



## President's Message



As I write this article, we are putting the finishing touches on the PowerPoint presentation for our special April 30th meeting to ratify the 2008-2012 Collective Agreement. Assuming it is indeed endorsed, this will put an end to negotiations for the next four years (though one year of the agreement has already elapsed) and it begins a new era in relations with the Board. First and foremost, a profound "thank you" is due to the negotiating team of Susan Ansara, (our ETFO CBC liaison), Jeff Beckstead, Janet Fraser, Robert J Ferguson, Elizabeth Kettle and Monique Vandebosch. The amount of time they put into this agreement is almost impossible to calculate. For the first time in memory we have reached an agreement without having to take a strike vote. This was in no small part due to the commitment we made to look for opportunities to work with the Board in finding mutually agreeable solutions to matters on the table. The new agreement however, is only worth the effort if we are committed to consistently monitoring and adhering to its terms. In other words, it's one thing to put it on paper, it's another to action it.

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A reminder to all of you that our May 28th Annual General Meeting is fast approaching. It really is YOUR union and the organization is only as strong as the members choose to make it so please try to make the time to attend. At the AGM, elections will be taking place for a number of volunteer Executive and CBC positions and we hope that you will consider submitting your name for one of them. This can easily be done by simply contacting Cheryl Morris at our office and telling her which position you are interested in. It doesn't matter if you are a seasoned veteran or brand new teacher, everyone has valuable experiences and voices to add to our organization.

I look forward to seeing you there and wish you well.

Peter Giuliani  
President, OCETF

### OCETF Annual General Meeting (AGM)



Thursday, May 28th  
4:30 p.m.

Nepean Sportsplex—1701 Woodroffe Ave.  
Halls A & B

Childcare will be available

## Annual Awards Reception



**Thursday, May 14, 2009**  
R.A. Centre—Clark Hall  
5:00—7:30 p.m.

### Come & Celebrate

Recognize the following recipients:



25 Year Pins  
OCETF Service Awards  
OCETF Bursaries

Cash Bar



**Tickets \$10**

RSVP to Brenda Lowder via BEAM by  
May 7, 2009

## Invitation for All Health & Safety Representatives



Learn more about your role as a Health & Safety Representative and worker rights under the Occupational Health and Safety Act. The meeting will include information on recent changes to health and safety in our schools and there will also be an important opportunity to provide feedback.

Please send an alternate if you are unable to attend.

**Wednesday, May 13, 2009**

**4:30 p.m.**

**Chimo Hotel—MacKenzie Room  
1199 Joseph Cyr St.**



**Supper will be provided**

RSVP to Cheryl Morris via BEAM by  
May 10, 2009



## HRT

Honouring Retiring Teachers

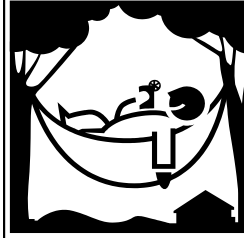
June 11th—Hellenic Centre

**Reserve a Table for your Staff**  
\$12 per ticket for non-retirees

Come and celebrate, enjoy good food, great entertainment and honour your retiring colleagues.

**Contact: Brenda Lowder via BEAM for a ticket. Deadline, June 5th**

## Retiring???



If you or someone on your staff is retiring please send your / their

name to **Cheryl Morris** via BEAM. The HRT celebration is just around the corner.



## Walk Into Retirement...



### Retirement Planning Workshop

A one-day retirement planning workshop providing a comprehensive approach to retirement planning.

Topics of interest include:

- Lifestyle planning
- Retiree health, dental and travel insurance
- Financial planning

**[www.otip.com/walkintoretirement](http://www.otip.com/walkintoretirement)**

The cost to attend is \$25 per person, or \$45 per couple. This includes all handouts, personalized reports, a continental breakfast, refreshments and lunch.

**Where:** Embassy West Hotel  
1400 Carling Ave., Ottawa

**When:** Saturday, May 30, 2009  
Registration at 8:30 a.m.  
Workshop runs from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.





## Queen Elizabeth P.S. is a Danny School!

What is a Danny School? A Danny school is chosen by the Local Federation and the Board of Director to look at the issues surrounding socio-economic issues such as poverty. ETFO began this project last year with 15 schools and this year with 16 schools in Ontario, one from each Board. Queen Elizabeth is the school chosen in Ottawa this year.

A Committee of interested teachers was formed. Lead teacher Shaz Tyndale, Principal Debbie Machida, the Committee and the staff have been busy implementing ways in which to build better communications in our community. The Danny School Committee as we like to call ourselves, has met monthly to plan and execute ways in which our school may be a Community hub for our students, parents and staff. We decided that to do this we needed to look at three areas, the family, the staff/students and resources.

We have had two Family evenings thus far and they were very successful. Families from our community enjoy time with each other and staff who volunteers. There has been African drumming and dancing, cultural arts and crafts and coming soon: Family evening May 7th at 6:30PM featuring interactive drama workshops through MASC and Afro-Caribbean dancing. Other nights will include: Literacy and Recreational Nights.

In addition to family evenings, parent information workshops were arranged for April 2, May 14th and May 28th. These workshops center around such topics as: Special Education and Safe Schools. We will also be organizing a CPR course/workshop where interested parents attending will be certified. This workshop will be paid for by the Danny Project fund.

Recently we ordered a series of picture and story books for our Book Room which will be used in many of our classrooms to aid teachers in teaching our students Character Educations and Community Relationships. Our Committee is excited about the progress of this project as is the staff of Q.E.

The Committee members are: Debbie Machida (Principal), Ms Kay (V.P.), Diana MacFarlane, John Spence, Claire Darby-Millar, Nadine Powers and Shaz Tyndale. By: S. Tyndale

### Beyond the Breakfast Program—Queen Elizabeth P.S.



#### The workshop will explore:

- Issues involving socio-economic factors
- Building better Community Relationships

Open to staff, administrative staff, and support staff!

**Thursday, May 21, 2009**

Queen Elizabeth P.S.—689 St. Laurent Blvd.  
4:30—6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP your attendance to  
Jill Paré via BEAM by May 13th.