



*District 2, Algoma
Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit
President's Report
June 9, 2020*

HIGHLIGHTS:

In addition to the "Take 2 – Newsletter" Update, there are several items that I would like to draw to your attention with regards to Provincial and Local items of business. They are as follows:

PROVINCIAL

- **AMPA 2020** – Both Christy Lyons and I attend the virtual version of AMPA 2020 – My personal reflections were that it was a truly frustrating experience. Without seeing people speaking and responding to motions it was less than ideal. However the business of the house was completed after an extension of the timelines that took us to almost 7:00- p.m. on Saturday night. There had been a hard time set for 4:30 p.m. but because of debate and a multitude of "RED" cards, we weren't able to pass the final budget until almost 7:00! Truly an unsettling, disturbing and heart wrenching ending to this AMPA. Let's hope we have a better one next year.
- **NEW BUILDING – 60 MOBILE DRIVE** – As you may or not be aware OSSTF has commissioned architects to draw up plans for a new Office at 60 Mobile Drive. The present offices are just "prohibitive to repair", so a new office will be built on the former 60 Mobile Drive site over the next several years. In the meantime, they are retrofitting 49 Mobile Drive and will move all operations to that building for September 2020. Budgeted amount set at \$85 million. Stay tuned!
- **DEPLOYMENT – INITIATIVE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**
Statistics as reported to date:
 - 42 Boards in Ontario have signed Agreements
 - District 2 signed but "as information only" to our Membership – did not endorse the plan – just agreed to distribute to our membership should they consider applying
 - It was noted that member should consider the risks versus pay factors
 - 660 OSSTF members across the Province applied to access the Deployment plan
 - 50 members were approved * based on ministry requirements
 - 0 – have been deployed – absolutely NONE are working as of June 5, 2020
 - (Note: the areas that they require additional workers was in the Long-Term Homes – cleaning, maintenance, custodians)

- **PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS 2020 – 2021** have been set however, all physical meetings, conferences, regionals, etc, have been cancelled until December 31, 2020. Our firm dates are: September 25 (virtual); November 20 (virtual); February 5, 2021; April 23, 2021; and June 4, 2021

LOCAL ISSUES:

- **REPLENISHING OF THE LTO POOL** – The Board has sent out a call for Occasional teachers to apply for the Secondary Occasional Long-Term Pool that closed on June 4th. Interviews are to be conducted on June 10, 11, 12 so the appointments to the LTO List are completed before the Secondary School Staffing is completed and/or any permanent contract positions or LTO positions are posted
- In discussion with Frank Palumbo, Superintendent HR, it was agreed that the written portion of the posting requirement would be waived for this round and that we agreed to shift the percentage to the following – 70 % Interview; 30% Focused Resume
- We believe we are still not where we would like the numbers/percentages to be but this is definitely a shift in the right direction as we know that the Interview percentages can be advantageous to some and a definite disadvantage to others who may otherwise be exemplary teachers...
- **JUST A REMINDER: Article 15.9** clearly states that an OT on the LTO who requests and is granted a Leave for a year will have their name removed from the LTO List or Roster but will be reinstated to the List(s) once they rescind or return from their Leave of Absence
NOTE: There have been some glitches with this process but hopefully, those will be resolved for September and consistency can be implemented so all members are recorded appropriately and accurately on the List(s).

INTENT TO RETURN – There has been an error on the Board's portal and the dates but all has been rectified and corrected. All Intents to Remain have been processed accordingly and there is still time to record your intent with regards to next year. Deadline: June 15, 2020.

BUDGET MEETING:

Kevin and I participated in the District's Finance Meeting where we set the budget for all Bargaining Units and District for 2020 -2021. At the end of day, all Bargaining Units and District saw a slight reduction in our budget due to declining membership numbers (FTE) and obviously some additional increases in costs. We will have to work within our means and as always we have been doing just that so we will continue to do that during the next federation year.

NOTE: We have seen and are expecting to see a reduction in the Levy Account and will continue to see that reduction until we have a clearer picture of what will happen in September, what the school year will look like, and how specifically those things will affect our membership (casuals and LTOS positions). Until then, we will have to remain patient and do the best we can to ensure that there are as many employment opportunities as possible for all occasional teachers. Stay tuned as the plans are rolled out from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and ADSB. Time will tell!

LTOS – ENTERING SCHOOLS/CLASSROOMS

I have had a couple of request regarding what our members should and should not be doing re: re-entry to retrieve possessions, work in the schools and/or help administrators with packaging up student belongs, etc...all I can say is that they should feel safe, follow Ministry of Health and Board guidelines, but they are NOT obliged to enter a school if they are feeling comfortable or safe to do so. The onus is on the member and NO ONE should be pressured into attending a school for whatever reason. It will always be your choice to protect your safety first.

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES/TIMES FOR 2020 – 2021

Summary of district meeting dates as well Provincial council dates – under separate cover

DISTRICT

Saturday, September 19, 2020

District AGM 2020 – TBA

***Christmas Party – Friday November 27, 2020**

Saturday, November 28, 2020

Saturday, February 20, 2021

***Pre-AMPA Delegates Meeting – Friday March 5, 2021**

Saturday, April 24, 2021

****Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Saturday May 8, 2021****

***Awards Dinner – Friday, June 11, 2021**

Saturday, June 12, 2021

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

September 25, 2020

November 20, 2020

February 5, 2021

April 23, 2021

June 4, 2021

DISCUSSION: STATUS OF BRIEF & NEGOTIATIONS

NEXT STEPS:

- Lamia returned the brief and made a couple of recommendations for some small changes that I will incorporate in the final Draft.
- I also have to complete the new Brief Analysis Form (6 pages) that must be submitted to Provincial Office as soon as possible.
- Lastly, we have to notify the Board of our intent to negotiate ..then perhaps we can set some dates to exchange briefs etc.

Respectfully submitted by, *Have a wonderful summer!!*

Sharon

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

