

NOVEMBER 5, 2014



OSSTF/FEESO
District 10

DISTRICT COUNCIL

FEDERATION OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Grievances

Board continuing Grid Delay for THIRD consecutive year – Step 3
Board not granting VLAP requests – Step 3
Board using non-teacher to regularly supervise students during instructional time – Step 2
Board denial of bereavement leave (16.03b) for an individual member – Step 1

2. Teachers Transporting Students in Personal Vehicles

Members are reminded that they are not responsible for transporting students in their own personal vehicles. Teachers should never be doing this. The Board cannot require teachers to do this. When teachers choose to do so, they are subjecting themselves to potentially significant personal and professional liabilities. There are alternatives available to the school administration. Teachers are advised not to transport students in personal vehicles.

3. LTD – Termination of Coverage and Premium Deductions

Members are eligible to cancel their mandatory LTDI coverage under 3 possible scenarios:

- Within 80 working days of the date the member becomes eligible for a 64% unreduced service pension (Scenario 1);
- Within 80 working days of the retirement date that the member has given notice of (Scenario 2); or
- the end of the month in which the member reaches age 65 (Scenario 3)

“Application for LTD Coverage Termination” forms detailing these 3 scenarios are available on the District’s homepage (www.osstfd10.ca) and should be forwarded to my attention at the District Office upon completion.

4. OTPP Amendment - Re: Approved Leaves of Absence (i.e. fewer than 5 consecutive working days)

As of September 1, 2014, a change to the OTPP eliminates the need for members to contact the OTPP and buy back pension credit for approved leaves of absence that span five or fewer consecutive working days that occur after September 1, 2014. Boards will now automatically deduct from salary and remit contributions to the OTPP for approved leaves of absence of one to five days. These members will not be required to do anything and their service credit in OTPP will be maintained.

Members who took any approved leave (e.g. VLAP) before September 1, 2014, or who take an approved leave of absence that lasts more than five consecutive working days, still have the option to buy back credit for all or a portion of their approved leave by contacting the OTPP directly at 1-800-668-0105 or on-line through iAccess member sign-in at www.otpp.com and making the necessary arrangements.

5. Collective Bargaining / Negotiations

Members voted on October 2, 2014 overwhelmingly in favour of strike action if necessary in support of our negotiators at both the central and local bargaining tables. This is a firm demonstration of our members’ solidarity and resolve to achieve a fair and equitable collective agreement through the negotiating process. As of the writing of this report, the central parties were unable to agree about which items are to be bargained at the central table and therefore the issue has been referred to the OLRB for a decision in accordance with the terms of Bill 122. Members will continue to be informed of negotiations through the Bargaining Bulletin updates sent via the District’s email distribution list.

Hugh Garrett, Federation Officer