



The Bare Essentials



October 12, 2011

Volume 14 Issue 2

ETFO Niagara

2601 Hwy. 20. East, Units 5 & 6, R.R. #1, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E6
905-892-2917 or 1-866-419-9484 www.etfoniag.com

Fall General Meeting and Local Constitutional Amendments

- Fall General Meeting scheduled for November 7, 2011 – Frado's Restaurant
- **Please RSVP the number attending from your school to vp1@etfoniag.com** by November 1st
- Members can make amendments to local constitution (document that governs how local is organized) due by **October 21, 2011** (see Constitutional Amendment Forms at www.etfoniag.com under “**forms and documents**”)

Collective Bargaining to Begin – A Call for Committee Members

- Collective agreement expires August 31st 2012
- First step in Collective Bargaining process is the election of a Collective Bargaining Committee (CBC) consisting of 7 members from the membership at large (plus 3 ex-officio members: President, a Vice President and Collective Bargaining Rep.)
- Teachers interested in serving on the CBC must submit a nomination form by **October 20th**
- Before submitting a nomination form, interested candidates should consider the consider time commitment involved especially once talks with the Board begins
- Please see **Collective Bargaining Committee (CBC) Nomination Form** and **Memorandum RE: Elections of the Collective Bargaining Committee** attached with this mailing and located on the local website at www.etfoniag.com under “Forms and Documents”

Parent Teacher Interviews

- DSBN expects parents to be offered an interview with the progress report
- After school interviews are voluntary – teachers have the professional autonomy to conduct interviews in a way that best fits their professional and personal lives – *“teachers to professionally manage their interview schedule”*
- All teachers will have a different perspective on how to interview parents. Please respect the professional decisions of your colleagues – don't infringe upon what works best for them.
- Suggestion for consideration: Approach your principal to see if it is possible to congregate students for instruction (e.g. assemblies, double up classes) while at the same hosting interview

Parent Teacher Interview - Continued

ETFO Niagara did not “give up” time for teachers to interview parents nor was it a trade off in the Collective Bargaining process. Time to interview was historically granted by the board and now it has been altered in the absence of Collective Agreement language.

Early Release Day (February 17th) to be used for interviewing parents/guardians of students experiencing difficulties.

Please recall the Spring Collective Bargaining Survey: “Negotiating Parent Teacher Interview Time” was one of our top 5 Collective Bargaining Goals.

Professional Development Fund – Forms and “Rules” on website

- Local receives several questions on a daily basis about getting information about the P.D. Fund
- **P.D. request forms and Operating Procedures (rules) can be found on the ETFO Niagara website under the “FORMS and DOCUMENTS” tab**
- Please give five days for your form to be delivered via courier or fax forms to 905-892-9733
- Due to volume of applications as well as other business of the local, please allow at least 2 weeks for the application to be processed
- Questions? Contact Terri Beck at vp2@etfoniag.com

ETFO Scholarships and Awards Program

- ETFO recognizes activities and programs at the local level, distinguished academic achievements, long service, and outstanding contributions to education
- **Award Application Deadline February 1st, 2011**
- Several Bursaries and Scholarships available to ETFO members
- **Scholarship and Bursary Application Deadline April 30th, 2011**
- For additional information, please contact Mark Fallis at the ETFO provincial office at 416-962-3836 or 1-888-838-3836
- **For application forms, please contact your local ETFO office or visit the following link:**
<http://www.etfo.ca/AboutETFO/AwardsandScholarships/Pages/default.aspx>

Supervision and School Day Schedules

- Each year ETFO collects supervision and school day schedules after the staffing reorganization.
- Thank you to those stewards who forwarded their schedules by September 30th
- For those schools who have not yet sent in their schedules, please send to Todd Rimmington at the ETFO Office ASAP

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

October 25 – 26	ETFO Representative Council
November 5 th	OTIP “Walk into Retirement with a Plan” workshop (see flyer)
November 7 th	ETFO Niagara – Fall General Meeting (Frado's)
November 10 th	ETFO Niagara Pregnancy and Parental Leave Workshop
December 4 th	ETFO Children’s Christmas Party