



WELCOME BACK

Our Executive Assistant, Carolyn Trigatti and Federation Officer, Hugh Garrett and I would like to welcome all of you back to a school year which we anticipate will be much smoother politically than last year. Interpretation and implementation of the Memorandum of Settlement will present some 'bumps along the road' which I feel confident we can overcome.

TEACHERS ALP

Again this year we have subscribed to the Teachers ALP website to offer suggestions on completing your ALP. On our website (www.osstfd10.ca) under the District News column, you will find the instructions for logging on to the site.

CERTIFICATION RATING STATEMENT

New teachers are reminded that they should apply for an OSSTF Certification Rating so they can be paid properly for their qualifications and experience. Any teacher who is not currently at Category 4 or those that have taken courses for upgrade should make application for upgrade as there have been recent changes in the Certification requirements. Everyone is reminded that you must obtain written approval from Provincial Office Certification department prior to taking any course for upgrading categories. All the requisite forms for new applications, upgrades or course approvals can be obtained from either www.osstfd10.ca or www.osstf.on.ca

GRID ADVANCEMENT

Grid movement for qualifications and experience will be recognized on the 97th school day of the school year. Any movement on the grid that would have normally occurred before that date will be effective the 97th school day of the school year. Any movement on the grid that would normally occur on or after the 97th school day will occur as per the Collective Agreement without any delay.

Extra Degree Allowances are not affected by any postponement period and should be paid as per the Collective Agreement effective September, 2013.

RETIREMENT

Teachers considering retiring this year need to be aware that for September, 2014 retired secondary teachers will **not** automatically be allowed to be on the Occasional Teacher Roster. With Regulation 274 regarding hiring practices, retired teachers will have to apply to be considered for the Roster of Occasional Teachers. Any teachers who plan to retire this year should make their intentions known to both the Board and OSSTF District 10 as soon as possible.

Those considering retirement within the next five years should attend the Retirement Workshop on Wednesday, October 9 beginning at 5 pm at Baldoon Golf Club in Wallaceburg. Staff from Provincial Office will be there to present and answer questions. Please let Carolyn know either by email office@osstfd10.ca or phone if you plan to attend

ELECTRONIC PAY STATEMENTS

Recently the Board has undergone changes with their payroll system. That combined with the fact that everyone has a different number of carryover days in the STLDP makes it especially important that all members regularly access their pay stubs on the Board's site to ensure accuracy.

I wish you an enjoyable and professionally rewarding school year.