

**PRIME MINISTER'S AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE**

Christopher King, a Secondary Teacher at Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School, is a recipient of a Certificate of Achievement for the 2010/2011 Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence! Congratulations Chris.

PROVINCIAL ELECTION

OSSTF District 10 held three All-Candidates debates, in Wallaceburg, Chatham and Sarnia during September. All three debates were televised. Jane St. Marie from Provincial office attended and was the moderator for the Sarnia debate held at the public library. Hearing the candidate viewpoints on educational issues was very informative. Thank you to James Grant, CPAC Chair and Stephen Lynch, Vice President for organizing and moderating the events.

NEW CONTRACT POSITIONS

After two years of surplus and redundancy declarations, the Board is now in a hiring position for secondary teachers. Two French Immersion jobs are currently posted. As well, four long term occasional teachers were hired recently. These jobs were not school specific but the result of contract lines from the spring staffing process that were filled with occasional teachers. As well, over the past two years schools traded contract lines for occasional lines in order to recall redundant teachers. Staffing in May 2012 will determine the location of the new positions.

ENCOURAGING POTENTIAL LEADERS

Elections for all District Executive positions will occur this May at the Annual Meeting of District Assembly. We encourage members to get involved in the local Federation. If you would like to attend a Council meeting to experience how the District operates, please see your Branch President.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Each school has been allotted a minimum of ten Staff Development Days for the 2011-2012 school year. These are for teacher directed Professional Development where an occasional teacher is engaged. Contact your Branch President for further information.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The **Regional Wellness Symposia** will be held in London, on December 9, 2011. The topic this year is *Managing the Stress in Our Lives* and features guest speaker Andrée Jetté. Funding to attend this event is provided through The Ministry of Education and Educators Financial Group. This Symposia is on a first come first serve basis. Members complete the registration form and Request for Leave form online (www.osstf.on.ca). There is no requirement to contact the District Office.

Barb Young, President
OSSTF District 10
byoung@osstfd10.ca

November 2, 2011