

JANUARY 12, 2022



DISTRICT COUNCIL

FEDERATION OFFICER'S REPORT

JANUARY 15TH PAY

Members are reminded that the mid-January pay is always smaller than previous pays due to the OCT fee as well as EI and CPP deductions once again becoming active.

GRIEVANCE UPDATE

Three large areas of concern currently being addressed by District 10 through the grievance process related to the Board's implementation of their Attendance Support Program, staffing and adherence to the mediate settlement of access to sick leave. The District currently has 14 grievances at Step one, 4 grievances at Step two and 33 grievances at Step three of the grievance process. Resolution of these grievances is often in the best interests of all parties. It is very concerning that it appears the Board is reluctant to work productively with OSSTF District 10.

PREPARATION FOR BARGAINING

The current Collective Agreement will expire on August 31, 2022. Though there are many issues competing for attention throughout the province, the election on June 2nd, 2022 being one of them, preparations are underway to prepare for the next round of bargaining. Thank you to all members for forwarding on issues to prioritize for the next round of negotiations. District Office is scheduling a meeting of the Collective Bargaining Committee in the near future, remaining sensitive to the additional stress already being carried by so many due to the pandemic. Branches should ensure that a Collective Bargaining Committee representative is in place as these individuals will represent the members of their branch as we prepare an initial survey of local bargaining priorities.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

This can be a difficult time of year with additional stress being created by the pandemic and constant uncertainty of what the balance of the 2021-22 school year will look like. Please remember that support is available through the **EAP** at <http://www.fseap.ca%5C%5Cmyfseap|www.fseap.ca\myfseap>

Group: Lambton Kent District School Board

Password: myfseap

OSSTF has also announced a new partnership with **Starling Minds**. Members can access this Mental Health Fitness Program at no cost. Starling Minds is a confidential, self-guided digital program that helps to identify the thoughts and feelings of stress, anxiety, or depression. It helps to build the knowledge, skills and tools needed to better manage personal mental health through checkups, exercises, educational videos, guided training sessions, and a peer community.

Yours in solidarity,

Dave Parkes, Federation Officer
OSSTF District 10 Lambton Kent