

**2022 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY**

We are looking forward to a return to an in-person AMPA experience for 2022, with a number of health and safety precautions in place. All Members were recently provided an opportunity to apply to represent District 10 as a Delegate or Alternate for the Annual Meeting of Provincial Assembly to be held March 12—14, 2022. Delegates and Alternates are elected by the District Council.

**ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS (OCT) SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

As was communicated recently to all Members: *"Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act included amendments to the Ontario College of Teachers Act and both the development and implementation of a Sexual Abuse Prevention program by the Ontario College of Teachers were incorporated into legislation."* It is anticipated the mandatory Sexual Abuse Prevention Program (SAPP) will be available January 2022, with a completion deadline of August 31, 2022.

Additional information will be provided to Members as it becomes available.

**NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE**

DBU #78 was issued to all Members on Friday, November 12, 2021 and shared locally via our social media accounts and District website. This is the first step for Members to provide input regarding the School Board Collective Bargaining Act (SBCBA) Provincial Bargaining Priorities for the next round of negotiations. Have your voice heard. All Members must provide a personal (non-board) email address to OSSTF and each member will need to provide a unique personal email address. *The deadline to register your email address for accessing the Provincial Bargaining Priorities Survey is December 10, 2021.*

**ATTENDANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM (ASP)**

The LKDSB's Attendance Support Program came into effect on October 1, 2019. All Members, including Occasional Teachers, should educate themselves on the program through the applicable LKDSB Administrative Procedure and information found on the LKDSB Portal. The District Office continues to monitor the implementation of the program and continues to address ongoing concerns regarding its transparency, clarity, and consistency of application with the employer. All members are advised to report any communication they receive regarding the ASP (including verbal, digital, and written forms) to the District Office.

**SICK LEAVE AND SICK DAYS CARRIED FORWARD FOR TOP-UP PURPOSES**

An agreement was recently reached with the employer regarding access to paid sick leave. Members can review information they received October 29, 2021 for additional information and/or speak with their Branch President or the District Office for assistance.

Members are also reminded that they can access a personal record of absences any time via the Board Portal/Staffweb. The current sick leave plan remains unchanged, where unused sick days from the previous school year can be used to top up salary from 90% to 100% after the eleven day allotment for this school year has been depleted. Members with general questions about the sick leave plan are encouraged to speak with their Branch President, or to reach out to the District Office with specific questions or concerns.

### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (IN HONOUR OF MARION DRYSDALE)**

Thank you to all members who are encouraging participation and sponsoring students in the annual Student Achievement Awards, with 2022's theme: "Our Moment in Time". With a new "Non-Credit" category added in both the "Poetry and Prose" and "Visual and Media" divisions, we look forward to receiving additional entries this year. District judging will be held after the November 19 deadline to have entries submitted to the District Office. The District's winning entries will then be sent forward for Regional and Provincial adjudication, as applicable. All District winners will be recognized in the spring following the Provincial judging results. Good luck to all those participating!

### **LKDSB INDIGENOUS TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

In collaboration with Queen's University, four local First Nations and the LKDSB are running a local Indigenous Teacher Education Program. Entry into the program is every May with applications due the preceding December. While the graduates of the program graduate with a Bachelor of Education degree with a focus in the Primary-Junior divisions (K-6), OSSTF District 10 supports this work. For more information, please reach out to the District Office for a digital brochure.

### **IN-PERSON UNION BUSINESS AND EVENTS**

Following the guidelines and processes in place regarding health and safety precautions for COVID-19, we have begun to resume some in-person union business. School visits took place in early November 2021 for the first time since March 2020 and it was wonderful to see Members again in-person after such a long time apart. While monitoring the current COVID-19 situation in Chatham Kent and Sarnia Lambton areas, we will continue to cautiously and safely resume additional in-person union events such as District Executive, District Council, All Member meetings, etc. Although virtual events will be slowly phased out, please be patient as we re-adjust to new protocols and expectations for group events.

*Yours in solidarity,*

Jennifer Kumpf, President  
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November 17, 2021