

MEDIA RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

Agreement ratified between Thames Valley District School Board and Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation

The Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) District 11 have ratified a new collective agreement. The 4 year contract agreement covers the period from September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2012. The agreement includes a 3 percent salary increase in each year of the 4 year contract retroactive to September 1, 2008. The new collective agreement affects over 2000 Secondary, Secondary Occasional and Continuing Education teachers.

The agreement, which falls within the Provincial Discussion Table framework, will also provide class size reductions that will enhance the board's Student Success initiatives. The contract also contains moderate enhancements to employee benefits beginning in September 2009.

"We're very pleased to have a 4 year agreement", says Dave Russell, OSSTF District 11 President. "We had many issues to cover and bargaining was hard, but in the end we have a contract everyone can be proud of."

Thames Valley Director of Education Bill Tucker agrees. "Both sides had many challenges to discuss and it was a tough process, but the end result is we have an agreement that's not only good for staff, it's also good for the students."

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