

WELLINGTON
OECTA

UNIT EXECUTIVE

2013-2014

PRESIDENT

MARK BERARDINE

VP SECONDARY

DAVID DEREWIANKO

VP ELEMENTARY

HEATHER FRIMETH

VP OCCASIONAL

NANCY BAKER

TREASURER

TED IMRE

SECRETARY

SHEILA HYNES

COUNCILLORS

LINDA ARTUSO-JACOBI

GEORGE GIOVINAZZO

LAURINE SOLIGO

JACQUELINE STOCKFORD

PETER STOOP

ROBERTA CASAGRANDE

CATHY WHYTE

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

JOINT PD FUND 2
COMMITTEE
REPORT

YOUNG 2
AUTHOR'S
CONTEST

OECTA 3
CALENDAR

OECTA 3
AGM MARCH
2014

QUICK 3
Q AND A

THEOLOGY 4
ON TAP!

WELLINGTON WORKS

2013 - 2014 FEBRUARY

VOLUME XXI

HALF EMPTY / HALF FULL

Semester Two has started, Term One reports are finally submitted into the office and everyone breathes a sign of relief while at the same time inhaling a huge breath as we start all over again. Such is our chosen career. In our job we go from deadline to deadline in a frantic rush to get everything completed on time. Somewhere during that madness we still need to present our best face to those under our care. The fact that we do this time and again over and over is just one of the intangible, unseen and unknown requirements of what we do as teachers.

No one in the general public or the media or at Queen's Park or the Ministry will send out a press release praising your efforts. In our Board we did this with a total crash of the report card internet connection. We accomplished this in the face of multiple bus cancellations and one total closure. We were able to sprint towards the finish line with multiple obstacles in our way. Well, well done everyone. The fact that we completed every deadline is the final illustration of your dedication to what is truly a vocation.

Then not only do we attain these deadlines what do we have to do? We immediately turn around prepare to complete the race all over again!

Student - Teacher meetings. Parent interviews, more IEPs, Extra-Curricular starts up all over again, Field Trips, Staff Meetings, more after school meetings, Indoor recess, TLCs, more PD, extra courses, and a host of special events become the norm once again. Not to mention any Olympic activities planned— Go Canada Go! Suddenly February turns into March and after another flurry of activity we limp into March Break.

In the face of this OECTA is also preparing for another round of bargaining with both Provincial and Local negotiations a possible reality. Though we are certainly preparing we can't help but watch Queen's Park to see what will develop over the next few months. Once again expect Education to be in the forefront if an election happens. To make matters worse our Catholic system is receiving too much attention in the news, with other educational partners and affiliates. We may be almost at the top of the roller coaster so hold on tight!

Take a moment to read up on events that are happening in our job sector. Check your OECTA first class, make your home page your Wellington OECTA website. Share your concerns and ideas with your colleagues and keep in touch with your OECTA Office. Your good ideas are put into effect on a regular basis!

WELLINGTON OECTA WEBSITE

5420 HIGHWAY # 6

www.oectawellington.ca

R.R.# 5 GUELPH, ON.

NIH 6J2

PHONE : 519 763 3043 FAX : 519 763
2682

EMAIL : oecta.wellington@rogers.com

Release Officer Cell Phones:

Mark 519-400-5361

David 519-400-5362

Heather 519-400-5363

ONTARIO ENGLISH

Catholic
Teachers

ASSOCIATION

WELLINGTON
OECTA

EVENTS

UPCOMING DATES

Tues Feb 4th
Theology on Tap
Albion 7:00-9:00

Wed Feb 5th
Pre-COP Winter
Mark and David

Thurs Fri Feb 6-7
COP Winter
Mark, David and Heather

Mon Feb 10th
Executive Meeting
OECTA Office 4:15

Wed Feb 12– Thurs Feb 13
Special Council of Presidents
Mark, David, Tim and Heather

Mon Feb 17th
Family Day Holiday

Wed Feb 19-Thurs Feb 20
Political Action Seminar
Bernard, Jeff, David
Mark and Heather

Fri Feb 21 Sat Feb 22
Beginning Teachers

Mon Feb 24th
Reps Council Meetings
OECTA Office 4:15

JOINT PD COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board and OECTA met to examine the remaining half of the year for our Joint PD Fund allocations. Wellington was represented by Heather, Mark and Cathy. We discussed how much was left in the fund and what would be the focus for the remainder of the year.

The committee agreed that Reading For The Love Of It and the OAME (Math) would be the two conferences endorsed. With that goal in mind there were ten spots for each conference saved. We did receive many applications for

'RFTLOI' and had to make some tough choices since we only had ten spots. We will receive the Math Conference applications soon and will again make our decisions based on a combination of past attendees, past participation in the use of PD funds, and panels.

The policy that OECTA has of spreading a major and a minor over the course of three years has been used for a long time. This policy even when strictly enforced only allows about one hundred members to partici-

pate. As you can see one in six is hardly a comforting situation when we examine how we allocate any PD funds.

Future financial restraints will also impact us in the next few years. The OECTA PD Committee will need to keep this PD fund in mind during future negotiations and examine how best to use these funds in the future. Hopefully the spirit of cooperation with the Board will continue and we can mutually work to offer PD opportunities to teachers.

OECTA : YOUNG AUTHOR'S CONTEST

Attention all teachers.

An OECTA contest for all your students from JK to Grade 12!

You are invited to submit student's writing to the Young Author's Contest.

Over the past several years, entries from Wellington OECTA have received awards at the provincial level.

Information about the contest has been posted on the OECTA and OECTA Reps conferences on first class.

Please note the timelines below:

Monday March 3rd
Student entries received by the School Reps.

Wednesday March 19th
School entries received at the OECTA Unit Office.

Monday March 31st
Unit entries received at the Provincial Office.

2013 Provincial OECTA Wellington Award winners:

Julia Mlodzik Gr 7/8
Andrea I. Montealegre Gr 7/8 FSL
Megan Kenney, Serena Lowery and
Adrianna Woodburn Gr 11/12

OECTA AGM MARCH 7 TO MARCH 10 TORONTO

ANNUAL OECTA AGM

In March OECTA delegates from across Ontario will arrive in Toronto during the first weekend of March Break to discuss our future. The delegation from Wellington will be meeting on Monday March 3rd to examine the various motions that will come forward. We will

also examine the candidates that are running for the Provincial Executive.

The motions will be sent to Units this month. If you see an issue that is important to you please email your concerns to the delegation. We are there to represent you. Anyone is invited to participate in our discussion from 4:15-5:15 at the OECTA Office on March 3rd.

WELLINGTON DELEGATION

Mark Berardine
David Derewianko
Heather Frimeth
Tim O'Brien
Nancy Baker
Sheila Hynes
Peter Stoop
Laurence Vignola
Yvonne Runstedler
David Del Duca
Alternates:
Roy Coughlin and Becca Dupuis

QUICK QUESTIONS AND QUICK ANSWERS

Q : Does the VLAP program continue after March 7th.

A : Yes the VLAP program will continue to be recognized from now until mid June.

Q : Is there an incentive for having only used 5.5 sick days or less this year?

A : Yes. All full time permanent teachers have a 5.5 limit to sick days used if they are to receive one day of pay back. For part time and LTO there are some differences to take into account.

Q : Why was there no marking day at Secondary this year?

A : The previous recent marking days were received due to a grievance situation. The deal expired last year and needed to be brought forward as part of collective bargaining in 2012.

Q : Why don't we have a personal day?

A : This has been a struggle for a very long time in Wellington. In the past the cost has been too large to risk as we would have had to lose other days that we have such as grads, bereavements or tied into reduction in sick time.

Q : Why are any unused days from last year's sick days important?

A : Unused sick days from last year's 11 are important for top up. We can use the days to extend the 120 days of 90% to 100% pay. Basically for every 1 unused day you receive two weeks of top up from 90 to 100%.

Q : How many meetings must I attend in one month?

A : The Board is allowed one meeting a month for up to 75 minutes. It may and generally is a staff meeting but some schools have used it to cover other topics as needed including time to learn new technology.

PROTEST THE COLLEGE OF TEACHERS FEE HIKE

OECTA Provincial President James Ryan has sent out a letter for all of us to use to communicate your concern and opposition to the Ontario College of Teachers fee hike. This body which we know is not teacher friendly has unilaterally decided to raise your fees. They are moving out of their mandate and trying to enter areas that are not under their mandate. See the Provincial link below and send the C of T your letter today!

See the sample letter on first class, our local website

www.oectawellington.ca or the Provincial website :

www.oecta.on.ca

THEOLOGY ON TAP : FEBRUARY 4 AND MARCH 4

**CALL YOUR FRIENDS
IT IS TIME TO MEET AT THE
ALBION**

**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4
DR. JOSE LOMBARDI
“KNOW YOURSELF, KNOW GOD”**

**TUESDAY MARCH 4
ANNE JAMIESON
“THE JOY OF FAITH”**

**7:00 - 9:00
HOUSE OF GOOD CHEER
CELTIC BAND**

**Finger foods /snacks compliments of Bishop Crosby and the
Diocese of Hamilton**



NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Volunteers Wanted!

The nomination committee is to assist the Election Chair, Peter Marzo, in overseeing our 2014 Wellington OECTA election campaign and process. We have made significant changes that may include an on line voting process. If you can assist Peter in acting as scrutineers, or sit on the larger committee to discuss timelines and process please email Peter Marzo. You must not be involved in the election campaign to sit on this committee.