

2010 Spring Staffing Process - Teachers

The 2010 Spring Staffing Process has begun. The Joint Secondary Staffing Review Committee, comprised of OSSTF and Board personnel, monitors this process from beginning to end. Teachers are staffed for the following school year through this process.

The seniority list has been reposted and members should verify if the information is correct. Key dates to remember:

April 15 to April 29	Principals have discussion with teachers who are declared partially surplus. Teachers shall be given two working days to declare to their Principal which of the options in 21.08 they have chosen.
May 4	Last day for teachers to be declared surplus to school, in writing
May 20 and June 2	2 Placement Meetings: All teachers can express interest in posted vacant sections (posted May 17, May 28). This includes teachers wishing to transfer, part-time teachers increasing their time, surplus teachers, teachers on a leave of absence, etc.
June 10	Displacement ("bumping") process

OSSTF urges all teachers to ensure they have an account created with **ApplytoEducation.com**. This is required if you wish to apply to sections when on the Surplus/SLOA/Recall lists, wish to transfer or increase your teaching time, etc. The instructions can be located on the Employers *Insite*

Important information and details on the entire Staffing Process is posted at osstf26.com

- All members are encouraged to read this -

Services Review Committee – Call for Applicants

The District President is soliciting from the membership at large those interested in serving on this District Committee. Read and complete the form "Services Review Application" link in the "What's New" menu. Applications are due by May 6, 2010.

District 26 Annual General Meeting – May 6, 2010

All members of OSSTF District 26 are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting. Please respond to your Branch Steward if you are attending. PSSPs (AGM is on May 5, 2010) and Occasional Teachers can respond to the District Office by email (office@osstf26.com) or 1-877-826-7783.

Elected Bargaining Unit Executive, District Executive and Officer positions are open to any interested member. These nominations are due no later than **April 27, 2010, 4:00 pm**.

Details of the AGM, awards, application & nomination forms are available at www.osstf26.com
"Annual General Meeting" link in the "What's New" menu

Scholarship Committee Vacancy

The Provincial Executive is seeking to fill a vacancy on the OSSTF Provincial Scholarship Committee to commence in the 2010-2011 school year. The Committee meets two times per year, in mid February (consider application for scholarships) and in late May (considers family bursaries), for two school days each meeting. Members are required to review a considerable number of applications on their own time prior to meeting dates. Interested members should email, mail or fax a letter of application, with an accompanying resumé and letter of reference from their Bargaining Unit President to William Reith, Director of Educational Services, OSSTF, 60 Mobile Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M4A 2P3 by April 30.

Pension Slideshow Available at OSSTF.on.ca

Slideshows have been made available to help teachers better understand the OTTP through a new website: FundingYourPension.com. The content was developed by representatives of AEFO, ETFO, OECTA, OSSTF, OTF, Ontario Government and OTPP. The website hosts five separate slideshows: Funding Your Pension; Conditional Inflation Protection; Plan Maturity; What is Smoothing?; and Where Assumptions Fit In. The website also provides a FAQ section as well email form that allows you to pose questions of your own.

2010 OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarship

The OFL is calling for applications for its annual Labour Honour Roll Scholarship. The OFL will award two scholarships worth \$2,000 each to the selected member or child of a member of a local union affiliated with the OFL. The scholarships are awarded in honour of distinguished trade union activists selected by representatives of the OFL Executive Board. The scholarship recipients must be entering, in September 2010, the first year of a full-time course of study leading to a diploma, certificate or degree from any public Ontario college or university. The criteria for selection of the scholarship winners are: 1) A brief resumé outlining non-academic interests and activities, such as community or political involvement as well as goals for the future; 2) Evidence of understanding of the role and significance of the Canadian labour movement by submitting an essay of not more than 1,000 words. The topic is: "Given the current economic reality, and looking at your own family, how do you think your retirement income / pension will differ from that of your parent(s)?" The deadline for receipt of applications is May 28, 2010. If interested, please contact Danny Thomas at District Office (1-877-826-7783) for an application form. The winners will be announced by July 5, 2010.

OTF Workshops

OTF is offering three-day workshops in ideal locations across Ontario, providing teachers with time to learn, reflect on classroom practices, collaborate with colleagues, and share best practices.

Copies of the *OTF Professional Learning* newsletter: Volume 6 Spring 2010 have been mailed to the attention of branch representatives to place copies in all teachers' mailboxes or link to <http://www.otffeo.on.ca/english/pro/pro-newsletter.pdf>.

For more information on the OTF 2010 Summer Program, specific locations, and online registration, visit http://www.otffeo.on.ca/english/pro_camp.php, for details on all workshops.

Also featured in the OTF newsletter is the Media Violence Conference to be held October 15-16, 2010 at the Doubletree by Hilton Toronto Airport.

Support Staff Appreciation Day - May 5, 2010

One very important aspect of Education Week is **Support Staff Appreciation Day**. The following is a list of just a few ways that you might ensure that the vital role of support staff recognized at your work site:

- ❑ Make a Happy Support Staff Day Announcement for the May 05 announcements.
- ❑ Leave OSSTF Educational Team posters in your staff room and on prominent bulletin boards.
- ❑ Initiate a short assembly that day to which all support staff are invited and formally recognized by teachers, students and administration.
- ❑ Take a collection of donations to make a contribution to a favorite charity in the name of your support staff.
- ❑ Have teachers hold a potluck lunch with support staff as the special guests.
- ❑ Bring support staff coffee and donuts.

In recognition of the many, many ways that secretaries, custodians, teaching assistants, instructional assistants, technicians, psychologists, speech language pathologists, child and youth care workers, social workers, attendance counselors and others support both students and teachers, District 26 encourages teachers to celebrate Support Staff Appreciation Day.

OTPP Webcast

Here's your chance to learn more about the funding of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. Watch a presentation, called Funding Your Pension, and then participate in a moderated Q&A session. Representatives of the OTPP and the OTF will be on hand to answer your funding questions.

Sat., April 17, 10 to 10:45 a.m. (English)

Tues., April 20, 7 to 7:45 p.m. (English)

Sat., April 24, 10 to 10:45 a.m. (French)

To register for a webcast or for more information, including technical requirements to participate, visit:
<http://FundingYourPension.com/register.php>

~ 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 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 3 PM on March 22nd.

The Question: What is the acronym of the District 26 support staff bargaining unit?

Congratulations to Jamie Campbell of TR Leger, our March winner.

PD Available – APPLY NOW!

Members making applications to the PD fund are asked to ensure that they have attached the required documents. Several applications have met with processing delays. Once you have attended your event, please submit the Expense Claim form promptly. Approved claims are reimbursed on your regular pay advice as "expenses". The fund is currently under-expended, providing good opportunity for members to attend events in second semester.

Grievance Update – Lack of Mandatory Benefit Coverage

OSSTF recently resolved a grievance regarding approximately 30 teachers who should have had mandatory extended health and/or dental benefit coverage from Sept 1, 2004 – Aug 31, 2008, but did not. As part of the settlement, these teachers received an average benefit claim reimbursement for each year they did not have mandatory coverage in those benefits.

If you were an active full-time teacher who did not have either extended health and/or dental coverage from Sept 1, 2004 – Aug 31, 2008, and did not receive a claim as a result of this award, you will have until April 30, 2010 to self-identify to the Board.

How do you know if you did not have mandatory benefit coverage when you should have? Log onto Self Serve on Insite. Review pay cheques from Sept 1, 2004 – Aug 31, 2008 in which you were active and full-time. A non-zero dollar amount listed under the "Amount" column for each "Dental" or "EHC" lines in the box

titled "Employer Paid Benefits" indicates you did have coverage in that benefit for that month (NB - this non-zero amount usually appears on the first pay of each month). If you find that no such non-zero amounts exist on your pays, you may be eligible to a claim under this grievance resolution. Email rob@osstf26.com for more details.

OTIP Retirement Workshops

OTIP hosts a number of "Walk into Retirement" workshops, at a nominal fee. See the OTIP website for registration information and location <http://www.otip.com/workshops/workshops.aspx>

Apr 17 – Ottawa (in French) **May 29** – Ottawa (in English)

Calendar of Events

April

- 17- OTIP Retirement Workshop (Ottawa-Fr)
- 21 – Education Services Committee meeting
- 21 - Administrative Professionals' Day
- 28 - Workers' Day of Mourning
- 29 – PSSP Executive meeting

May

- 3-7: Education Week
- 5 - Support Staff Appreciation Day
- 5- PSSP AGM
- 6- District 26 AGM (District, TBU, OTBU)
- 24- Holiday
- 27- TBU Council
- 29 - OTIP Retirement Workshop (Ottawa-Eng)



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

Federation Family Bursary (April 30)

Provincial Executive Award (April 30)

Canada Post Literacy Awards (May 25)

Lincoln Alexander Award (June 2)

Workers H&S Center Scholarship (June 6)

OTIP Student Bursary (June 15)

OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarship (June 30)



OSSTF District 26 represents approximately 1000 Teachers, Occasional Teachers and PSSP members

OSSTF serves approximately 60,000 members in 140 Bargaining Units across Ontario

