

President's Report
Teachers' Unit
Annual General Meeting
OSSTF District 25
May 18, 2011

The past year has been exciting, busy and a tremendous learning experience. Locally your Time Release Officers have been busy with branch visits, answering questions, providing advice and dealing with a variety of issues including those from individual members in difficulty. We held another successful Branch Presidents' Retreat in early September through which we provided training and networking opportunities for our local leaders.

We are looking forward to an opportunity to speak at a Secondary Operations meeting of Principals in June. We will emphasize the importance of involving the Federation in consultation. We hope that these meetings will continue to be a forum to address Principals. The Chief Negotiator and President continue to hold regular Labour / Management meetings with the Board as a forum for discussion on labour relations issues. In addition all Federation Presidents have had several opportunities to meet with the Director on a regular basis throughout the past year to discuss issues of mutual concern.

This year has been affected by the requirements of new legislation. Bill 157 took effect February 1 2010 and it deals with the reporting of suspend able student behaviors and addressing inappropriate and disrespectful behaviors. As a result all members are now required by law to complete Safe School Incident report forms.

Assessment Evaluation and Reporting occupied much of the earlier portion of the school year. The Boards implementation of the new procedure on AE&R, largely based on the Ministries "Growing Success" document, has not been without some hiccups. As we began to see school policies role out, many inconsistencies from school to school were noted. Thank you to the many members who have kept a valiant watch and participated in the development of your schools policy. While these are not perfect, our general consensus is that we are making small in-roads on this file. Again I would like to emphasize the importance of all members being conversant with the procedure, your schools procedure, and "Growing Success".

The Board revised its employee wellness and disability management program this spring. All members should have received information from Principals on this procedure. The most significant change includes the use of a new Standard Medical Certificate. While we continue to have concerns with this procedure, it should be noted that all bargaining unit Presidents are meeting with the superintendent of Human Resources to express our concerns and work towards resolution of outstanding issues.

In addition the board introduced:

- A new employee code of conduct
- A procedure detailing the protocols for involvement of External Partnerships
- The student census
- A District Review Process working towards a five-year strategic vision
- A search for a new Director of Education

Our members at Nepean, Brookfield, and West Carleton are among the first to participate in the Ministry mandated School Effectiveness framework. By all accounts our board seems to be handling this process in a professional and positive manner.

At the District level we welcome the return of Susan Rab, Provincial Executive Officer, to her teaching duties at Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I extend to her our deepest appreciation for the many valuable contributions she has brought to all members of federation.

We extend congratulations and best wishes to our District President and EA Unit President Cindy Dubue on her recent election to Provincial Executive.

D25 continues to provide leadership and representation on provincial committees. I would like to acknowledge the valuable, voluntary contributions of

- Ambreen Ihsanullah – Ed Services Committee
- Gib McKay – Human Rights Committee
- Jaden Lairson for his role in developing the EQUIP workshop as well as being a facilitator
- Kerry Chalmers and Ambreen Ihsanullah as Provincial workshop presenters
- Craig Winegarden as our Faculty of Education Workgroup Representative
- Kerri Ferguson for her tireless hours on the Strategy Structure review committee
- Kim Appel for work on the FTE workgroup and Benevolent Council
- Rosetta Sciortino for her work on Benevolent Council.
- Evan Cooper for representing us on the SEAC (Special Education Advisory Council)
- A special heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who made this years board wide PD Day such a huge success
- On behalf of our membership, thank you to all our local leaders who serve as your Branch representatives on Branch Executives and Unit Committees.
- Last but not least thank you to all Branch Presidents and Teacher Council Rep's for your role on the front lines defending the professional rights and responsibilities of all our members.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President.

Dan Maxwell