



President's Message

Welcome back from the March Break. I hope you all had a chance to rest and recharge for the third term. To those of you lucky enough to have vacationed in warmer climates I'll just point out that Ottawa enjoyed the warmest weather on record last week and there were a lot of short sleeve shirts and blouses out there.

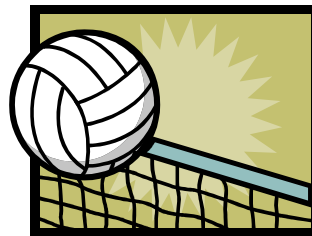
As you get ready to communicate with parents regarding their children's term two progress, I'd like to remind you to review the e-mail sent to you regarding second term interviews and communication with parents. As the resolution to OCETF's grievance on the matter of failure to consult on the use of PD days, the Board has agreed to ensure that a day be provided to kindergarten teachers (pro rated based on FTE). Furthermore it is clear that the loss of the normal interview day fundamentally reduced the time available for report card communications. Obviously teachers will respond to specific parent requests for phone or face-to-face meetings to discuss their child, just as we would in any reasonable situation, however please be aware that the expectation is interviews whether in person or over the phone, are held at the invitation of the teacher as scheduled by the teacher with agreement of the parent. The e-mail you received gives more information on the matter, but if you need clarification or support, call our office. We have heard of numerous schools where teachers and administration have arranged special half day interviews during the school day with centralized activities or student led conferences to assist in scheduling for families. We certainly encourage such creative solutions.

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I'd like to thank those many teachers who volunteered to sit on FSL and Early Learning Program Committees at the Board level. The response to our call for interested individuals was overwhelming and we are delighted by the obvious professional commitment this demonstrates on the part of teachers. Do take a moment to remind yourselves that there's a reason why teachers remain among the most trusted of all professional groups in society. It is a trust which requires a huge amount of work to earn...and earn it you have.

Regards,

Peter Giuliani
OCETF President



OCETF Wellness Volleyball Tournament

Friday, April 23rd

**Please visit the OCETF website to register.
Registrations will only be accepted on-line.
Visit <www.ocetf.org> to register your team.**

Registration closes April 8th.

**Please contact Brad Strong via BEAM if you
have any questions.**



OCETF 2009 / 2010 Awards and Bursaries

Awards and Bursaries will be presented at our Annual OCETF Awards Reception to be held on May 20, 2010 at the R.A. Centre.

Awards are available to all teachers. Please take a moment to look at the criteria and see if you know of any teachers you could nominate. We welcome all nominations and count on teachers in our schools to bring forward worthy candidates.

Up to 10 bursaries of \$700 are available to teachers who wish to apply for financial assistance to pay for university courses.

Awards / Bursary information is available on the OCETF website

www.ocetf.org — under OCETF Documents

School News...

If you would like to submit an article for an upcoming edition of the newsletter please forward to Jill Paré via BEAM. Deadline—15th of each month.



Upcoming OCETF Events

OCETF Wellness Volleyball Tournament
Awards Reception
Annual General Meeting
HRT (Honouring Retiring Teachers') Reception

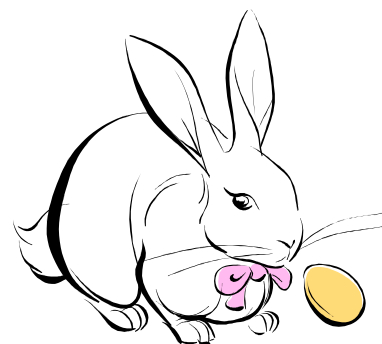
April 23, 2010
May 20, 2010
May 27, 2010
June 3, 2010

For more details visit the OCETF Website

[<www.ocetf.org>](http://www.ocetf.org)

Visit the Calendar of Events

Happy Passover



Happy Easter