

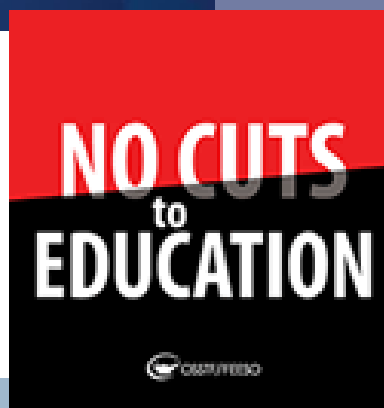


District 28 Update

- District 28's Electronic Newsletter

June
2019

Protecting and enhancing public education since 1919



The Good News

It may still be raining today, but the long-range forecast has 0% chance of precipitation this Friday! 22 degrees, no rain, and did I mention donuts? What a glorious day for a rally! I am still hoping we have a fantastic turnout this Friday as we mark one year of the Ford government and all of the cuts that have hurt our province...so far. **Please wear black this Friday to mourn this anniversary!** The following quote from our Provincial President Harvey Bischof in the latest Forum Magazine really resonated with me and I believe it effectively captures my feelings.

"The union is, in fact, the collective body of members, working in solidarity with one another to defend each other's interests. An active and engaged membership is our greatest defense against these outrageous government attacks on our work. As we resist this latest round of assaults on Ontario's education system, we need to remember that no one can guarantee us victory. But to refuse to fight—to capitulate to this effort to cheapen and demean education—would be unworthy of us as educators who care for the well-being of our students and our colleagues. Our goal will always remain to win everything we can by resisting. I urge all OSSTF members to stay informed and engaged in the coming weeks and months. We have faced tough times in the past and we will again. But when this current storm passes, we must be in a position to say we did everything we could to defend our students and ourselves from these latest barbarians at our schools' gates."

More Good News

District 28 has made a donation in support of flood victims through the Renfrew County Community Paramedic Program. District 28 has also made a donation to support the Renfrew County Pride Festival and we will be on site to with OSSTF Pride swag to give away from 2 – 5 pm on June 15th. On Sunday June 9th at 1 pm there is a Pride Walk in Pembroke and you are encouraged to register through the following link: <http://bit.ly/RenfrewPride>



Even More Good News

District 28 members Elizabeth and Mike Wright have been awarded the Canadian Cancer Society Impact Award. The award recognizes impact, innovation and excellence providing the Canadian Cancer Society with the chance to celebrate those who are making a difference in the fight against cancer. They are the highest provincial and community levels of honour presented to an individual or group. Congratulations Liz and Mike!

Educators Financial Workshop

This fall (late September/early October) we are planning to host a 45 minute workshop entitled "Be Prepared During Uncertain Times". The free workshop will be provided by a financial

planner from Educators Financial Group. Stay tuned for more information.

Redblacks Tickets

Redblacks versus the BC Lions on Saturday, September 21 at 7 pm. Tickets are only \$43.50 each in the South Side in Section NN. Please send an email to allieryan@gmail.com to secure your tickets today!

Planning a Summer Road Trip Through Canada on a Budget

Canada is known worldwide for its natural beauty. With rolling hills, sparkling blue waters, boreal forests, natural parks and mountain peaks, Canada really has it all. If you're looking to explore more of this beautiful country over the summer without breaking the bank, follow this helpful guide of national attractions you can visit that won't cost you much more than the gas required to take you there. To learn more, click here:

www.otipinsurance.com/article41

RedforEd T-Shirts

I have some extra t-shirts for sale for \$5. I only have large, extra-large and XXL (no mediums or small sizes.) If you would like one, please send me an email with your size and location.

2019-20 Calendar

The Ministry recently approved our school year calendar which I have included on page 2.

Indigenous Heritage Month

Join OSSTF in honouring the heritage, diversity and history of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Check out the great resources for educators available at <https://t.co/GPKLNmNZSP>
In Solidarity! - Jeff



2019 - 2020 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

194 Instructional Days

	First/Last Day
	PA Days
	Board Holidays
	STAT Holidays

SEPTEMBER (20 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

September 2 - Labour Day

OCTOBER (22 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

October 14 - Thanksgiving Day
Elementary Progress Report Oct 20-Nov 20

NOVEMBER (21 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER (15 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December 23 to January 3 - Christmas Break

JANUARY (20 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Provincial Report Card Elementary January 20-February 20

FEBRUARY (19 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

February 17 - Family Day

MARCH (17 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March 16 to 20 - March Break

APRIL (20 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

April 10 - Good Friday
April 13 - Easter Monday

MAY (20 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May 18 - Victoria Day

JUNE (20 days)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IMPACT OF CLASS SIZE INCREASES

On March 15, 2019, Minister of Education Lisa Thompson announced the average high school class size would increase from 22 to 28 students. This increase will take effect in the 2019–20 school year, with the full impact of lost teaching positions to be realized by the 2022–23 school year.

OSSTF/FEESO simulated the class size increases in 60 schools across Ontario to determine the estimated impact on classroom sections. Further, OSSTF/FEESO estimated the potential shortfall of teachers with particular qualifications who retire and are not likely to be replaced.

What is a classroom SECTION?

Put simply, a teacher *SECTION* is a course. A full-time teacher delivers six courses or *SECTIONS* per school year. Therefore, when you remove a full-time teaching job from a school and do not replace that teacher, that school will lose **six SECTIONS** or classes no longer taught or delivered to students. That reduces the number of courses available to students to select each year.

SMALL-SIZED SCHOOLS

Twenty-two of the 60 schools surveyed had an average daily enrolment of less than 500 students. To put this into context using the schools we surveyed, a school of 260 students would have approximately 113 classroom sections available to students to take a variety of courses. In these schools, an estimated average of 28 classroom sections will no longer exist as a result of these cuts. Four years from now, only 85 such sections will exist.

Further, upon analysis of qualifications associated with those retiring or losing employment in these small schools, **HALF** of these schools could lose all teachers qualified in areas such as French/languages, music, physical education, geography, guidance, co-op, visual arts, math, business, biology, computer science and/or technology (construction, transportation).

In addition, just over half of these schools would see a reduction of at least 50% of the teachers who are qualified in areas such as French/English, music, sciences, math, physical education and/or technology.



MEDIUM-SIZED SCHOOLS

Twenty-three of the 60 schools surveyed had an average daily enrolment between 500 and 1000 students. To put this into context using the schools we surveyed, a school with 715 students would have approximately 250 classroom sections available to students to take a variety of courses. In these schools, an average of 62 classroom sections will no longer exist as a result of these cuts.

Four years from now, only 188 such sections will exist.

Further, upon analysis of qualifications associated with those retiring or losing employment in these mid-size schools, it is reported that approximately 40% of these school will lose all teachers qualified in areas such as languages, drama, green industries, co-op, computer science, and/or technology (construction, communications technology, manufacturing and information technology).

In addition, over 60% of these schools will see a reduction of at least 50% of teachers who are qualified in areas such as drama, technology, family studies, music, computer science, physics/chemistry, French, law, and/or business.

LARGE-SIZED SCHOOLS

Fifteen of the 60 schools surveyed had an average daily enrolment of 1000 students or more. To put this into context using the schools we surveyed, a school with 1450 students would have approximately 512 classroom sections available to students to take a variety of courses. In these schools, an average of 128 classroom sections will no longer exist as a result of these cuts.

Four years from now, only 384 such sections will exist.

Further, upon analysis of qualifications associated with those retiring or losing employment in these large schools, it is reported that approximately 33% of these school will lose all teachers qualified in areas such as languages, law, economics, family studies, music, and/or technology (health, culinary arts and graphic arts).

In addition, over 80% of these schools will see a reduction of at least 50% of teachers who are qualified in areas such as business/economics, music, French/languages, law, computer science, drama, art, social sciences, and/or technology (communications technology, transportation, construction and hospitality).



So what does this mean?

In order for school boards to meet the new average class size requirements, schools will be hard pressed to accommodate the same number of students in approximately 25% fewer classroom sections.

In order for this to happen, schools may need to:

- Cancel course options, thereby forcing students into classes that do not align with their interests or requirements to get into certain post-secondary programs
- Cancel some core programs, including Science, Technology, Math (STEM)
- Combine classes—multiple level (i.e. Applied with Academic, College with University), multiple grades, or multiple courses in one classroom, making curriculum delivery and providing of individual attention much more difficult
- Significantly increase class sizes
- CLOSE, especially in rural communities, if unable to provide minimum core programming

FOR OUR FULL REPORT, GO TO <http://bit.ly/2EmYkMb>

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who could use an extra
\$1,500 for tuition?

They could
WIN
a bursary
from OTIP!

If you're insured with OTIP and you or one of your relatives (e.g. child, step-child, grandchild, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, etc.) will be a full- or part-time post-secondary student in the upcoming academic year, enter online for the chance to win a bursary from OTIP.

Twelve bursaries of \$1,500 each are awarded annually. The deadline to enter is June 15 each year.

Visit www.otip.com/bursary
for more information.

1.800.267.6847 | www.otip.com



OSSTF District 28 Renfrew is now
on Facebook – come and join our
group!

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