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Berni Campbell

Communications Officer: Daria Twerdochlib



*(One of 27 billboards sponsored jointly by Dufferin-Peel Elementary
and Dufferin-Peel Secondary)*

On October 6, 2011 make your vote count!

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The D-Peeler is the voice of the Dufferin-Peel Elementary Unit. Members’ submissions are encouraged. Submissions must be in keeping with the aims and objectives of the Unit. Final approval of articles rests with the Editorial Board. Please direct suggestions or comments to the Unit.

UNIT OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday – 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday – 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

In the event of an emergency, contact the Provincial Office (416) 925-2493.

UNIT SECRETARY	Mary Caines	secretary@elemdp.com
RECEPTIONIST	Diane Mulvale	receptionist@elemdp.com

UNIT EXECUTIVE

President	David Dolan
Past President	Berni Campbell
First Vice President	Anne Horton
Second Vice President	Rose Procopio
Treasurer	Jeremy Cox
Recording Secretary	Belinda Russo
Councillors	Treana Boudreau
	Carlo DiCarlo
	Lori McCannel
	Lucia Sasso
Teacher Welfare Officer	Rose Procopio
Membership Assistance	Jeremy Cox
Member Service Officer	Belinda Russo
Health & Safety Advisor	Mary Bea Wolfe
Communication Officer	Daria Twerdochlib

IMPORTANT DATES

September 14th	Unit Committee Chairs Meeting
September 16th	Professional Activity Day (Re-Organization *EXCLUDING ST. SOFIA)
September 20th	Executive Meeting – All Day
September 23rd	Association Reps only – All Day Release (Pope John Paul II Cultural Centre)
September 28th	Pregnancy Workshop
October 5th	World Teacher’s Day
October 6th	Provincial Election
October 20th-22nd	Executive Meetings
October 25th	Association Reps
October 26th	Budget Meeting
November 15th	Executive Meeting – All Day
November 18th	Professional Activity Day – Regulation #304
November 22nd	Association Reps
November 24th	General Resolutions Meeting
December 6th	Executive Meeting – All Day

Note: All meetings are held at the Unit Office at 4:30 pm unless otherwise indicated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Dolan

president@elemdp.com



As the newly elected President for Dufferin-Peel (OECTA) Elementary, I would like to welcome you back! I hope that you were able to get some well-deserved rest with your family and friends during the summer. Thank you to all members who supported my nomination for Unit President. I am humbled by the effort, encouragement, and faith that you have demonstrated to me and I promise to continue to advocate for the Unit.

Collective Bargaining preparations are already underway for our next round of contract negotiations. Thank you for the quick response to the Bargaining Survey as we are aware of the pressure June brings for elementary teachers. Your candid feedback is vital for the Collective Bargaining Workgroup to finalize our focus for the next round of negotiations. Please watch for further information on Collective Bargaining as the year progresses.

On June 16th our Unit Appreciation Dinner was held at the Capitol Banquet Hall with huge success. A special thank you goes to Mary Caines and Diane Mulvale for organizing this event. Please enjoy the photos of your colleagues who have retired, Unit Award winners, and members who have dedicated 25 years of service to teaching. It is through their persistence, compassion, and wisdom that we continue to strengthen as a Unit. As our Past President Berni Campbell said "Good working conditions for teachers makes good learning conditions for children."

In June our Unit Executive endorsed local advertising for our Provincial "**Speak For Children Campaign**" during late August to the beginning of October. This commitment has translated into advertising on 27 Outdoor Billboards around

Dufferin-Peel as well as inside eight malls in our area, including Mississauga Square One and Bramalea City Centre. It is vital that the public is aware of the gains that our students, through your dedication, have achieved under an education-friendly Provincial Legislature.

In closing, with a Provincial Election on October 6th as well as our Collective Agreement expiring on August 31, 2012, this school year will be very busy both in the schools and the Unit office. During September and early October, you will hear a lot of rhetoric about education, teachers, and unions. Remember these facts when questioned about our dedication to teaching:

- Student achievement in **Dufferin-Peel on EQAO testing is at or above the Provincial average in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics for both grade three and six**, despite having a large ELL population. (September 15, 2010 EQAO School Board Report)
- **Ontario ranks SECOND** in the world in **Literacy**. (PISA 2009 Results)
- **Ontario ranks in the TOP TEN** in virtually every category for education in the world. (PISA 2009 Results)
- **ZERO student days have been lost** in Ontario Schools due to labour unrest since 2003.

We will continue to visit schools and encourage members to "Call Early, Call Often" to the Unit Office during the school year. No question is too small or unimportant.

On behalf of the Unit Executive I wish you great success in an exciting, productive, and fulfilling year in teaching!

FYI

BOARD ATTENDANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Board-wide Attendance Support Program is in effect. Please refer to the June D-Peeler if you require further information. Contact the Unit immediately should you be required to attend a specific meeting regarding your absences with your Administrator or your Superintendent.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE

Please be aware of the following changes in our Collective Agreement for the 2011-2012 School Year:

- **Planning Time** will now be increased from 220 minutes weekly to 230 minutes. Please remember that preparation time should be delivered in minimum 20 minute blocks (CA Article13.050). **Planning Time is teacher self-directed.**
- **Supervision, including inclement weather duty**, will continue to be a **maxima** of 80 minutes (CA Article13.071). Have your Rep submit the appropriate form should there be a violation.
- There will be **NO Early Release Days** scheduled for the 2011-2012 school year (Letter of Understanding #20).

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Daria Twerdochlib

St. Sofia



This summer has been a busy one. Several members of the Communication Committee had an opportunity to attend a Social Media Training Workshop put on by OECTA Provincial. The **SPEAK FOR CHILDREN CAMPAIGN** www.speakforchildren.ca is well on its way. Follow the campaign on Twitter and Facebook. Hope you have noticed the many billboards all over the GTA. More information will be forth coming in the near future.

***NEW UNIT WEBSITE SECURE LOG IN**
www.elemdp.com

All members of our Unit will now have the opportunity to log into our website under a secure login. Efforts are on the way to have it up and running by mid September. Here are the steps to follow in order to gain access to the secure log in.

Username: **OECTA ID #12345**

Password: **First initial of your first name (John=J) +**

First initial of your last name (Macdonald=M) +

First 3 digits of your postal code (1 Sussex Drive., Brampton L7A 3K3=L7A)

Username: **12345**

Password: **JML7A**

Once logged in, please edit your profile (name, address, etc.) and include adding your **HOME** e-mail address. NOTE: **DO NOT enter Board e-mail** as a means of communicating with you.

As quickly as we can, the Unit will notify you that your membership has been verified and will be activated via your home e-mail.

RETIREMENT RESIGNATION (Letter of Understanding #19)

Teachers are reminded that they are required to provide a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice to the Superintendent of Human Resources of their intention to resign/retire.

DUTIES OF AN ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE (Unit By-Laws Part 1, Article IV)

All new and experienced Reps should review our Unit By-Laws for a description of their responsibilities. They are provided on our website and posted on your OECTA bulletin board. If you have not held an election for your Association Representative for your school according to Unit By-Laws please do so as soon as possible and provide the Unit with the names and e-mail of the Rep and Alternate. If you have been a Rep for a number of years, consider being an Alternate and mentor another teacher as the Association Rep.

Service Award



*Berni Campbell
OECTA Service Award
Recipient*

"OECTA has been such a powerful force in bargaining for and protecting the rights of workers. On October 1997 I had the privilege of standing at the top of University Ave. as educators from across the province challenged the government of the day. I had "Cuts Hurt Kids" bandages stuck all over me. I was absolutely awed as I watched over 130,000 educators, health care and social workers taking a stand against a government that launched a brutal attack on teachers. OECTA fought long and hard to restore the respect that was lost. The fight rages on. Ontario is ranked 5th in the world for quality education. 95% of students attend publically funded schools. 81% of Ontario students graduate up 13% in 6 years."... (Excerpt)

25 Years Service Award

"...Over the years the pendulum of Education may have swung back and forth with new terminologies, new approaches, new findings but the core foundational and fundamental beliefs remain solid and intact. Our greatest teacher, our Lord Jesus, modelled formal lessons within



the synagogue similar to our classrooms. But it was through His events and interactions with others outside these walls where the true meaning of teaching extended itself and encouraged learning to take place. Teachers need to keep the sense of awe, wonder, and curiosity alive to nurture that sparkle both within themselves, within their colleagues and within their students..." (Excerpt)



*Lucia D'Arriso – St. Julia
25 Years of Service Speaker*



*Daria Twerdochlib
Catholic Leadership
Award Recipient*



*Claude Duchesneau
OECTA Thank You*



*Carlo Di Carlo
Catholic Leadership
Award Recipient*



*Pinky Griffiths -
Recipient of Association
Rep Award*



APPRECIATION DINNER 2011

Retirees

*Retirees Speaker
Andrew Allan – St. Jude*

"...Throughout this year of lasts that I enjoyed both quietly and at times with a lot of excitement, last first day, last open house, last staff meeting, last school liturgy, last sets of report cards, IPRC's, IEPS, last reps meeting, I couldn't help but think about all of the support I have received through out my teaching career from both my colleagues and family. Without friends, family and faith, retirement may not have been something so easily attainable.

We have met in the schools, courses, board committees, volleyball tournaments and pubs, PD activities and conferences, retreats, OECTA meetings and committees and for those who were able to attend, and AGMs.

Our families tolerated many Sunday evenings in which we disappeared into our home offices or work areas to plan for the upcoming week. I still get a shiver when I hear the tick tick tick at the beginning of "60 minutes", time to do my homework.

Finally our faith. In my opinion, even though it is probably the greatest asset or resource available to us during our careers, it is able to stand alone and needs no explanation.

Let us continue to maintain the wonderful friendships we have established and cultivated throughout our years as educators, and enjoy the many years we have ahead of us with our friends, and families as we pursue new, exciting and possibly less restrictive endeavours." (Excerpt)





KISS AND RIDE

Although reminders are sent out each year, under no circumstances should teachers be directing traffic or opening vehicle doors when on supervision for Kiss and Ride. It is a serious health and safety issue. Teachers are to supervise only.

AQ or SUMMER INSTITUTE COURSES

Members who applied for subsidies in June and completed courses, are reminded to submit a copy of their Certificate of Completion or a copy of their Ontario College of Teachers Record Card to the Unit office for reimbursement as soon as possible.

Do You Have **TOO MUCH PLASTIC** and Not Enough Cash?



It's time to **cut some cards** and
PAY OFF YOUR DEBT!

Talk to us and we will try to help you:

- consolidate with a lower interest loan
- pay off your debt
- get back to paying yourself not the credit card companies

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