

**PROVINCIAL ELECTION OCTOBER 6, 2011**

“We need to elect progressive members of government who care about public education from early learning to post secondary, who value the entire education team, and who understand that education is Ontario’s best investment. This is crucial for political decision-making and for collective bargaining.” *Ken Coran, Leadership, 2012.*

Locally, our CPAC Chair James Grant and Vice President, Stephen Lynch have been busy organizing and moderating three All-Candidates Debates, in Chatham, Wallaceburg and Sarnia. Thank you gentlemen. We will be visiting each school to provide each political party’s platform on education issues so that our members can make an informed decision when they vote. **I urge everyone to get out and vote on October 6, 2011.**

**SAFE SCHOOLS REPORT FORMS**

It has come to our attention that many teachers are not completing Report Form 1 that is required under the law. All employees of the Board who become aware that a student may have engaged in an activity for which suspension or expulsion is considered must report the matter to the principal as soon as reasonably possible. The employee must consider the safety of others and the urgency of the situation in reporting the incident, but, in any case, must report it to the principal no later than the end of the school day. Be sure to obtain a Receipt of Report Form 2. **KEEP RECEIPTS OF REPORTS FOREVER.**

**CERTIFICATION UPGRADES**

If you recently completed courses to move into a new category, you must notify the Board in writing that you have applied for a change in category. Provided the documentation is received by June 15, your pay will be retroactive to September.

All teachers who are not in Category Four should apply for recertification as the requirements have changed recently. A reminder to all teachers to obtain written approval from Provincial Office Certification Department prior to taking any course for upgrading categories. All the requisite forms for new applications, upgrades or course approvals can be obtained from either [www.osstfd10.ca](http://www.osstfd10.ca) or [www.osstf.on.ca](http://www.osstf.on.ca).

**RETIREMENT**

Retirement workshops this year will be held Tuesday, October 11 at Country View in Chatham and at the District Office on Wednesday, October 12, from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. A presenter from Provincial Office will provide important information and answer any questions you may have. It is recommended that members, within five years of retirement, attend and begin planning for retirement.

Contact the District Office if you are attending either of these workshops.

**ANNUAL LEARNING PLAN**

Again this year we have subscribed to the Teachers ALP website to offer suggestions on completing your ALP. The site has been updated to reflect Ministry demands. On our website ([www.osstfd10.ca](http://www.osstfd10.ca)) under the District News column, you will find the instructions for logging on to the site.

## **LABOUR DAY PARADE**

OSSTF Provincial Office sponsored the St Clair Secondary School Marching Band for the Labour Day Parade held in Sarnia. Approximately fifteen local members marched in the parade ahead of the band and returned to the District office for a barbeque afterward. We would like to make this an annual event and encourage members to attend next year's event.



## **LABOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

District 10 is asking for delegates to represent OSSTF on the Sarnia District Labour Council and the Chatham Kent Labour Council. Please contact the District office if you are interested.

## **GOLF TOURNAMENT OCTOBER 1, 2011**

Our annual May golf tournament had to be postponed due to inclement weather and has been rescheduled to October 1. See your Branch President if you plan on attending.

*I wish you an enjoyable and professionally rewarding school year.*

Barb Young, President  
OSSTF District 10  
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September, 2011