

WELLINGTON
OECTA

UNIT EXECUTIVE

2014-2015

PRESIDENT
MARK BERARDINE

VP SECONDARY
DAVID DEREWIANKO

VP ELEMENTARY
PETER STOOP

VP OCCASIONAL
TIM O'BRIEN

TREASURER
TED IMRE

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COUNCILLORS
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TRACI COULAS-GACA
KEVIN REID
LAURENCE VIGNOLA
ROBERTA CASAGRANDE

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Wellington Works

January 2015

WELLINGTON WORKS
VOLUME 22

ONTARIO ENGLISH

Catholic Teachers

ASSOCIATION

A NEW YEAR - A NEW START

Release Officer Cell Phones:

Mark 519-400-5361
President

David 519-400-5362
VP Secondary

Peter 519-400-5363
VP Elementary

WELLINGTON OECTA

WEBSITE

www.oectawellington.ca

5420 HIGHWAY # 6

R.R.# 5 GUELPH, ON.

NIH 6J2

PHONE : 519 763 3043

FAX : 519 763 2682

EMAIL :

oecta.wellington@rogers.com

The Unit office is located on the St. Ignatius Orchard Business Park. The Executive and Rep meetings all take place at the office.

The Executive meets early in the month on a Monday and the Rep meetings are held on the last Monday of the month except Dec. and June.

**Respected Teachers =
Great Teachers =
Happy Students =
Great Schools!**

President's Message

Well first week back and it probably already feels like we didn't just have two weeks off for Christmas Holidays. Yes I said Christmas. We can't be ashamed to say we were off for Christmas. We work in a Catholic School system! We don't need to apologize. So I hope everyone had an awesome Christmas Break. I hope you had time to relax with your family and spend some quality time with your friends that you don't see enough.

As 2015 starts we are in for some anxious times. Our contract talks continue at the Provincial level. We are faced with the unknown. We don't know where the government will lead us. We do know they rattled off a 500 million dollar figure for cuts. Cuts come down to us, the Teachers. We don't know what the Boards will attack next. We do know some Boards have used our benefits as a cash cow. This is all pretty scary. We also know the immediate offers through the Ministry were three more years of no increase and no grid movements in September, ever.

We will learn more this week from Provincial OECTA and will probably have updates next week and later in January. Our strike vote (OSSTF had theirs in September and ETFO in November) should be organized shortly. As we related to many of you in person through December's visits it doesn't mean anything will happen right away but it does allow the process to move in job actions (work to rule, rotating and all out strikes) to happen later in the year.

We are entering the dead of winter but we are a people of hope. Let's remain hopeful but strong and resolved in our belief that we (Teachers) are one of the cornerstones in our society. We do great work. We help form not only our future leaders but also the next generation of citizens, fathers, mothers, and spouses. We now more than ever are forced to become supports for so many of our students. We need to show them a responsible way to live and help to build character that will make them true caring citizens and stewards of a global world.

Yes you are a teacher. You work hard every school day to provide an education for our students. You attend meetings for individual student needs and to improve every child's education and school. You bring work home with you to plan, prepare, mark, evaluate and document. You attend all sorts of events that are 'extra' and not part of your paid career. You are a teacher and you are worth every penny you earn!

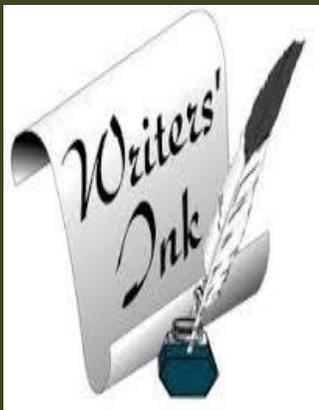
**HEALTH
AND
SAFETY**

**Winter
And You.**

**Be careful on
those school
yards and
watch for ice.**

*Dress for the
weather and wear
safe shoes. Are
your entrances
wet? If so is a sign
posted? Is your
parking lot salted?*

*Talk to your
H and S Rep.*



OECTA Christmas Dinner Dance

The dinner dance was held just before the break and everyone had a good time. The dance floor was filled with an enthusiastic group only too eager to start the Christmas holidays!



Thanks to Mary Phelan for bringing a table! Special thanks to Lori Gamble for making all the centre pieces.

We hope to continue to celebrate Christmas with a dinner and dance each year.

If you are interested in assisting or having input please join the Social Committee.

Behind the Scenes

In addition to the work of the Executive our local has many active members running committees. Members are preparing a variety of workshops for the winter and fall including the RTIP Benefits workshop in March. The Wellness Committee is working on enhancing

their program with workshops and continuing the Third Wednesday of the Month Wellness Walk.

Members are meeting to prepare the next sessions of PD opportunities and working on a new focus of local initia-

tives to give more members an opportunity for PD. We have our Social Committee getting ready for the Annual Banquet in May while others are working on ensuring our election process will be more efficient and easy to participate in. Thanks to all our members!

YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST

REMINDER OF DATES:

Friday February 13th

Student entries received by the School Reps.

School selection process begins.

Monday February 23rd

School entries received at the OECTA Unit Office.

Tuesday March 11th

Young Author's Unit Selection Committee

Tuesday March 24th

Unit entries due at the Provincial OECTA Office.

If you have any questions please contact your school Rep or Peter for more details.

Upcoming Dates

*Thursday Jan 8th**PD Committee 4:00**Saturday Jan 10th**BM/OLOL Pasta Supper for
Mission Trips**Monday Jan 12th**Exec Meeting 4:15**Tuesday Jan 13th**Theo on Tap 7 p.m.**@ The Albion**Thursday Jan 15th 1:30**Joint H and S @ St. Joes G**Saturday Jan 17th**St. James Pasta Supper for
Mission Trips**Monday Jan 19th**Reps Council/ Exec
4:30 @ OECTA Office**Wednesday Jan 21st**Wellness Walk 4:00**@ The OECTA Office**Thurs Jan 22 to Jan 28**Secondary Exams**Friday Jan 23rd**Elem PD Day*

Wellington OECTA * Contract 101

A new monthly series to help you know and understand your contract.

Last month we brought you some information and advice concerning the Board's attendance management program. This month we continue our series with a quick look at your sick days.

Every permanent contract teacher receives 11 annual sick days from Sept to June. If you are a Part Time or LTO teacher your days are pro-rated. In addition there are the 120 MoU short term sick days. These days are at 90% of

your income. Again this is pro-rated for part timers while LTOs start at 60 days and they are prorated as well.

Now the tricky part. If you have unused portions from your immediate previous year and are permanent then these can count for a 'top up'.

For example, if you had 10 unused days last year and have used the 11 sick days this year. One can use the 10 from last year to 'top up' from 90%

to 100% on the additional short term sick days. So 1 day unused is two weeks of top up. This security is great to have if you have a serious medical condition since you could find yourself using the 11 annual sick days quite quickly.

Again this only applies to our permanent teachers and it unfortunately doesn't apply to any LTOs. If you have a question please email us at the OECTA office.

Wellness Walk

The Wellness Committee Presents

Third Wednesday of the Month Wellness Walk

**Meet at 4:00 at the
OECTA Office**

Walk at 4:15

Light snacks to follow

Wednesday January 21st

Wellington OECTA

A Q COURSE

WINTER/SPRING



**Wellington Catholic
District School Board**
We Have Faith in Education



**ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION COURSES
IN
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
OECTA - OCSTA**

**WINTER/SPRING 2015
PARTS 1, 2 & 3 (Specialist)
GUELPH**

First Session: Tuesday, February 10th
Final Session: Tuesday, May 19th
Times: Tuesdays: 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m

Class Dates: February 10, 17, 24
March 3, *7, 10, 24, 31
April 7, *11, 14, 21, 28
May 5, *9, 12, 19
* indicates Saturday sessions

We are able to offer the course one night per week (with three Saturdays) because 20 of the 100 required instructional hours will be done through on-line distance education.

Location: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School,
54 Westmount Rd., Guelph

Tuition Fee: Part 1 - \$500
Part 2 & Specialist - \$600

Online Registration: www.oecta.on.ca (follow the links for Guelph course)
online registration opens December 2nd, 2014.

For more information contact: Yvonne Runstedler
Phone: (519) 836-2170 x103534
E-mail: yrunstedler@wellingtoncdsb.ca

Theology On Tap



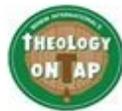
THEOLOGY ON TAP

ALBION HOTEL GUELPH 7-9PM

BISHOP DOUGLAS CROSBY • JAN 13
"THE FRANCIS EFFECT"

JOAN GRUNDY • FEB 24
"THE SPIRITUAL LIFE IN A FAST-PACED WORLD"
(TOO BUSY TO ATTEND? THIS TALK IS FOR YOU!)

FACEBOOK.COM/THEOLOGYONTARGUELPH
TWITTER.COM/TOTGUELPH
WWW.TOTGUELPH.TK



Theology On Tap



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Diocese of Hamilton