

JANUARY 15, 2014



DISTRICT COUNCIL

FEDERATION OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Grievances

- Board improperly applying sick-leave partial top-up for members (to Arb)
- Board improperly declaring a member surplus (to Arb)

2. January 15 Pay / Ontario College of Teachers' Fees

Please be aware that most members may not realize that their mid-January pay is always smaller than previous pays due to OCT fees (just raised to \$150 for the 2014 calendar year) as well as EI and CPP deductions starting up again. Members on leave and intending on returning to teach for any part of 2014 are reminded to pay the OCT fee directly to the OCT.

3. Termination of LTD Premiums

Members are reminded of the three scenarios under which they may choose to terminate our mandatory LTDI coverage. Members may choose to terminate LTD coverage if:

- within 80 working days or expiration of sick leave of being eligible for a 64% unreduced pension; or
- notification of retirement has been received by the Board and is within 80 working days of scheduled retirement date; or
- within the month of turning age 65 or within 80 working days/expiration of sick leave of turning age 65

The "Application for LTD Coverage Termination" form is available on the home page of the District's website: www.osstfd10.ca

4. ERIP/Unpaid Day (March 7, 2014)

As anticipated, the Board introduced the ERIP at the end of November. Under the terms of the OSSTF MOU with the government, "the ERIP shall be in the form of a \$5000 payment to any teacher who retires between the end of November and the last day of Semester 1." The last day of Semester 1 is January 30, 2014. To date we have received several retirements and will be meeting with Board officials in the near future to determine whether our savings target has been achieved. Should our savings target be met, members will be notified as soon as possible and March 7, 2014 will be a paid day.

5. Bargaining Update

Should Bill 122 pass, there will be a formal process for provincial negotiations involving the government, school boards, and unions. What will be bargained centrally and locally has yet to be determined, although the Bill gives the Minister the authority to bring any issue to the central table. In anticipation of this, our provincial office has developed an electronic survey for all OSSTF members to complete in order to help determine bargaining priorities. I encourage all members in our district to complete the survey available by logging in through the provincial website (www.osstf.on.ca).

Hugh Garrett, Federation Officer