

“News At 11”



District 11 OSSTF TBU Newsletter



Issue 1

September 2008

OSSTF
District Office
680 Industrial Road
London, ON, N5V 1V1

Phone: 519-659-6588
Fax: 519-659-2421

Email:
osstf11@execulink.com

Website:
<http://www.osstf11.com>

TBU President:
David Russell

TBU Vice President
Dan Machuk

WELCOME BACK!



From left to right: Dave,
Colleen, Nancy, Mary Lou,
Tony, Laurie

Federation Services
Officers:
Colleen Canon
Mary Lou Cunningham
Nancy McDougall
Tony Stokes

Executive Assistant:
Laurie Lafraniere

President's Message - WELCOME BACK

The 19th century poet William Allingham wrote that “Autumn’s the mellow time”. From all accounts I have read, he was never a secondary school teacher!

The 2008-2009 school year promises to be a busy one. While you are juggling school responsibilities as well as extra-curriculars, you will no doubt be reading and listening to media reports over the coming weeks and months about public education. I am hoping that you will use this newsletter, our new District 11 website at www.osstf11.com, and the reports of your Branch President as your trusted sources of information.

Two immediate issues stand out to be mentioned. **Negotiations** continue with the Board and we commit to conduct ourselves in your best interest. Please read Tony Stokes’ report below on how talks are progressing. Also, the reverse side of this newsletter is dedicated to the most recent edition of **Pension Update**. Our Pension Plan (TPP) is one of the best so please take the time to read about this very important issue.

This past weekend, your Branch President attended our annual **Branch President Retreat**. Provincial updates were given and a workshop on how to best represent you was presented. OSSTF counts on



David Russell

its volunteer members and I cannot thank them enough for their dedication.

Best Wishes to you for a great Fall, even if it proves not to be “mellow”!

From the desk of the Chief Negotiator



Tony Stokes

Negotiations Update

As many of you may be aware, some unions representing teachers and other education workers have signed provincial framework agreements within which local agreements must be negotiated. You may have seen the salary and benefit provisions contained in these framework deals highlighted in the media. To date, OSSTF has not signed any such agreement as our representatives at the provincial office do not believe that they contain anything that is not attainable at the local bargaining table. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, has also reaffirmed her commitment to local bargaining and has directed school boards to schedule meetings for meaningful negotiations.

Locally, negotiations that began in the spring are continuing this fall. We are committed to bargaining the best possible deal for Thames Valley in as timely a manner as is possible. Please keep in mind that reports in the media that may refer to teachers, may not apply specifically to OSSTF. The only official information regarding the status of negotiations will come directly from OSSTF, issued either by our local office or the provincial office.

“Let us not take thought for our separate interests, but let us help one another.”
OSSTF Motto

Important Dates

- November 13**
New Members Dinner & Workshop
Best Western Lamplighter Inn
Registration opens online
October 22
- November 13**
Collective Bargaining Dinner & Workshop
Best Western Lamplighter Inn
Registration opens online
October 22
- November 13**
Health & Wellness Dinner & Workshop
Best Western Lamplighter Inn
Registration opens online
October 22
- November 13**
Credit Integrity Dinner & Workshop
Best Western Lamplighter Inn
Registration opens online
October 22
- February 16**
Bishop Townshend Award Dinner
London Convention Centre
- April 23**
E.C. McTavish Award Dinner
Sir George Ross S.S.
- May 7**
TBU & District AGM
District Office
- June 3**
Citizenship Awards Dinner
Thames S.S.
- June 11**
Retirement Dinner
London Convention Centre

Although care has been taken in preparing the information contained in this publication, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The opinions and views expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of OSSTF, District 11.



TO BE COPIED AND SHARED WITH ALL MEMBERS

COMMUNIQUÉ

OTF/FEO
September 2, 2008
Volume 14, No. 1

Ontario Teachers' Federation • 1300 Yonge Street • Toronto • Ontario • M4T 1X3 • 416-966-3424 • FAX: 416-966-5450

PENSION UPDATE

Pension Deadline Approaching

Pension legislation requires that valuations be filed at least every three years. The last filed valuation was January 1, 2005. The deadline for filing the 2008 valuation of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (the Plan) is fast approaching.

By September 30, 2008, the Partners must agree on conditions that will allow the Plan to file a balanced valuation with Ontario's pension regulator—the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO). Throughout the past year, and with increasing frequency over the summer months, your OTF representatives have been meeting with our Government partner and representatives of the Plan to accomplish this task.

A sub-committee of the OTF Executive (under Executive direction) has been involved in these meetings. Once the Pension Partners—OTF and the Government—have tentatively agreed with the Plan on the components of the 2008 Valuation, the OTF Executive, with representatives of the four Affiliates, will be asked to endorse the agreement.

The OTF Board of Governors—ten members elected from each Affiliate—will get the details at a special Board meeting.

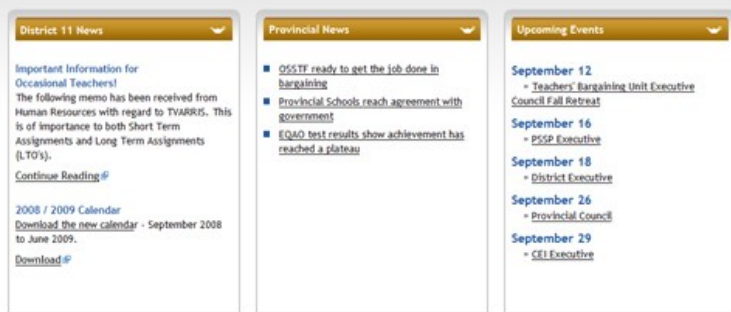
Following the special Board meeting, the Affiliates will have some time to consider the proposal.

Shortly thereafter, the OTF Board will meet again to vote on the agreement.

The exact timing for these steps cannot be determined as the parties have not yet reached agreement but must do so prior to September 30, 2008 to allow the independent actuary time to complete the valuation for filing.

We urge teachers to check for updates through *Communiqué* on the OTF website or watch for OTF updates issued through their Affiliates. As soon as further information becomes available, it will be shared.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU HEAR IS JUST RUMOUR OR SPECULATION.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT OTF'S DIRECTOR OF PENSION AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OR YOUR AFFILIATE PENSION OFFICER.



LAUNCH OF
THE NEW
OSSTF
WEBSITE

Please visit us at
www.osstf11.com