

Teachers'

Bulletin

www.osstfd2o.ca/bargain.htm 905-332-1228

Drummond's Role to Advise Government Will Decide

Summary of Drummond Report Page 2

OSSTF, TORONTO, ON - Feb 15 2012 –

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF/FEESO) would regard the implementation of several of the recommendations in the Drummond Report as extremely confrontational.

The comprehensive report released by Don Drummond and his Commission last week, was tasked with reforming Ontario's Public Service. It has provided the government with many options to consider when dealing with its projected deficit. Several of those recommendations focus on the education sector and are extreme measures which would be detrimental to student success. These financial recommendations do not take into account the realities of delivering quality education to students.

"However, we understand any report of this magnitude requires thorough investigation and analysis before its full impact can be determined. As the Premier has reminded everyone, it is Don Drummond's role to advise, it is the government's role to make decisions," stated Ken Coran, President of OSSTF/FEESO.

Coran also commented that "Premier McGuinty has repeatedly stated that the key to Ontario's future success lies with a strong, publicly funded education system. The Premier has made it clear that...while we can't build the future for our kids...we can build our kids for the future. That's what education is all about."

Did You Know?

Between 2003 and 2011, there were 116,333 fewer students in Ontario.

During this period the number of staff increased by over 21,000 (11,430 teachers and 10,000 support staff).



David Roberts from Peterborough Collegiate ran the Creating Safe Work Environments Workshop this month.

Bullying in the Workplace Workshop Well Received

Thirty members signed up for the workshop on Creating Safe Work Environments on Thursday February 23 at the District Office.

The workshop addressed the issue of Teachers being bullied by administrators, parents, colleagues and students.

A survey of members determined that:

"Fifty-five percent of Teachers and Education Workers reported being the victims of bullying, either by someone in a superior position, by a student, by a parent/guardian, or by a colleague."



OSSTF Health and Safety Committee members studying Level 1 Health and Safety Certification.

Drummond Suggests Education Reforms

Summary of Cost Cutting Measures

Among the measures listed in Chapter 6 of the Drummond Report dealing with recommended reforms in education are the following:

- Increasing elementary and secondary class sizes
- Eliminating victory laps by capping high school credits at 32 per student,
- Charging transportation fees for busing
- Reducing funding for textbooks and learning materials
- Reducing the funding for capital renewal
- Removing retirement gratuities
- Reconfiguring underutilized high schools to contain Grades 7-12
- Reducing Teachers' Pension Benefits
- Raising the retirement age for the Teachers' Pension Plan
- Ending or altering the implementation of Full Day Kindergarten.

Certification Rating Statements May Need to be Re-Evaluated

If you are not at the highest Group 4 level and have not had a re-evaluation of your existing file then you could well be missing out on the opportunity for increased salary that will come with a rating change.

The Certification system has seen extensive revisions in the last 5 years (outlined at the "Recent Changes" pages of the website) and many members will find that these beneficial rule changes will allow for Group increases without any further course work.

Send in Certification Application Form #2 to the OSSTF Provincial Certification Department and request a review of existing credentials if you believe any of the changes apply to you. If you haven't been re-evaluated in a few years, send in the form regardless.

If you do not have a Certification Rating Statement you should go to the provincial website at www.osstf.on.ca and follow the Certification "Quick Links" to the Applications page.

OSSTF President Ken Coran's message:

<http://www.osstf.on.ca/osstf-president-message-to-members>

OSSTF Maternity/Parenting Workshop

Monday April 16, 2012, 4-5:30 p.m.



District Office
3410 South Service Rd.
Burlington

Contact Lorie Wiersma

Key Staffing Dates...

Please be aware of the following upcoming key dates in the staffing process for 2012-13:

- **March 1** - Deadline for the following requests for September, 2012 (sent to Debbie DeBoer):
 - Voluntary transfer/exchange
 - Extension of a current leave of absence
 - Reduced assignment (i.e. going part-time)
 - Extension of a currently reduced assignment
 - Consideration for increased assignment (i.e. top-up)
 - Confirmation of intent to return to employment status for those currently on reduced assignment
 - Confirmation of intent to return from a leave of absence
- **March 2** - Seniority lists received in schools (Teachers may appeal their placement on the seniority list until March 30)
- **March 8** - Deadline for incumbent heads to indicate to the principal whether or not they wish to continue in the headship position for 2012-13

OSSTF District 20 Teachers

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