

Unit Update

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Salary Increases and OECTA Fees: Permanent Teachers

The salary increases that resulted from the Bill 124 ruling and the voluntary binding interest arbitration decision means that there has also been an increase in the fees that are collected by OECTA Provincial. These increases were not accounted for in payroll deductions to date, including those processed with the November 7, 2024 retroactive salary lump sum payment. As such, the Board will now need to make appropriate deductions in order to collect those fees in arrears. The updated deductions were shared in a memo sent out by the Board to OECTA members on January 13th. If you have any questions about OECTA fees, please contact the Unit Office. If you have any questions about your pay stub and deductions, please contact the Payroll Department at OCSB. More information about the OECTA fee structure can be found in the [Provincial Association Handbook](#).

New Health & Safety Reporting System

On November 8, 2024 the Board launched their new Health & Safety Reporting System (HSRS). A mandatory Vector Training module was created to help you with understanding this new system and time was given on the November 8th PD day to complete this training. The HSRS was designed to have a reporting system that housed all Safe Schools Incident Reporting Forms (SSIR), Employee Violence Incident Reports (EVIR) and Employee Incident/Accident Reports (EIAR) under the same platform. This should make it easier for all JHSC members to view these reports together to help with the Health and Safety needs of your school.

New Secondary Councillor

Welcome to Anna Seguin, Teacher at St. Patrick's High School, who joins the Unit Executive as Secondary Councillor for the remainder of this school year. Anna was selected through an interview process to replace former Councillor Melissa Ricci, who is currently on leave. Anna brings experience as a former Secondary Councillor to the role, as well as a wealth of committee involvement at both the local and provincial levels. Thank you to Melissa for representing Secondary members during her time as the Unit Executive!

AIDE Video Series

All Ottawa Unit members are encouraged to check out the "Learning from Diverse Voices Video Series" available on the [Provincial website](#). This collection of videos has been curated for professional development on various topics related to Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (AIDE). The videos can be found in the Members' Area, under the Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity tab.

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Report Cards - Returning From or Going on Leave

If you are returning from or starting a leave within a few weeks of report cards being due, it is important to talk with your Principal about the expectations regarding completing the report cards. It is always a good idea to ensure that everyone is aware of their professional obligations.

Political Action/Mobilization Election Readiness Training Session

Are you interested in learning how you can help to ELECT AN EDUCATION-FRIENDLY GOVERNMENT? OECTA Provincial is holding an in-person Election Readiness Training Session in Ottawa on February 21st & 22nd (hotel and mileage will be reimbursed by Provincial). There is also a virtual session being held on February 8th. The training sessions aim to provide members with the skills and resources needed to work within their communities and to encourage friends and family to get involved and vote. Please complete [this form](#) to register for either session and learn how you can make a difference in the upcoming election. **Registration Deadline is January 22, 2025.**

Ottawa Catholic Teachers Bonspiel

Hurry hard and register your team in the Ottawa Catholic Teachers' Annual Bonspiel (also known as the Funspiel!) happening on **Saturday, February 1, 2025** at the Nepean Sportsplex. **Registration closes Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 4pm.** Space is limited so sign your team up as soon as possible!



Status of Women Committee Social Sip Event

The Status of Women Committee is planning to hold a Social Sip networking event on **Thursday February 20, 2025, from 5-7pm.** The focus will be on sharing struggles and successes related to work-life balance, while we enjoy the food, drinks and ambiance of the Ritual on Main café in Stittsville. For more information and to sign up, please click on this [link](#). **Registration deadline is February 11, 2025.**

OECTA Provincial Diversity Advisory Board

Applications are now being accepted to fill outgoing positions on the OECTA Provincial Diversity Advisory Board (DAB), for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027. Click this [link](#) for more information and application details.

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Upcoming Events and Important Dates

- **Saturday, February 1:** Annual Ottawa Catholic Teachers Funspiel
- **Monday, February 10:** Young Authors Awards entries due to Association Reps
 - [Young Authors Flyer](#), [Policies](#), [Entry Form](#)
- **Wednesday, February 19:** Unit General Meeting
- **Friday, February 21-Saturday, February 22:** Election Readiness Training
- **Thursday, February 20:** Status of Women Committee [Social Sip Event](#)
- **Thursday, February 27:** JHSC Reps after school training session and dinner