



Brothers and Sisters

De-streaming Again?

In September, 2017, the education minister announced the intention to de-stream classes in Grade 9 and 10. A few schools in Toronto are piloting the program this year in hopes to have schools join this initiative in September 2018.

Need to know



Ontario Education Minister Mazie Hinton should stop all streaming of kids into academic- and applied-level classes in Grades 9 and 10. (RICK MACDONALD /

5 Other Big Changes for September

Changes to Civics and Careers Credits

- Ministry wants to make **Civics an elective?**
- Ministry wants to make **Careers a full ½ credit** and add financial literacy
 - (Qualifications or impact on staffing unknown at this time)
- Steering committee will make recommendations in March and anticipate details about the revision of the **new report card** to include **new “transferable skills”** for implementation as well for September!
- Boards will be required to have new plans for students with medical conditions for September (according to PPM 161 known as **Plans of Care**) which should include teacher training.

Lump Sum Payment

Method of payment negatively affecting those on maternity/paternity leaves

Provincial office is asking members to appeal the decision

(Last year those on maternity/paternity had to pay for benefits, but the rest of us have now officially had our payments waived from November to April 2017.)

Hiring for your local member protection Staff Officer is under way

Big changes from the Ministry planned for next year

January 2018

President's Message

Cindy Gage

- A big thank you for the donations from members to Halton's Women's Place.
- School visits to get input from our local members for bargaining was a success.
- The International Women's Day Dinner, on March 7th with Arlene Dickinson, will be supported and attended by our union.



Member Protection for Teachers

Jim Young

Exam Supervision

- All staff are to have equitable supervision duties including exam supervisions either in number or in length
- Reminder that all full-time employees are allocated 11 days at 100% and 120 days at 90% if you catch the flu



Closures

Negotiating with the board around staffing the closure of Robert Batman High School.

Contract

Appeal EI decision for lump sum claw back.

Projections

The actual student enrollment increased in Halton.

2016-2017	18,050 students
2017-2018	18,417 students



Track Violence in the Workplace by filling out the **GREEN Form**

Retirement Workshop will be held on May 10th at our local office, 4:30-7:30 pm, and you can register at www.otip.com/events



Your Health and Safety Officer Doug Thompson



Doug has been asking questions about the impact of the Ontario governments' changes to OHIP + and how this is going to impact the available pool of funds towards our benefits now that members' dependents under the age of 25 are covered under the new changes since January 1st.



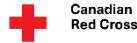
Use your personal day and stay mentally well this winter!

Treasurer

Initiatives planned to switch our banking services over to those institutions used by the Provincial office.

Educational Services

Red Cross training session held for law teachers at the union office was a success.



(Ask your local participants about the tools for teachers.)

Professional Development can still be requested for collaboration with colleagues for 2nd semester.

3 Workshops Planned

All workshops will be held at the union office

- Classroom Management (February 21, 2018)

This is an updated workshop endorsed by Provincial OSSTF. Participants will learn practical strategies for creating a positive learning environment and will have opportunities to address some of the challenging behaviours they face. The workshop will run from 12:30 pm -4 pm and release time of up to two periods and a light lunch will be provided. The workshop is limited to 30 participants.



- Collaborate with University Profs

A panel of Profs specializing in related fields on the following subjects:

- The skills and skill deficits of first year students
- Expectations for first-year students
- Recommendations for high school teachers

An informal Q&A session with teachers attending the workshop will follow the presentation.

Math/Science (March 22, 2018)

Arts/Humanities (March 27, 2018)

The workshops begin at 4:30-7:30 pm and dinner will be provided.

- Compassion Fatigue (April 25th, 2018)

Will be offered between 4:30-7:30 pm at the District 20 office. Dinner will be provided.

To register, please contact Sherrie Kerr, Educational Services Officer at sherrie.kerr@d20.osstf.ca and indicate which session you would like to attend.

Communication



@District2oteachers

Our union's yellow can be hard to read in a newsletter! Red was more appropriate for the changes that needed to be highlighted on the front page this month!

Provincial Initiatives

OSSTF have brought concerns forward about the timelines proposed for September to the Education Minister. **"While she agreed that the timelines are short, she said that the urgency is important to demonstrate our commitment to the continued improvement of our education system"**

(Provincial Executive Liason Report, December 2017)

The OCT fee increase was defeated with support from our local and provincial representatives.

Harvey Bishoff and Earl Burt voting down the proposed fee.

Reminder: The already high fee will be coming off your January paycheck!

Local Issues

Exam supervision being equitable when still required to teach in our Centres.

School calendar changes to allow for a reading break in the fall or early start in August are being done on an individual school basis in other regions.

Raised concerns over supervision outside of the classroom due to incident in the Blue pages.



Who to Contact ?

OSSTF District 20

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Full Release

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Branch Presidents

Abbey Park -	John Maras/Janet Scott (Co-BPs), Paul Uzarowski (Alt)
Acton-	Daryl LeBlanc
Aldershot-	Stephen Lindeman
Burlington Central-	Angelo Mihalis
Craig Kielburger-	Scott Nicholson
Dr. Frank J. Hayden-	Jennifer Plens/Kristen McCoy (Co-BPs)
Garth Webb-	Jennifer Patterson
Gary Allan-	Jennifer Hicks
Georgetown-	Joe Kenney/Kyle Stewart (Co-BPs)
Iroquois Ridge-	James Caldwell, Stephanie Briggs (Alt)
L.B. Pearson-	George Muhic-Day/Andrew Lychy (Co-BPs)
Milton-	Jamie Newman/Candace Saliba
MMR-	Rory Papin and Mike Flenniken (Co-BPs)
Nelson-	Kelly McCarthy/Kim Kerr (Co-BPs), Sheila Ross (Alt)
New St/Itinerant-	Alex Skene
OTHS	Rob Sargent
Robert Bateman	Paige Murphy/Colin Post (Co-BPs)
Syl Aps	Sarah Jane Black
TAB	Judy Wedeles, Jennifer Galbraith (ALT)
WOSS	S. Marciniak/N. Bhabha (Co-BPs), B. Hussain (ALT)

You pay union dues for these services so get involved!

Your Office

(905) 332-1228