

# Strike Vote to be held September 24, 25

*Send the Government a Message- See Page 2*



September 12, 2012

Teachers'

## Bulletin

[www.osstfd2o.ca](http://www.osstfd2o.ca)

905-332-1228

### It's Not Business as Usual!

As the 2012-2013 school year begins:

#### Do:

- Review your collective agreement.
- Your professional duties as assigned.
- Contact your Branch President or the District Office at 905-332-1228 if you are pressured to do a task that you believe is beyond your professional duties or contractual obligations.
- Consider the length of your school day.
- Consider your ability or desire to be an Acting Administrator or Teacher -in-Charge.
- Consider your ability or desire to volunteer for additional responsibilities (such as teams, plays, musicals, clubs).
- Participate in collective action if called upon.
- Take your lunch and scheduled breaks
- Support your colleagues on the Education Team

#### Don't:

- Participate in unsanctioned strike actions at your school or workplace.
- Express your frustrations to students.
- Feel pressured to volunteer.
- Subsidize the learning environment with your soon-to-be reduced salary.
- Jeopardize your health.



Over 5,000 Teachers and education workers rallied against the government's undemocratic legislation at Queen's Park on August 28.

## Pants on Fire!

### *Government Spin at Its Worst!*

### *McGuinty's Hypocrisy!*

Dalton McGuinty is on the record saying that he respects the bargaining process and would never tear up collective agreements. All he is asking for is a pause in teachers' salary increases.

**Fact 1:** It's not a pause. It's a two-year pay cut with cuts to negotiated benefits and an austerity motivated future change to the negotiated grids.

**Fact 2:** Bill 115, the government's legislation to control teachers and education workers, ignores existing collective bargaining and human rights legislation, imposes contracts, and takes away the right to strike.

It is a direct assault on our constitutional rights. If the government succeeds, they will have diminished the democratic rights of all Canadians.

### *Laurel Broten Shameless Takes Credit for Retiree Supply 'Limits'*

On August 20 it was reported by CTV News that Laurel Broten was moving "to reduce part-time hours for retired teachers." (See page 2)

***Pants on Fire continued***

**Fact 1:** The move actually increases the work for retired Teachers over the long term. Before this year retired Teachers could work 95 days for 3 years, and 20 thereafter. Now they can work for 50 plus days forever.

Many of the retired Teachers were at 20 days and have had their entitlement increased. And if the Teacher works their last day at the beginning of the last month, they are entitled to teach the rest of the month putting them up to 70. Nice reduction Laurel... no wonder the Liberals have trouble balancing the books.

**Fact 2:** This change was announced in 2010 as a change required by the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. The government shamelessly resold it and took credit for it. Indeed, it appears in the June 2010 District 20 Teachers' Newsletter still found on our website.

***Back-to-Work Legislation?***

Laurel Broten, Minister of Education, said that Bill 115 was needed to ensure the school year started as Teacher strikes had been called. She kept a straight face during the interview.

**Fact 1:** Not one Teacher Union had called for strikes in the fall. All were going to start negotiations with their boards, following the collective bargaining process outlined in the Labour Relations Act. There was no strike to be averted. It was a sham!

**Fact 2:** Broten misled the public by fear mongering and stating that Teacher strike votes meant that strikes were imminent. The strike votes that are called are taken as a normal part of the bargaining process, outlined in the Labour Relations Act, where members authorize their representatives to initiate the bargaining process.



*Elizabeth Almeida, Abbey Park, Michelle Neumann, Syl Apps, and Janet Milanowski, M.M. Robinson, were among the thousands who attended the rally against the government's bargaining legislation.*

***OSSTF Orders Strike Votes Local Bargaining Called Off!***

At an emergency meeting of all OSSTF District Presidents on September 7th, Ken Coran, OSSTF President, called for strike votes to be taken across the province not later than September 26th.

OSSTF has called off bargaining in all Districts citing the government's stipulation that a deal signed by a bargaining unit and a board could be rejected or have parts of it ripped out at the government's pleasure.

OSSTF views this is an unprecedented attack on the Teaching Profession, and on the workers of Ontario. It is a direct assault on our democracy, the rule of law, and challenges the foundations of our society. There are indicators that this is only the beginning, and that McGuinty intends to control salaries by altering Teachers' salary grids, freezing the wages and stripping benefits of the entire public sector.

**Maternity/Parenting Workshop**  
  
Monday September 17, 2012  
4 p.m.  
  
OSSTF District 20 Office  
3410 South Service Road, Burlington  
  
If interested in attending, please contact:  
Lorie Wiersma at [wiersmal@osstfd20.ca](mailto:wiersmal@osstfd20.ca)  
or phone 905-332-1228.

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