

Dear SCDSB Secondary Occasional Teachers (Daily supplies & LTOs):

We as union executives have been swamped for the last few years with all sorts of communiques, complaints, calls, texts, meetings, and emails. You already know a tremendous amount of info garnered from all sorts of sources, a lot from the Board (an intro email to all OTs from Carrie Rumble just last week). I will attempt to clarify a few of the more important issues from a union/contract standpoint.



- One thing to remember right now is that jobs are not plentiful in September, its never busy in the first month of the school year. School has just started and, quite honestly, the weather is terrific this year. Don't worry, it will pick up soon enough.
- After all the court battles regarding **Bill 124** and subsequent negotiated pay increases means that our new daily supply rate of pay is **\$279.30**. Associated with that are increases in grid level salaries for LTOs. If you're in an LTO, to find out your pay, simply divide your yearly salary by 194 (teaching days in a school year).
- Currently there are 472 supply teachers on EasyConnect. Also, there are always some members on leave for various reasons.
- **DEI** (diversity, equity, & inclusion) is a critical component of current Board policy so be very aware of it and its importance. Our main workload the last 3 years has been defending members who have somehow not followed the Board's policy on DEI. Usually when something happens regarding an aberration/disregard within DEI policies you will be, unfortunately, sent home almost immediately (but with pay). At that point we will represent you through the investigative process. These are difficult times related to DEI and until things settle, it's going to be tough going with the tenderness of this issue.
- It is critical you check the **Board & EasyConnect** web sites regularly. There is a lot of info going out from the Board these days that needs your undivided attention. As well, if you miss a job cancellation email notice from EasyConnect, you won't have a leg to stand on when it comes to disputing the missed day and subsequent pay.
- There has been a number of supplies not noticing or picking up lesson plans in EasyConnect. They are now attached in EasyConnect. It is flagged to make it clearly visible in the instructions.
- Newly edited **Emergency sheets** can be found on our web site at www.d17otbu.ca.
- After the dissolution of **Reg 274** (Oct 28th, 2020) DEI and payroll issues have spiked as the majority of concerns vented by our members. Regarding payroll issues, we ask you to check with the payroll department first before contacting us. They are extremely helpful in solving all sorts of pay issues and over 95% are solved this way. If you're still not satisfied, that's when you get in touch with us.
- **Retirees**, please note that **OTPP re-employment rules** are still at **50** days this year and we've heard from reliable sources that it will stay that way for this year.

- **“Personal absence”** days do not apply to LTOs, they are only allowed under the full-time teacher contract.
- Benefits are in place for LTOs as most of you know and you should receive emails regarding this from the Board/OTIP when starting an LTO. Save your medical or para-medical receipts in the meantime for future use regarding the plan.

Jeff Parton

President

District 17

OTBU - Occasional Teacher's Bargaining Unit)

