



# President's Memo

Lamia Sabbagh, President

905 668 7100

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

1. **District 13 OSSTF – District Annual Meeting Election Results** – The following people were either acclaimed or elected to positions on the District 13 Executive at the District Annual Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

President – Lamia Sabbagh

2nd Vice President – Garrett Metcalfe

4th Vice President – Rob Walker

Secretary – Tory Bedard

1st Vice President – Erin Crawford

3rd Vice President – Richard McCormack

Treasurer – Nicole Bléau

Additional TBU Provincial Councillor – Nicole Bléau

2. **District 13 Executive Officer Posting** – As many of you are aware, when Dave Barrowclough left in December for a position at Provincial Office, there was a domino effect at the District Office. The District 13 executive appointed Ryan Kelly as Chief Negotiator and Shane Stagg was hired as an Interim Executive Officer. This interim position expires at the end of the school year. We are now in a position to hire permanently for the position of Executive Officer as required by the District 13 Constitution. This job posting will be available on the OSSTF bulletin board by the Branch President in all schools for five days and will also be sent out through the mass email system. The posting will be sent to Branch Presidents during the week of May 21<sup>st</sup>.

3. **Staffing Update** – The third round of postings has now closed. After successful candidates in this last round have been notified, the teachers who remain surplus to their schools will be placed into open positions on May 24<sup>th</sup>. There will then be a 3.1 round on June 1<sup>st</sup> for all permanent teachers, Con Ed Day School Credit teachers and any 0.5 FTE permanent teachers who want to increase their FTE to 1.0. Any remaining jobs will then be opened up on June 11<sup>th</sup> to teachers on the DDSB's LTO list as well as the groups listed above. Should there be any questions please don't hesitate to call the District Office.

4. **Black Friday Medical Notes** – If anyone was asked to provide a medical note on Black Friday this school year and had to pay a fee for it, please contact the District Office as soon as possible about a possible reimbursement by the Board.

5. **Provincial Leave Day** - As part of the remedy agreement from Bill 115, all permanent teachers who were employed during the 2016/17 school year and are actively teaching in 2017/18 or 2018/19 will be entitled to one paid day off work. This day off can be taken during the 2017/18 or 2018/19 school year subject to "black out" days determined by the Board:

- Friday and Monday of the American Thanksgiving weekend
- Parent/Teacher interview days
- Any regularly scheduled PD day
- Extending a long weekend or school break (before or after)
- No more than 3 requests per day will be granted in a small school (less than 1000 students)
- No more than 5 requests per day will be granted in a big school (more than 1000 students)

Requests must be made to the principal with two weeks advance notice. If a leave day was granted and you were not covered by a supply teacher but instead your classes were sent to on-call or study hall, please contact the office. If you haven't used your Provincial Leave Day yet, plan ahead so you don't run out of opportunities to use it!

6. **Duty to Report to CAS** – This is a reminder to all members about our duty to report no matter the family background or circumstance. A person who has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection must promptly report the suspicion and the information upon which it is based directly to a Children's Aid Society. This person has an ongoing duty to make further reports if they have additional reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection. This person must report these concerns directly to a Children's Aid Society and must not rely on anyone else to report on their behalf. (CFSA s.72)
7. **Professional Conduct** – Members are reminded to uphold the ethical standards of our profession at all times and to be continuously aware of putting themselves in compromising positions with students. Do not drive students in your own vehicle. Make sure you are never alone with a student in a closed room where there is no window. Never, ever touch a student. Ever. Even if it is just a reassuring hand on a shoulder or a helpful hand with a special education student or in a physical classroom such as Phys Ed or Dance. If you have a profile on a social networking site such as Facebook, Instagram, or Pinterest to name just a few, never invite students to be your "friend" nor accept students as "friends". It would also be a very good idea to go over your profile and ensure that your privacy controls are limited and that you remove any content or photographs which you would not want your colleagues, students, their parents, or your employer to see.
8. **Leveraging Technology** – While we recognize our Board's commitment to technology, and many of our members embrace the tools available to them through such platforms as Google classroom, members are advised to use caution when posting sensitive information such as marks or personal information. Make sure you are always using a Board platform to do any work which involves students realizing that by doing so your administrator can monitor whatever you post. It is also worthwhile to note that when you log into your Board Google account on any device to complete work in your Google classroom, any personal tasks you work on afterward may be inadvertently stored in that same Google environment. Bookmarks, browsing history and documents may appear in your Google environment when you return to class and be displayed on the screen. For example, if you search for vacation information and bookmark sites or if you create a document of things to pack for your trip, that personal information may be revealed during class.
9. **Teachers Caring for Teachers Annual Charity Golf Tournament** – Our Annual Golf Tournament will be held, rain or shine, on Friday June 8<sup>th</sup>. This year again, there is an early bird price of \$30 before **May 19<sup>th</sup>**, which will then increase to \$40 should there be any remaining spots. Included are 9-holes of golf, to be followed by a roast chicken dinner (vegetarian options available upon request). The Tournament will be held at Lyndbrook Golf Course in North Whitby with a tee-off time of 4 pm. Proceeds will fund *Teachers Caring for Teachers* - an initiative created by District 13's Public Relations Committee which allows for members who are off work for an extended period of time to receive a "care package" from the District to let them know we are thinking of them. You can download a registration form from the front page of the District 13 OSSTF website (d13.osstf.ca). Registrations are first come, first served and only considered complete upon receipt of payment. Please make cheques payable to District 13 OSSTF.

