

OSSTF benefits begin November 1, 2016



September 9, 2016

Teachers'

Bulletin

www.osstfd2o.ca

905-332-1228

Sue Doughty-Smith Halton's Executive Liaison



The Halton Secondary Teachers' Bargaining Unit welcomes the appointment of Sue Doughty-Smith as the Provincial representative in Halton.

Sue Doughty-Smith was elected at AMPA 2013 to the Provincial Executive as an Executive Officer. Her current term ends in 2017.

Sue was born in Lindsay and attended elementary school in southern Ontario before moving to Thunder Bay to complete high school. She completed the Developmental Services Program through Confederation College.

Sue has been a Student Support Professional with Lakehead Public Schools since 1978, and has held many roles in District 6A – Thunder Bay. These include being the Education Assistants Bargaining Unit President, District 6A Vice President and Provincial Councilor.

Sue has also been Educational Support Staff sector chair, a member of the provincial Collective Bargaining Committee, and has actively presented Educational Services workshops to members across the province.

OSSTF Benefits Active November 1, 2016

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

Sign-up required before local benefits expire!

In late September the Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan (OTIP) will launch the new OSSTF Benefits Plan. All members should be looking for:

- An OTIP welcome package to arrive at your mailing address in late September.
- On-line enrolment instructions sent to your board email.

The OSSTF website www.osstf.on.ca will have a link to OSSTF Benefits information in the members' only section.

The OTIP welcome package will be mailed out in late September and will contain:

- Benefits plan summary
- Outline of important dates and required actions
- Enrolment checklist
- Enrolment Q&A's

OTIP will send on-line enrolment instructions to members' board emails. Each member will be provided with a unique OTIP ID number, plan number and default password. Members will be guided to www.otip.com/enrol to register and complete their benefits enrolment

Benefits card will be mailed to members two weeks before coverage begins. To ensure proper coverage is in place, members need to enroll prior to their plan start date on November 1, 2016.

OTIP will send multiple email reminders if a member has not completed enrolment.

If a member hasn't enrolled after 31 days from the plan 'go-live' date, a notice will be emailed to the member notifying them that their coverage has been defaulted according to plan terms.

Email reminders and expiry notice will be sent to your board email.

How to keep your job

There is a world of difference between being friendly towards your students in a professional manner and trying to be friends with them. The former can enhance your performance as a teacher. The latter, to be blunt, can get you fired.

The boundary between professional and unprofessional contact with students can be somewhat fluid, depending on circumstances. However, it is vital for you as a teacher to remember that that boundary exists, and to have a clear sense of when you may be approaching it in any given situation.

See Professional Contact page 2

Have a great start to the 2016-2017 school year!

Maternity/Parenting Workshop

Halton Secondary Teachers
Wednesday October 26, 2016
4:15 p.m.

Halton Secondary Teachers Office
980 Fraser Drive, Unit 211
Burlington ON.

Please confirm your desire to attend with Lorie Wiersma
by
Phone: 905 332 1228
or
Email: Lorie.Wiersma@d20.osstf.ca

Professional Contact – from page 1

One reason people become teachers is that they like to help and inspire students. Some students, however, have needs greater than any classroom teacher can meet. In such cases, rather than becoming the student's 'confidante,' the teacher needs to help the student to reach out to other supports within the school, whether it be School Team, the Guidance Department, or the school's social worker.

Never before have there been so many options for communicating with students orally and in writing. Consequently, never have the risks attendant upon inappropriate communication been greater.

Never say or write anything to a student that might raise a concern with a conscientious (and protective) parent. Better still, develop a system where any written communication with a student is shared with the parent.

Finally, do not communicate with students via your personal phone number, personal email, or personal social media sites. Doing so will exponentially increase your risk of being accused of crossing the boundary between professional and unprofessional conduct.



Teens Talk 2016

We surveyed thousands of teens across Canada and asked them about the problems they face and who they turn to for help. The results are in!

Check out our report to see what teens shared with us.

What is Kids Help Phone?

Phone counselling
Web counselling

- For ages 20 & under
- Free, 24/7
- Anonymous & Confidential
- Non-judgemental



The KHP Promise

Anonymous means you don't have to tell us who you are.
Confidential means whatever you tell us is safe. [More](#)

Margaret Trudeau Guest Speaker ODLC Annual Activist Dinner

The Oakville and District Labour Council is holding its Annual Activist Award Dinner on Oct 12, 2016 at the Galaxy Club. Margaret Trudeau is the keynote speaker.

The Halton Secondary Teachers have purchased two tables and have a third reserved.

If interested in attending contact Lorie Wiersma by email Lorie.Wiersma@d20.osstf.ca. For more information contact John.Watson@d20.osstf.ca.



RALLY FOR DECENT WORK

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1 1:00PM • QUEEN'S PARK

Be a part of the growing movement for decent work for all!

Join us for this family-friendly rally with music, activities, special guests and more.

www.15andFairness.org www.MakeItFair.ca



#15andFairness #MakeItFair