

Special points of interest:

- President's Message
- ETFO Signs Revised Framework
- 2009/2010 School Calendar
- ETFO PD Opportunities
- ETFO Resources for OTs
- Know Your Collective Agreement

Algoma District Occasional Teachers' Local

**Go to
www.algomaotlocal.com for
the latest Collective
Bargaining Bulletin!**

Volume 3 Issue 2

February 2009

Edited by
Peter Mead, President
Phone 705-257-0556
meadp@yahoo.com

President's Message

2009 continues to follow the abysmal pattern of 2008 in terms of the limited number of days worked by Algoma Occasional Teachers. The complaints expressed by members about how little work they are getting are substantiated by the monthly call-out sheets. January, which is usually considered to be one of the better months for Occasional Teachers has turned out to be just the opposite this year.

Unfortunately, this situation is directly attributable to the increased number of Occasional Teachers on our call-out list. Considering the lack of work available, many members were especially appalled to learn that the Board added 12 new Occasional Teachers to the Algoma OT List in January of 2009. Unfortunately, although we may dis-

agree strongly with this move, we have no language in our Collective Agreement to limit the Board's actions in increasing the size of the OT list. If we wish to make any changes in this area, we will have to do it through our Collective Bargaining process.

Our first day of Collective Bargaining with the Board for this round of negotiations will be on Monday, February 23rd, and you can be certain that capping the OT list will be at the top of our agenda. Your support and our solidarity throughout this process are essential to our success. Check the Algoma OT website regularly for updates on Collective Bargaining issues and watch for future mail outs.

~Peter Mead, President

ETFO Signs on to the Minister's Revised Framework

If you have been following the provincial framework negotiations in the media lately, then you know that on February 12th of last week, ETFO accepted the revised funding proposal presented by Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne.

ETFO was willing to sign on to the revised framework because the Minister had removed the "oppressive strips" that had been in the original proposal from the Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA). However, ETFO President David Clegg emphasized the fact that the flawed process employed by Minister Wynne resulted in a framework inferior to the ETFO proposal rejected by OPSBA in December—a framework that would have resulted in the creation of 1500 new teaching positions and would have been "a better deal for elementary education".

"At a time when job creation should be everyone's priority the rejection of our proposal tells me that the importance of creating jobs is not the same priority for government as it is for ETFO."

~ETFO President David Clegg

This revised funding proposal will provide the framework for local collective bargaining. Our Algoma OT Local begins bargaining with the ADSB on Monday, February 23rd. According to the recently extended guideline agreed upon by ETFO and the Ministry of Education, all locals should complete negotiations by April 24th. Check out our website (algomaotlocal.com) for CB bulletins #6 and #7 which provide detailed information about the recently signed revised framework.

Professional Development

Check out the enclosed flyer for great local Professional Development opportunities !



OCT fees have increased to \$120 this year. The deadline for payment of fees is April 15th.

For more information, go to www.oct.ca

2009-2010 School Calendar

Please note that the ADSB school year for 2009-2010 begins prior to Labour Day. This fall, the school year actually begins on Tuesday, September 1st, and continues on Wednesday, September 2nd, and Thursday, September 3rd. Schools are then closed on Friday, September 4th, and Monday, September 7th, for the Labour Day weekend.

To see the complete ADSB School Year Calendar, go to www.adbsb.on.ca, select the tab *About Us* on the home screen, and then select *School Year Calendar*.

ETFO Provincial Professional Development Opportunities

Consider applying to attend one of the workshops and conferences offered by ETFO in Toronto. For the majority of these conferences and workshops, ETFO covers the costs of travel, accommodations and meals. In addition, when you attend a conference or workshop that occurs on Monday to Friday during the school year (possible teaching days), ETFO will reimburse you at the OT daily rate.

For more information, and to apply online, go to www.etfo.ca, click on the *Professional Development* tab on the left side of the home screen, and then choose *Conferences* or *Workshops*.

Right now the following conferences are open to ETFO members:

- **Women's Collective Bargaining Conference**—April 16th & 17th Registration Deadline is March 16th.
- **Women in Politics Conference**—April 16th & 17th Registration Deadline is March 11th
- **Information and Communication Technology Conference**—May 8th & 9th Registration Deadline is April 6th

ETFO Resources for Occasional Teachers

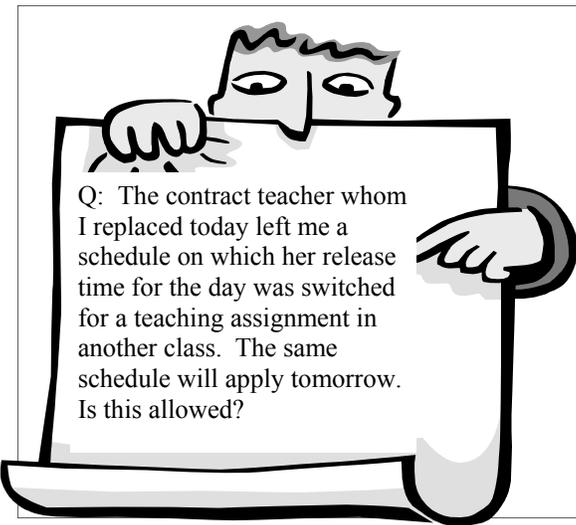
Looking for an emergency lesson plan to have available for any grade level? Look no further!

The ETFO website (www.etfo.ca) has an excellent selection of emergency lesson plans in both French and English for Occasional Teachers to use with all grade levels. Go to www.etfo.com, select the tab *Resources* on the left side of the home page and then select the tab *For Occasional Teachers*. Three documents are available to download: **Governance**, **Professionalism** and **Head of**

the Class.

While *Head of the Class* contains practical classroom guidelines, including emergency activities and lesson plans, *Governance* gives an excellent overview of the ETFO Code of Professional Conduct and workplace issues that may affect Occasional Teachers, and *Professionalism* provides templates and guidelines for compiling a professional portfolio.

*****Know Your Collective Agreement*****



Q: The contract teacher whom I replaced today left me a schedule on which her release time for the day was switched for a teaching assignment in another class. The same schedule will apply tomorrow. Is this allowed?

A: Absolutely not! According to our Collective Agreement, the Occasional Teacher is to be assigned the same timetable as the teacher whom she/he is replacing. As a result, the Occasional Teacher is entitled to the same preparation time as the teacher being replaced, and this preparation time should not be switched for other teacher assignments. Similarly, the Occasional Teacher should not be assigned extra supervision duties above those regularly performed by the teacher being replaced.

Article 24.1 of our Collective Agreement very clearly outlines this policy under the section entitled **Working Conditions: 24.1** The timetable for an Occasional Teacher shall be the same as the timetable of the teacher who is being replaced.

Our Collective Agreement is only as strong as our willingness to enforce it!