



ADETFO INFO

Stewards:
Please Post

May 2010

EDITED BY:
KELLY HOLLEY

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Planning for Next Year

We are about to finalize staffing for the next school year. In the next few weeks, schedules and timetables will be prepared at least in a preliminary way. It is wise for you to check these schedules thoroughly. Next year, preparation time is increased to **220** minutes in a five-day cycle, to be taken during Instructional Time. This means that most full-time teachers, especially those on a Balanced Day, will have 4 X 50 minutes of preparation time in a five-day cycle plus 2 X 40 minutes of aggregated prep time in a four week period. In some smaller schools, there could be slightly different configurations of prep time assignments. The teacher providing preparation time will be teaching FSL or another Specialty Assignment. Ideally, this decision about how the prep time is provided, will be made based on the strengths and qualifications of the teacher and will be made collaboratively. Consideration should be given to the timetable and working conditions of the teacher providing the time. It should not be a "dumping ground" for the curriculum that teachers can't fit in or don't want.

Many of you have been asking about guidelines for the new progress reports and report cards starting in September. I am currently preparing a package of information to send out to Stewards very shortly. This will outline some of these changes and expectations. Please ask about them.

Vel

2010 Award Recipients

Outstanding Bus Driver Award: **Dave Corbett**, Parkland & Rosedale

Support Staff Award: **Roger Lebel**, Aweres

Pauline McLeish, Tarentorus

Volunteer Award: **Janice Warick**, Aweres

Denise Carre, Spanish



CONGRATULATIONS!

The following candidates were successful in the recent ADETFO elections:

Vice President: Doug Coulter

Treasurer: Beth Reed

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

As staffing schedules are being created for next year, please remember to verify the following:



- 1) No more than **80 minutes** of supervision (prorated for part time members)
- 2) **220 minutes** of preparation time.

Social Justice & Equity

Congratulations to the following teachers and students from four schools who were awarded \$100 each by the Social Justice and Equity Committee. The committee was impressed with the activities described. **Jackie Barrett** of Grand View wrote about twelve grade one to four environmental stewards called the Green Team. **Jacqueline Fairbrother** of Riverview described ambitious environmental initiatives at the school. **Adrienne Edwards** wrote on behalf of eight grade eight girls who demonstrate leadership in addressing global issues. **Amy Marchand** of Tarentorous wrote on behalf of her entire school which is involved in a wide variety of social, environmental, cultural and global initiatives. Look forward to the Social Justice and Equity newsletter this fall which will highlight the winners and how their monetary award was utilized and the initiatives in other district schools as well.

By: Brenda Gallander, Chair

HEALTH & SAFETY:

“JOB STRESS”

Job stress presents a challenge to a worker striving for wellness. Wellness is achieved with a good combination of psychological and physical health. Wellness can produce higher morale and greater productivity at work. Wellness means having healthy lifestyle behaviours such as:

- Making wise food choices;
- Achieving a healthy and comfortable body weight;
- Attaining freedom from controlling or addictive behaviours;
- Working in a safe and healthy way;
- Fostering a positive mental attitude to cope with work.

STRESS REDUCTION CHECKLIST

- ⇒ I avoid isolation (stress can be lessened when staff members work together and support each other).
- ⇒ I have visited “shopETFO” for my copy of *After the Chalk Dust Settles* (this publication provides strategies for dealing with stress).
- ⇒ I have contacted my Employee Assistance Plan.
- ⇒ I have called Protective Services at ETFO for confidential advice.

Early Learning Program/Bill 242

The first phase of the new full-day kindergarten program (Early Learning Program) will begin in September 2010, affecting approximately 15 per cent of kindergarten-aged children. In Algoma, this program will be in place in six classes within 5 schools, Ben R. McMullin, East View, Pinewood, Wm Merrifield and Northern Hts. ETFO participated in the public hearings on the legislation and has successfully lobbied the government to make appropriate amendments to Bill 242, which passed as amended on April 27, 2010. The basic premise of the new program is that good programming for young children is based on solid social and emotional development and should be **play-based**.

ETFO has been very clear in its campaign to ensure clearly delineated roles for the certified teacher and the two Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) in this program. This will be best addressed as the program unfolds and the teacher and the ECEs work together as a team, within the context of their collective agreement and contract provisions. This sense of “team” is a key component to the program, especially with an average class size of 26, possibly more.

The legislation outlines a shared responsibility for such activities as planning and delivery of the JK/SK program, assessment and observation of pupils and communications with families. However, teachers will have some responsibilities that ECEs will not. Teachers will have overall responsibility for preparing fall progress reports and two formal report cards to parents, instruction, training and evaluation of the progress of kindergarten pupils, management of the kindergarten classes and preparation of teaching plans. The teacher will **not** be in a supervisory role with respect to the ECEs working in the same classroom. Rather, all of the educators involved with this program will be under the supervision of the Principal.

In most cases, when the ELP begins in September, ECEs assigned to the program will not yet belong to a union. ETFO has decided to unionize the ECEs assigned to the ELP in both public and Catholic school boards. (OECTA's constitution prevents the organization from unionizing non-teachers.) In its unionization drive, ETFO will be competing with other unions, including CUPE and OSSTF. See the ADETFO website www.adetfo.on.ca for more details on topic.

SUMMER ACADEMY

The PD Committee will be hosting "Music, Dance, and Drama - An Integrated Journey Across the Curriculum!" at Etienne Brule, Aug. 10-12. More details will be available in the Summer Academy catalogue, which will be out in schools later this month. Registration is available at www.etfo.ca (as of Mon., May 17). Any questions can be forwarded to me at Aweres (777.2325) or at buiek@email.adsb.on.ca.

The registration fee for three full days of learning, collaborating, and networking with colleagues is only \$45 for most courses which includes excellent hand outs and a light nutritional morning break and lunch on all three days.

Get Away This Summer!

We have a timeshare week expiring in July. This week can be used anywhere in the world where another week has been traded in. I can give you the catalogue, the website info if you want to browse, or I can arrange it for you. Most resorts have an occupancy of 2 - 6 people. \$500/wk. The week can be extended to be used in August for \$69.

Contact Kari Buie at karirb@yahoo.com.