

The Supply Line

ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teachers' Local

Volume VIII Issue 5

April 2006

President's Notes:

An ancient Chinese proverb advises us to "Make plans for the year in the Spring, and plan for each day in the morning".

As Occasional Teachers, we are quite used to arranging our schedules each morning according to the whim of TVARRIS, but like the annual rush of sap that is so fleeting, several annual items require immediate attention this Spring.

As a consequence of our recent negotiations, the Annual Canvass Letter is now entirely electronic via the Employee Portal and must be completed by May 19, 2006 as a condition of remaining on the Elementary Occasional Teacher List for next year.

Also as a result of bargaining, the Board is to provide a half day (two half-days next school year; four half-days in 2007), specific to Elementary Occasional Teachers. This initial chance to "Earn While You Learn" will take place on the June 29 PD Day, a day when our members previously had no opportunity to work. This investment by the Board recognizes that ETFO Thames Valley OTs have the highest participation in Professional Development in Ontario and has become landmark in the province. It is imperative that we take advantage of this half day and demonstrate to TVDSB Director of Education, Bill Bryce, who will address those in attendance, that Thames Valley Elementary Occasional Teachers are committed to lifelong learning.

Thirdly, we ask that you help us honour those members who have been Elementary Occasional Teachers for 10 – 25 years. OTs are the only group ineligible for recognition of long-service by the Board. Register for our June first Banquet and celebrate our dedicated members. As with all our Local events, this function is fully funded by your dues and levy.

The final opportunity I would like to highlight is our Local Annual Meeting and Elections. Show your support and enjoy the meal, have your say and participate in the process. Run for the Local Executive or Delegate / Alternate to the August Provincial Annual Meeting. I can attest for the many opportunities provided by union leadership. Please plan to attend. I look forward to meeting you.

Terry Card

April 26 - Local PD Opportunity *Ain't Misbehavin'*

With John Bertram and Joanne Myers

Join us at the Lamplighter Inn, 4:30 – 7:30 pm on April's Early Dismissal Day for a humorous and informative workshop based on the strategies of Barrie Bennett. Learn dynamic, progressive and active methods of dealing with today's children.

**Register by April 24 at 641-3936 or
contact@etfotvots.com.**

Limit of 150 participants.



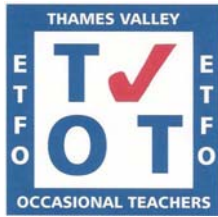
TVDSB TO PROVIDE PAID PD OPPORTUNITY THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006

Effective September 2005, the Board shall provide one-half (1/2) designated Professional Activity Day for Occasional Teachers. Participation shall be treated in all respects as if it were time worked. (i.e., teaching experience, pension and Employment Insurance credit). Online registration is required and will be available via the Employee Portal after May 8th.

Retro Pay?

Several members have called to ask about their retroactive pay based on increases negotiated by our Permanent Teachers. Article 7.01 of our Collective Agreement provides that our members received these percentage changes effective the date of such change to the Elementary Teacher grid; i.e., the 2% June increase for 2004 was paid with our July pay; we began September 2005 with another 2% raise.

Help us Celebrate the Achievements of our Peers



ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teachers' Local

AWARDS 2005-2006

Application Form for OCCASIONAL TEACHER (TVDSB) SERVICE RECOGNITION

The Thames Valley Occasional Teacher Local is pleased to recognize members with 10/15/20/25 (circle one) years of service as Occasional Teachers with the TVDSB. We invite OTs to identify themselves (copy this form as needed) so that your peers may recognize your achievement at our Awards Banquet on June 1, 2006.

Forward completed nomination forms by May 12, 2006 to:
ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teachers' Local,
521 Nottinghill Road, Suite 9, London, Ontario N6K 4L4
Facsimile: 641-6838

10 / 15 / 20 / 25 YEAR SERVICE RECOGNITION (FOR TVDSB Elementary MEMBERS ONLY)

- ✓ You have been an elementary Occasional Teacher with the TVDSB or its predecessor boards for at least 10 / 15 / 20 / 25 years (*circle one*)
- ✓ You have taught on a short-term, long-term, or combination basis
- ✓ You may have been a permanent teacher at one time, but have been an OT for at least 10 / 15 / 20 / 25 years (*circle one*)
- ✓ Your service as an OT is the aggregate; i.e., there may be breaks in your service as an OT
- ✓ Your grid placement or currently recognized grid experience is not a factor
- ✓ You are currently a member in good standing of ETFO, The Ontario College of Teachers, and you are currently employed by the TVDSB
- ✓ Experience in the secondary panel, other boards, private schools, etc. is not eligible

Name: _____

Employee number: _____

Phone number: _____

I verify I have at least 10 / 15 / 20 / 25 years of service with the TVDSB as an Occasional Teacher:

Signature and date

Do Not Use Your Own Vehicle to Drive Students to Board-Sponsored Events

A member cannot be required to "volunteer" his/her own vehicle for a field trip or board-sponsored event. This is not a reasonable requirement for an employee. The board is responsible for hiring drivers or school buses, or for arranging any other form of reasonable transportation for the students. This is not the member's responsibility. It is ETFO's advice that members should not volunteer to drive students to or from field trips or board-sponsored activities. Article 34.01 of your Collective Agreement states that you will not be required to transport students in your vehicle. The board is responsible for ensuring adequately trained drivers and transportation for board-related events.

Insurance Coverage and Liability

By volunteering to drive, the member is assuming a risk above and beyond the normal risk associated with teaching, and with supervising field trips. The member may be sued in his/her own name, and his/her own insurance will become implicated if there is an accident. The member may be personally liable to a student if an accident occurs, and there is insufficient insurance coverage. The board's insurance will not necessarily suffice to cover a member in the event of an accident. Whether or not the member's own insurance covered such an accident, a successful claim against the member would increase his/her premiums and he/she may be uninsurable in the future.

Allegations

There are other implications for members in these circumstances. If members drive students to and from events in a personal vehicle, they expose themselves to allegations from students of improper behaviour in the vehicle. In these circumstances ETFO may not provide coverage for this member, as it has been ETFO's long standing advice that members must not volunteer their own vehicles, or drive students around either during or after school hours.

WSIB

If a member is in an accident, and becomes injured while driving students, a legal question arises as to whether the activity was "in the course of his/her duties." He/she may not be covered by WSIB payments.

If the board insists that members volunteer their cars, the Federation should be informed.

1) Ontario College of Teachers' Fee

You **must** pay your annual membership fee of \$104 by April 15, 2006 to remain on the Occasional Teacher List. The Board does not deduct these fees from either long-term or short-term Occasional Teachers.

Pay by credit card on line at: www.oct.ca
 Or by cheque at: Ontario College of Teachers
 121 Bloor Street East
 Toronto, Ontario M4W 3M5

Include your Social Insurance Number and College Registration Number.
 Mark as "2006 Fees" to ensure proper credit.

If you will not be teaching again, inform the College that you are "Retiring" to avoid "Suspended: non-payment of fees". The College charges a penalty for late payment.

2) Criminal Offence Declaration

Regulation 521 requires the Board to collect annual Criminal Offence Declarations for all staff who might come into contact with students. Compliance is mandatory. Log in to the Employee Portal. The form is listed under Personal Information – Complete Your Offence Declaration.

3) Electronic Canvass Letter

As stipulated in Article 6.08, members are required to notify the Board of their intention to remain on the list. In accordance with our recent Letter of Understanding, the Board and the Union agree that this will occur electronically and must be completed by May 19, 2006. From the Employee Portal, click on HRS Applications in the blue left hand border and select Temp/Occasional Employee Canvass.

4) WHMIS Review

Occasional Teachers had until March 19, 2006 to complete their 2005 WHMIS review. Newly hired Occasional Teachers had WHMIS training as a condition of employment and were not eligible for the \$25 honorarium.

TECHS FACZZA

Deadline May 31, 2006



A TERRIFIC P.D. OPPORTUNITY

For a \$25 Book Rebate

Purchase a professional book related to your professional needs and receive a rebate of up to \$25 / per member per school year.

Shop at your favourite bookstore or - Check out ShopETFO at www.etfo.ca

Submit - 1) the form below
 2) the original bill
 3) a stamped self-addressed envelope

To - PD Rebate Request
 ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teachers' Local
 521 Nottinghill Road, Suite 9
 London, Ontario N6K 4L4

Cheques will be mailed within 4 weeks. Limit of one claim per school year for each member. We will list your current professional readings for our members.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ TELEPHONE: _____

TITLE OF BOOK: _____

AUTHOR: _____

PUBLISHER: _____

How this publication will be helpful to Occasional Teachers: _____

How Members Spent their \$25.00 Book Rebates



Many members took advantage of this opportunity to expand their library of resources. Here is a sampling of some of the books they bought with the \$25.00 rebate from our Local:

Reading and Writing in Kindergarten: A Practical Guide by Rosalie Franzese

Comments: *A practical, hands-on approach to effective Kindergarten literary instruction.*

Heritage and Citizenship Grade 1/2 by C. Cipkar

Comments: *An excellent resource especially for a split class. It includes newsletters for each grade, lessons and rubrics for each lesson and grade level.*

Singing Games Children Love - Vol. 2 by Denise Gagne

Comments: *This book will help me with programming.*

1-2-3 Magic For Teachers by Thomas W. Phelan and Sarah Jane Schonour

Comments: *Useful suggestions relating to effective classroom discipline - Pre-K to Grade 8.*

6 + 1 Traits of Writing by Ruth Culham

Comments: *It's an amazing resource on how to get kids to improve at each of the traits and reflect on their work.*

Listening Resource Kit by Denise Gagne

Comments: *Provides listening lessons useful in any supply setting, particularly Music classes, that meet curriculum expectations. A CD is included, as well as reproducible student pages.*

How to Teach Art to Children by Joy Evans and Tanya Skelton

Comments: *Has colour photos of the artwork and supplies needed - very easy to use.*

Forms at Your Fingertips Gr. 1 - 6; edited by Elizabeth H. Lindsay

Comments: *A resource containing over 150 forms to help with classroom management, instructional planning, and communicating with students and parents.*

Phonemic Awareness by Arlene Grierson

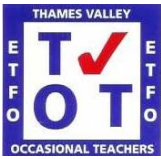
Comments: *Primary grades: songs, chants, and actions to involve children in their learning.*

Developing Students' Multiple Intelligences by Kristen Nelson

Comments: *Ideas and activities to help me plan for the wide range of abilities in the classroom. It covers grades K - 8. It will help me tap into my students' strengths.*

TRIBES: A New Way of Learning and Being Together by Jeanne Gibbs

Comments: *Excellent ideas and activities for different age levels for an OT to use with very little preparation. It is necessary to keep current.*



521 NOTTINGHILL ROAD, SUITE 9, LONDON, ONTARIO N6K 4L4
Telephone: (519) 641-3936 - Facsimile: (519) 641-6838 - Website:

www.etfotvots.com

Annual General Meeting and Elections

Thursday, May 18, 2006 from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

*Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Road South
London, Ontario*

Dinner Buffet at 5:00 p.m. to include:

*Assorted fresh rolls and crunchy vegetable crudité's with dip
Four leaf baby green salad with assorted vinaigrettes
Wild mushroom salad with balsamic vinaigrette
Potato salad; Greek salad with feta cheese, peppers, red onions and Calamata olives
Variety of cold sliced meats; imported and domestic cheeses
Oven roasted Yukon Gold potatoes; rice pilaf, and chef's fresh vegetables
Roast Top Sirloin of Beef with an Intense Ruby Port sauce and wild mushrooms
Spinach and Three Cheese Stuffed Cannelloni with hearty tomato and basil sauce
French Pastries, assorted Tortes, Cakes and Cheesecakes
Sliced fresh fruit*

R.S.V.P. required for meal

641-3936 or contact@etfotvots.com

*All who attend will receive
the new ETFO Occasional Teacher Collective Agreement
and a chance to win one of our door prizes.*



Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Spring 2006



As provided by Article XI of our Local Constitution, proposed amendments must be submitted to the Executive at least thirty days prior to the General Membership Meeting. All proposed amendments must then be published and given to the general membership for consideration at least fourteen days prior to the General Membership Meeting. The Constitution shall be amended if 60% of the membership present, votes in favour.

Any additional amendments submitted to Executive within the deadlines shall be posted at www.etfotvots.com.

ARTICLE V – RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES *(Amend by addition)*

5.2 The rights of *an active* member shall be: ...

5.3 *The rights of an honorary member shall be:*

- a) *to attend Local functions in a non-voting capacity;*
- b) *to receive Local publications; and*
- c) *to serve by invitation on Local task forces, committees or work groups.*

(Mutatis Mutandi)

Rationale: The Local awards honorary life membership but has not defined the rights and privileges of such membership.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Section 1 – Parliamentary Procedure *(Amend by addition)*

8.1.1 The current Robert's Rules of Order shall be the procedural guide in all matters at every Local Meeting.

Rationale: Housekeeping to correct missing possessive.

ARTICLE IX – ELECTIONS

Section 1 – Eligibility *(Amend by addition)*

9.1.1 An *active* member in good standing may *nominate* or be nominated to stand for elected office.

9.1.2 For the position of President, candidates should have Local Executive experience.

9.1.3 Members may not run from the floor for the position of President.

Section 2 – Nominations *(Amend by addition)*

9.2.1 Members shall be notified of the request for nominations at least thirty (30) days prior to the Local Annual Meeting.

9.2.2 The deadline for receipt of nominations shall be five (5) days in advance of the Local Annual Meeting.

9.2.3 Notwithstanding the above, *with the exception of nominations for the position of President*, nominations duly moved and seconded and with the consent of the nominee shall be accepted at the Annual Meeting.

Rationale: Clarify possible conflict with 9.1.3.

ARTICLE XIV – FINANCES *(Amend by addition)*

14.4 The Local shall collect a levy of .30 % (.0030) of the salary of each member.

14.5 *The Local shall collect an additional levy of .20% (.0020) of the salary of each member to be directed to the building fund.*

Rationale: At the last General Meeting, members approved a Building Fund, however given the overwhelming success of the Local's P. D. workshops, it is necessary to direct an increase in the levy for this purpose.