truly blessed to have such a dedicated group of members willing to get the job done!
- Our dates for negotiations are Wednesday, February 21 and Thursday, February 22. Hopefully, we will be able to get the majority of items dealt with as time will be running out since March 28th will be here before we know it!

MEMBER ISSUES – BOARD CONTINUES TO BRING MY MEMBERS IN FOR COMPLAINTS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL.

- I have had a busy year meeting members at the Board to respond to concerns brought to HR by administrators in the schools. I can't believe it! Some of these issues could have been dealt with and resolved without HR participation, but that's the new norm it seems!
- I still have two (2) members waiting for the second follow-up meeting with HR. Prior to the Christmas break, both members responded to the Board's concerns. I have asked for follow-up meetings but at this point "radio silence"!

AUTOMATED CALL-OUT SYSTEM – EASY CONNECT - ATE

We met with the Board prior to Christmas and conveyed the concerns members were having with the call-out system. Those concerns were mostly of a technical nature. Nic Turco was to contact Apply to Education and get their responses. I did receive a follow-up response from Nic in early January. We also agreed to change the call-out times during the week as well as the Sunday call-out times. We believe those times are more realistic and convenient for most Occasional Teachers. We will survey members at the end of March to determine next steps.

AMPA – 2024

Ellen Jardine, an Occasional Teacher from Chapleau, volunteered to attend AMPA as there was a vacancy on the Delegation. Two OSSTF Members forwarded their names, but after drawing lots Ellen was the successful volunteer. I look forward to working with her and the entire District 2 Delegation. District 2, Algoma Delegation rocks!

OCCASIONAL TEACHERS' LIST

Finally, we continue to monitor and update the Occasional Teachers' List. The Board is constantly adding names of “qualified” and “unqualified” members who then become “qualified”. There are people on the List that are EAs doing occasional work, teachers on leave doing OTBU work, and the list goes on and on! So, at the end of the day, we are just doing the best we can to ensure compliance on the part of the Board.

Have a good month!

Respectfully submitted by,

*Sharon Indrevold, President
Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit
District 2, Algoma*