

### **Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence: Lynn Carss**

On May 5<sup>th</sup> Premier Dalton McQuinty presented his annual Awards for Teaching Excellence. District 26 is proud to announce the Lynn Carss (Almonte DHS) was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. The citation posted on the Ministry website states, *"An accomplished athlete, Lynn Carss has been sharing and instilling a life-long passion for sport and active-living with her students throughout her teaching career. Seemingly tireless, she coached three sport teams most of her 29 years of teaching, assumed roles in provincial sport organizations and initiated successful community campaigns. Her enthusiasm and excitement for the subjects she teaches has inspired many of her students to either continue studying these subjects or pursue a career in teaching. That's a testament to how motivating she is."* Congratulations Lynn.

### **Occasional Teacher Renewal for 2010-2011**

The Board invites all teachers who are currently on the OT list to renew their eligibility to do supply work for the 10/11 school year. It is essential that each employee check his/her UCDSB email address in order to receive the preliminary instructions for renewal. The second step is to go to the Apply to Education website to complete the process. A series of "questions and answers" will be made available on this site to assist members. It is imperative that members wishing to renew to the list do so promptly and in this manner.

### **2010 Safe Schools Summer Courses Registration**

The Canadian Safe School Network is pleased to offer the Safe Schools Certification Institute - a three-part safe schools training program, developed by educators for educators. For more information including registration, go to [www.canadiansafeschools.com/](http://www.canadiansafeschools.com/).

### **Electronic Pay Advices - Board**

OSSTF District Office has been informed by the Board that, as of Friday, August 6, 2010, pay advices (stubs) will no longer be issued on paper to those still receiving them in that format. They will be issued electronically only, accessible on Insite.

### **Spring Staffing: Teachers**

This year's spring staffing process has come to a close. With the Board's student enrollment projections for 2010-2011 coming in at an all-time low, a record number of teachers are currently not fully staffed for next school year: approximately 66 teachers are partially/fully redundant to the system (35.00 FTE) and 34 teachers on a Surplus Leave of Absence (8.17 FTE).

OSSTF has received questions from members regarding the impact of declining enrolment on employees in secondary schools. Although one would assume that the decline in all positions be proportional, OSSTF received information during the staffing process that saw 5 Vice-Principal bodies assigned to 2.0 FTE Vice-Principal positions. This means that 18 teaching sections had been used in order to staff these 5 VPs. That's the equivalent of 3 full time teaching jobs that were not available to our members during the staffing process!

OSSTF requested the Board infuse 18 teaching sections for that school back into the staffing process to benefit our members. To date, this request has been denied leaving the impression that teachers have borne far more than their fair share of the burden of job cutbacks.

### **PD Opportunity – Ed Services Conference**

The OSSTF Ed Services Committee is hosting its next biennial conference *Tools & Toys...Technology in Education* (focus on varied impact of technology) at the Doubletree by Hilton - Toronto Airport on Oct 28/29, 2010. More information - <http://www.osstf.on.ca/tools-and-toys>.

### **Qualified/Qualifying for a Change in Category?**

If members submitted their documents to OSSTF Certification and advised the Employer, in writing, that they have done so **on or before June 30, 2010**, they will be paid retroactively to **Jan. 1, 2010** once they submit a copy of their updated rating statement to the Board. Complete details can be found at [http://www.osstf26.com/teachers/Cert\\_Qual\\_Exp/Initial%20Cert%20Exp%20Pay.htm](http://www.osstf26.com/teachers/Cert_Qual_Exp/Initial%20Cert%20Exp%20Pay.htm).

### **POST Staffing Process: Teachers**

Upon completion of the Staffing process, vacant sections will be posted, from time to time, on the Board website for a period of seven (7) calendar days. ANY teacher may express interest in sections by applying through **ApplytoEducation**. ALL teachers should set the "Job Alert" feature at **ApplytoEducation** to alert them when any UCDSB position is posted.

Article 23.05 describes the order in how vacant sections are to be filled:

- Teacher with rights back to originating school;
- Teachers wanting to transfer schools;
- Teachers on Recall or teachers on a Leave of Absence due to the surplus/redundancy process;
- Part-time teachers who want to increase their time;
- Other internal candidates;
- External candidates

More details can at [www.osstf26.com](http://www.osstf26.com), Contract Teacher menu.

### **College of Teachers' makes Regulatory Changes**

Sweeping changes have been made to the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation that will affect your certificate and the courses you take. Teaching certificates have been streamlined, reducing the number from six to two.

If you completed your teacher education outside Ontario, you will no longer need 194 days of Ontario teaching experience to achieve permanent certification. This reduces barriers for teachers from other provinces or countries.

Teachers will also have a choice of 64 new technological education courses that make up a new Schedule F. Teachers will be able to take a full-year program for teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

To learn more about the new Teachers' Qualifications Regulation, visit <http://www.oct.ca/news/tqr/?lang=en-CA>

**Teachers asked to work prior to September 1, 2010**

Article 14 of the Collective Agreement states that if you are being asked, in writing, by your administration to work prior to the beginning of the school year, you are entitled to compensating days, if you **choose to accept** the written request.

Many of our secondary schools do grant compensating days to members who choose to accept a written request to work prior to the beginning of the school year. If the request at your school is done verbally, request it in writing so that you will be entitled to compensating days if you choose to accept the request.

**Pregnancy/Parental Leaves beginning on Sept. 1, 2010**

A member, who has requested a pregnancy and/or parental leave to begin the first school day of next school year (Sept 1), may be able to tell HRSDC to have their Employment Insurance benefits begin after the dates stated on the Record of Employment sent by the Employer. If your benefit period (including the two-week waiting period, if applicable) begins on the Sunday on or after September 1st, your SEB Plan top-up will be based on the **new** salary you would have received as of September 1st (including experience roll-ups and new grids, if applicable). If your benefit period (including the two-week waiting period, if applicable) begins on the Sunday before September 1st, your SEB Plan top-up will be based on the old salary you had received prior to September 1st.

Caution must be taken if the member is planning to receive the entire 52-week EI benefit. Will a member who is returning from leave on the first school day in September 2011 and who has begun their EI benefit period on the Sunday on or after September 1st, receive 52 weeks of EI benefits? Members should refer to a calendar and the "Maternity and Parental Leave" links (which includes a SEB Plan Calculator) in the "Pension and Benefits" menu at [osstf26.com](http://osstf26.com).

**- A reminder to all OSSTF members -  
Members should not be participating in  
interviews/evaluations when hiring personnel**

**~ Win a \$25 Chapters Gift Card ~**

All D26 OSSTF members are invited enter a draw for a \$25 gift card from Chapters. Simply email the answer to the question below to [office@osstf26.com](mailto:office@osstf26.com) with the words "Info Letter Draw" in the subject line. A draw will be made from those who submitted the correct answer. Deadline for entries is 4 PM on June 30, 2010. Winners will be announced in Sept 2010.

**The Question:** Where do you get a copy of your paystub after August 6, 2010?

*Congratulations to Janet Munroe-Carpenter, our May winner!*

**PAR Leader Duties – Report Cards**

OSSTF would like to reiterate that, in accordance with Article 19.02, PAR leaders **should not** "assess teachers' comments made on students' formal reports". This means reviewing such comments (grammar, syntax, format, etc.), making a determination as to the appropriateness of the comment, making such corrections or advising the teacher or administration that such a comment is either acceptable or not acceptable. If PAR leaders are directed by their administration to do so, we ask that they comply and inform the local Branch Steward. However, OSSTF has no objection to...

- PAR leaders, in their respective program area meetings, informing members regarding the administration's expectations of report card comments (grammar, syntax, format, curriculum links, appropriateness etc)
- PAR leaders mentoring teachers who request aid in developing report card comments
- PAR leaders reviewing the spread of marks for classes in their program area

**Teacher Performance Appraisal & NTIP**

Teachers are reminded to call the District Office immediately should they receive a "below standard" performance appraisal or a "development needed" performance appraisal.

**District 26 Summer Office Hours**

The District Office will be closed from July 1 to August 31, inclusively. During the summer, your D26 Officers can be reached by e-mail (cell phone numbers are available by calling 1-877-826-7783):

Danny Thomas  
[danny@osstf26.com](mailto:danny@osstf26.com)

Rick Zeilstra  
[rick@osstf26.com](mailto:rick@osstf26.com)

Rob Shaheen  
[rob@osstf26.com](mailto:rob@osstf26.com)

**In the event of an emergency, contact Provincial OSSTF at 1-800-267-7867 and ask for the Duty Officer.**

*A Special Thanks to...*

- Our Branch Stewards, Vice-Stewards, CBC reps, Committee reps and Executives for their hard work and dedication in ensuring the rights and interests of the membership are protected and maintained. These members volunteered their time and efforts to OSSTF.
- Our Office Manager, Susan Tierney, ensuring the daily mechanics of the District Office are smooth and operational.
- And the OSSTF District 26 membership – for their hard work in advancing the cause of Public Education.

*Congratulations to our Retirees...* On behalf of OSSTF District 26 and the membership, best wishes in all your future endeavors.

**Enjoy your  
Summer Holidays**

**OSSTF present several awards each year. Read about them and email us if you know of a deserving colleague.  
[Details at [osstf26.com](http://osstf26.com), "Awards & Bursaries" Quick Links]**

**OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarship (June 30)**

