

Bulletin

Have A Great Summer!



Brad Fisher
TBU President

This school year began with a General Meeting and the ratification of the Central Deal. Local sanctions continued until October 16th when a Local Deal was ratified by the membership.

OSSTF was able to reject the strips sought by the Ontario Public School Boards Association. Locally we made headway on Record of Employment Hours, Management Rights, PD, Personal Business

Days, Voluntary Transfers, and Board Investigations.

It's now time to reflect, to say good-bye, and to welcome new staff into the school family. For some of you it means a new path in your career as you move to a new school. For others it means a new beginning with retirement.

Whatever your plans, I would like to thank you for all the efforts you have made on behalf of public education in Ontario, and wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer vacation.

OSSTF Benefits Replacing Local Plan

The OSSTF Benefits Plan is a provincial plan (negotiated at the Central Table) that is replacing the local plan November 1, 2016. By August 31, 2017 all local OSSTF Benefits plans will cease to exist.

The local Halton Secondary Teachers' office is not in possession of detailed information. We do know that the plan will be administered by the Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan (OTIP) and underwritten by Manulife. OTIP has set up a call centre of over 150 people that is supposed to be operational in September. Members should continue to use the current plan over the summer and into the fall.

In September, OSSTF Benefits will be providing detailed information about the new benefits plan and the registration process.

If you have any questions, please send them to Dale.Leckie@osstfbenefits.ca.

Mentorship Award Winners



The Mentorship Awards were presented at the President's Celebration Dinner on June 14th at the Holiday Inn Banquet Centre in Burlington. Riley Watson, Abbey Park High School, (top picture on left) and Kim Wilson, Abbey Park High School (bottom picture on right) are shown receiving their awards.

Civics AQ is Politics

Mutual Agreement Needed Without AQ

The [*Canadian and World Studies, Grades 9 and 10, 2013*](#) (Revised) document was released last August and mandatory implementation of the document began in September 2014.

One significant revision affects staffing and should be brought to members' attention. The Civics course (CHV20), now called "Civics and Citizenship," is now identified under the heading "**Civics (Politics)**" and this means that teachers with Intermediate/Senior Politics (or I/S Political Science) listed on their Certificate of Qualification may now be assigned to teach Civics with no mutual agreement necessary.

Any other general education teacher with divisional qualifications must give mutual agreement to teach Civics.

Timetabling Look-Fors:

As timetables for September are firmed up, Branch Presidents and teachers should be aware of the following Article 18 workload provisions:

1. Assignment to a combined credits class (i.e. a class in which more than one credit programme is being delivered within a period) requires the agreement of the teacher. Hence, school admin should be actively seeking this agreement when such assignments are made and before they are finalized.
2. Similarly, assignment to a timetable requiring a teacher to teach three periods in a row requires the agreement of the teacher. Again, admin should be actively seeking this agreement when such assignments are made and before they are finalized.
3. Every teacher's timetable should indicate a lunch period and a prep period, as well as instructional periods. The lunch period cannot be the first or last period of the school day.
4. The school administration must have the teacher sign the Mutual Agreement form where the teacher's assignment includes 3 classes in a row, combined credits, periods 0 or 6, self-paced learning and/or teaching outside the teacher's qualifications.

OSSTF Protective Services: Employers limited requesting medical information from OSSTF members

Other than a basic sick note (indicating that a member is absent from work), the only document that should be requested and submitted is the new Functional Abilities Form from the Central Agreement.

Boards are not permitted to ask that further questions are answered by a doctor. Nor can they instruct a member to bring in a letter from the Board to their doctor.

If there is a requirement for further medical information, the Board should communicate directly to the local bargaining unit about the reasons for the need. If the rationale is legitimate (e.g. there is not enough information on the FAF to accommodate appropriately), the local will communicate to the member in order for the member to go back to the doctor to get the same FAF completed more accurately.

An Independent Medical Examination (IME) should be a rare occurrence and is only appropriate in unusual circumstances.

Retirees

Thanks for Your Dedication!

Over 25 letters of retirement have come in to date in the second semester.

I know that it must be bittersweet for many of you who have fond memories of what has been a very rewarding career, for it is mixed with the anticipation and excitement of the freedom to pursue new experiences and challenges.

Know that you have left an indelible mark,

We will miss your professional expertise and your friendship.

As you move into a future bright with possibility, a future of challenges to conquer and of dreams to aspire to - our best wishes travel with you!

Your future awaits - with you - its inventor.

To all of the retirees, thanks for all you have done for our students in Halton and for public education in Ontario. Best wishes for the future!

Brad Fisher, HSTBU President

HALTON Secondary Teacher Retirees 2015-2016

Florina	Allega	Aldershot
Anne	Buck	T.A. Blakelock
Kent	Burns	Burlington Central
Corrine	Burton	Oakville Trafalgar
Rod	Bynum	Syl Apps
Beverley	Clifton	M.M. Robinson
Katherine	Cooke	Burlington Central
Lesley	Devereux	Nelson
June	Fortune	T.A. Blakelock
Neil	Fox	Syl Apps
Craig	Green	L.B. Pearson
Pat	Howe	Milton
Marlene	Hume	Oakville Trafalgar
Nadine	Leach	Robert Batemen
Dave	Lewis	NSEC
John	Lynch	CAPIS
Dave	Martin	Abbey Park
Stephen	Maule	Milton
Rob	McQueen	Aldershot
Charles	Re	Gary Allan
Kevin	Reid	Robert Bateman
Al	Samsa	Iroquois Ridge
Julie	Scott-Trask	Craig Kielburger
Elizabeth	Sharp	Burlington Central
Gerhard	Shuetz	Milton
Karen	Smith Fisher	L.B. Pearson
Kim	Swanson	Georgetown
Lorraine	Yuill	T.A. Blakelock

become friends rather than just colleagues. My plan for retirement is to have no plan! I will certainly return to Blakelock in various capacities.

Lorraine Yuill



Lorraine Yuill, T.A. Blakelock H.S.

Lorraine started her teaching career in Scotland where she was a Department Head of Business and Economics before emigrating to Canada in 1987. She taught at Sheridan College for one year before securing the role of Co-operative Education Program Manager in a brand new school in Dufferin Peel.

In 2001 Lorraine started teaching Co-op at T.A. Blakelock during which time she initiated the first Student Safety Charter in Ontario, co-ordinated the Duke of Edinburgh Award and hosted Apprenticeship and Community Fairs.

Her most memorable moments are meeting former students whose career pathway was strongly influenced by their Co-op experience. Lorraine is looking forward to spending more time golfing in Thornbury and visiting her sisters in Italy and Scotland.

Anne Buck

I began my teaching career in 1984 at Nelson H.S then moved to Perdue H.S. for 2 and a 1/2 years. I then transferred to T.A. Blakelock H.S where I have been teaching for the last 29 years. I am so thankful that I have been lucky enough to work in a job that I love. I still love it, although it takes more energy than I can give.

Highlights have revolved around coaching basketball, volleyball, soccer and badminton throughout the years. I still keep in touch with many of the athletes! I will miss the daily contact with many of the staff members as many have

Pat Howes



Pat Howes, Milton D.H.S.

It is time to put down the chalk. I cannot believe it has been over 30 years of exciting young minds and watching them grow into self-confident individuals. It is scary to think you are now teaching the offspring of those that have passed through Milton District HS before them. You start to think, have I really been teaching that long? I feel so young of heart, how can this be?

I began my career in Brantford working at a very tough school. It was enough to make me want to quit and pick a new profession. However, it was here I began to realize what an impact a teacher can have on others. When students want to be in your class, want to take time to get help after school, join extra-curricular activities, talk out a problem, or decide to finish high school because you have connected with them, you know you have made it. These were a few of the reasons I knew I could do this job, all I had to do was be me.

I was fortunate to spend the rest of my career in Halton. At the beginning I got to travel to many schools each for a semester or two. One of them was Milton District HS. I loved it. I was hired for math and also got to pick up a science. Unfortunately it was not to be as happens to many young teachers as they jockey for a position with the more experienced. I am forever thankful Gary Allan hired me to be a part of the Self-Reliant Learning Program. It was a great opportunity to become proficient at writing curriculum, teaching biology, chemistry plus a few miscellaneous courses over my time there. I agreed with Gary's philosophy which made it easy to be a part of a great staff. It was wonderful working with students who had a new appreciation for school after opting out years before. It was awesome to see them graduate.

Eventually I found myself at Milton District and knew I had come home. I have been fortunate to spend the last 22 years working with the best staff and students. Once a Mustang, always a Mustang. Even the

retired staff are there for every important occasion and often come back to visit. There are many memories I will cherish for years to come. I wish the new generation of teachers can love their career and have as much fun as I have.

Florina Allega



Florina Allega, Aldershot H.S.

September 1986 was the start of Florina's teaching career at Stewarttown P.S. followed by a deferred leave (1993-94) which she spent in France.

Upon her return, Florina joined the Queen Elizabeth Park team with a staff of 14 French teachers who taught across the panels. "I found at QEP I was "growing" along with the students I was teaching. Then came the fateful day for its closure, and I came to Aldershot School (secondary) in September of 2002."

Florina says "I have met some incredible colleagues and administrators that I will never cease to admire, not only through the wonderful teaching they did for the students, but also for the relationship building that they, too, valued."

Florina would like to travel, play tennis and take up something creative, maybe photography or art. She says "perhaps writing may fulfil this creative side too...perhaps même en français!"

Nadine Leach



Nadine Leach, Robert Batemen H.S

I started working in 1983 at White Oaks North and from there I hopped about to General Brock, QE Park, Gordon E Perdue (where I was part of a school closure), Lester B Pearson, back to Brock and then landing at RBHS during the amalgamation process. During the first half of my career, I taught English and then found my true inspiration teaching Special Education and Drama. Anything creative!

The pivotal point of my career has been working with the Autistic students at this school. I love being on the front lines working directly with the kids. I feel like the last four years have been the most gratifying for me in my entire teaching career. Being part of something that helps students build trust, confidence, and navigate through social situations, and then walk across that stage at graduation, warms my heart. These kids made my decision to retire so difficult because at one point I felt like I was abandoning them...and of course, I know that's not true.

I'm sure all of this won't settle in until the Fall. I'm going to be doing some supply teaching, writing a book, & spending more time on my little shabby chic upcycling business.

I have met so many wonderful people on my journey and have made so many great friends. Teaching has become part of who I am and I'm going to miss you guys! All the best to the other retirees and Bateman staff! Have a great summer...you all deserve time to recharge and enjoy yourselves as I know how hard you work for the kids!

Robb McQueen



Robb McQueen, Aldershot H.S.

Robb came to Halton in 2000 as Head of Science at MM Robinson, with more than 15 years of teaching, many of those with the District Board of Niagara. It wasn't long before Robb became Head of Guidance, Careers, Co-op and Library at Aldershot School and has remained in that position for the past 13 years.

The day Robb retires is the day he takes possession of a home on 5 acres of land, situated on the ocean about 45 minutes east of Halifax. Robb and his wife Sharon are looking forward to spending time with two of their daughters who live in Nova Scotia and enjoying the slower pace of life in the Maritimes (and all of the seafood that comes along with it!).

As an alumnus of Aldershot High School, and a lifelong resident of the community of Aldershot, it was always Robb's dream to teach at Aldershot School. His four children graduated from Aldershot, and a highlight was the opportunity to personally present each of his children with their OSSD during the Commencement ceremonies.

Corrine Burton



Corrine Burton, Oakville Trafalgar H.S.

During the 1980's, I started my teaching career in the Newfoundland Vocational System and then taught for the City of Halifax. My Halton teaching career began at Oakville Trafalgar in February 1993. After spending two years at OTHS, in the fall of 1995, I moved to E.C. Drury in Milton; in the fall of 1998, a job opened at OTHS and I transferred back. I have been at OTHS in the Business Department ever since. Over the years, I was able to specialize in law and this program became my favorite to teach.

I have wonderful memories of the many colleagues with whom I have shared my teaching career, as well as the many students I have taught. Coaching, the staff social committee and the Interact Club have also played a big part in my teaching career. In retirement, I am looking forward to spending more time with my sons, their wives and my five grandchildren. My hope is that I have passed on to my students a love of learning and a love of the law. I have looked forward to coming to school every day! Thank you OT!



Post-
Secondary
Scholarship
Program

**Applications must be submitted by
August 31, 2016**

For many Canadian students, the jump from high school to post-secondary education is a thrilling transition into adulthood, but one that comes with new financial responsibilities.

Since 1998, Johnson has awarded over 1500 scholarships valued at more than \$1 million to support young Canadians coast to coast in pursuing their post-secondary education.

This year, we are pleased to offer 50 scholarships worth \$1000 each to students who have an auto or home policy through Johnson (or their parent/guardian or grandparent), or have a parent or grandparent who is a member/employee of a Johnson sponsor/client group, or who are children and grandchildren of Johnson employees.

Students must have completed high school in 2016 and must be beginning post-secondary education this fall.

Applications for the Scholarship Program will be open starting **April 1st, 2016**. Completed application forms must be submitted by **August 31st, 2016** and must contain an official school transcript of final year credits.

For more information, or to apply for a Johnson Inc. scholarship, please call or visit 1.866.544.2673 | johnson.ca/scholarship.

Halton Secondary Teachers OSSTF District 20

980 Fraser Drive, Unit 211, Burlington, ON L7L 5P5

Brad Fisher, President
Jim Young, Staff Officer for Member Protection
John Watson, Staff Officer for Health and Benefits
Lorie Wiersma, Executive Assistant

Phone: (905) 332-1228

Fax: (905) 335-9220

www.osstfd20.ca