

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2018-2019

to the Annual Meeting of District Assembly

OSSTF District 10

PREAMBLE

The *Annual Action Plan* indicates the areas in which District 10 intends to focus its resources, time, and staff. The *OSSTF District 10 Annual Action Plan* is formulated to complement the *Provincial OSSTF Annual Action Plan* approved at AMPA 2018 and to also address local needs.

Our District personnel, including, but not limited to, our President, Federation Officer, and Executive Assistant, must be acknowledged for the important work they do throughout the year which is a vital component of Member Services. Also, the work of Committees, Council, and Executive supplement the work of our office, creating a District-wide framework.

PLAN

- I. SUPPORTING THE PROVINCIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE ROLE OF THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS.
- II. CORPORATE INTRUSIONS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

I. THE ROLE OF THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

OSSTF, along with other affiliates, exercised their influence this year when the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) attempted to increase college fees, ostensibly to pay down their mortgage more quickly. In keeping with this action and as a way to keep the spotlight on the college's actions, the OSSTF plans to develop an education campaign to highlight the proper roles, responsibilities and actions of the OCT to ensure our members know what the college is, what it should be doing, and where it is "creeping" outside of its mandate. The OCT must not be allowed to expand its mandate, to act beyond the scope of its role, and increase costs to Ontario teachers.

The Provincial campaign will examine all colleges to which OSSTF members must belong in order to work in their chosen field. Results will be sent to all OSSTF members to highlight any concerns OSSTF may have with the various colleges.

The overall goal of this Provincial initiative is to increase member awareness of the roles and responsibilities of the OCT. District 10 will promote the Provincial initiative by highlighting any concerns that OSSTF may need to act upon in regards to the way the OCT is conducting themselves. Campaign information, specific to the OCT, will be e-mailed to each District 10 member immediately after discussion at District Council. This will enable Branch Presidents to better answer any member concerns which arise from the mailing. The promoting of the Provincial initiative will also enable our District members to respond effectively to future misguided OCT initiatives.

COST: Currently in Budget

II. CORPORATE INTRUSIONS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Across Ontario and in District 10, many of our members have serious concerns about the degree of influence the corporate world has in public education. In District 10, a perfect example of this intrusion is the pressure for teachers of Intermediate level students to use iPads. Regardless of how you feel about iPads, the fact is that Apple has made deep inroads into our education system and continues to pressure educators to use their products.

The steady increase of corporate pressure is sounding alarms for many OSSTF members. At the Provincial level, a work group will be set up to examine issues such as:

- The current research on the corporate agenda for education.
- The privacy and human rights issues created by the use of technology in education
- The impact of technology on teaching and learning.
- Raising awareness of these issues by our members.
- Development of a plan to protect public education from corporate influence.

At the local level, we need to keep informed and stay alert. Whenever and wherever there are concerns that corporate pressure is having a negative impact on education, we need to ensure that our concerns are heard and addressed.

COST: Currently in Budget

CONCLUSION

We are confident that this *OSSTF District 10 Action Plan* will assist us in supporting main provincial OSSTF initiatives within District 10.

Submitted by,

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Steve Spring, Vice President
OSSTF District 10