

OPSOA Member News:

Retirements announced since last newsletter:

- Jacob Chan, Toronto DSB
- Terry Ellwood, Lakehead DSB
- Fred Law, Rainbow DSB
- Jim Sheppard, Avon Maitland DSB

New OPSOA Members:

- Bruce Barrett, Trillium Lakelands
- John Beatty, Durham
- Jim Berry, Waterloo
- Stephen Blake, Simcoe
- Kevin Cutler, Trillium Lakelands
- Jeff deFreitas, Peel
- Glenford Duffus, Toronto
- Barbara Fraser-Stiff, Limestone
- Michelle Leigh, DSB ONE
- Stuart Miller, Halton
- Jo-Anne Plaunt, DSB ONE
- Joseph Santa-Maria, Algoma
- Mary Ellen Smith, Thames Valley
- Jean Stephenson, Bluewater
- Jack Sullens, Waterloo

New Appointments:

- Roger Clarke, Director of Education, Renfrew County DSB
- Warren Kennedy, Director of Education, Greater-Essex County DSB
- Christopher Spence, Director of Education, Toronto DSB

Other News:

- Mary Jean Gallagher to Literacy & Numeracy Secretariat
- Eleanor Newman to Literacy & Numeracy Secretariat

Included in this Mailing:

- *Your OPSOA 2009 Annual General Meeting Package – please bring this package with you to the AGM on April 24th.*

Don't forget to register for the 2009 OPSOA Annual Conference

Visit our website: www.opsoa.org for registration information and program updates

Message from the Executive Director

Registration is now open for the Annual OPSOA Conference – Thursday, April 23rd and Friday, April 24th, 2009 at the Hilton Toronto Hotel, Downtown Toronto.

The conference planning committee, led by Cathi Siemieniuk, of Lakehead DSB and Alana Murray of Bluewater DSB, has held several meetings. Keynote speakers are in place and breakout sessions underway.

The theme of the conference is “Leading Digital Learners” and discussions will focus on the role of the supervisory officer in taking a proactive position to make certain that the delivery of learning is in keeping with modern student needs.

Our opening keynote speaker is George Siemens, Associate Director, R & D, Learning Technologies Centre, University of Manitoba. George Siemens is a well-known theorist on the changing nature of learning in a digitally-based society and is an international renowned speaker on the subject.

Our closing keynote speaker is Jesse Hirsh. Jesse Hirsh is an internet strategist, researcher, and broadcaster based in Toronto, Canada. He has a weekly column on CBC radio and regularly appears on CBC Newsworld explaining and analyzing the latest trends and developments in technology using language and examples that are meaningful and relevant to everyday life.

There will be special workshops for our Alumni Members.

Registration this year is on-line through the OPSOA Website. Please go to www.opsoa.org where you will find all pertinent information, including a direct link to the Hilton Toronto for your overnight accommodations.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Frank Kelly, Executive Director, OPSOA

Note: This is the 20th Anniversary of OPSOA and the conference will feature history of the organization and directions into the future. We are also looking forward to a very special celebration during our Annual President's Banquet on Thursday evening, honouring the history of OPSOA and our current President and Past-Presidents. (This evening is included in your Registration Fee.) See you there!

April 22nd OPSOA/OPC Symposium

April 22nd – Hilton Toronto, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

OPSOA/OPC Symposium – Wed., April 22, 2009 – Hilton Toronto
“Building a Community of Leaders: Change Wars – a Hopeful Struggle”
Featuring Dr. Andrew Hargreaves and Dr. Michael Fullan

Boards are requested to register teams comprised of an equal number of Supervisory Officers and Principals (5 each to a maximum of ten). Members of the OPSOA Board of Directors and OPC Executive will also be in attendance.

Please have one person register your team and submit on-line, as follows:

- Go to www.opsoa.org & follow the OPSOA-OPC Pre-Conference link where you will find information and links to on-line conference registration & hotel room booking.

1123 Glenashton Drive
Oakville, ON
L6H 5M1
Phone: 905-845-7003
Fax: 905-845-2044
Website: www.opsoa.org
Frank Kelly,
Executive Director
frank_kelly@opsoa.org
Kathy Sanford,
Executive Assistant
kathy@opsoa.org

**OPSOA – A Professional Organization
“Working for Ontario’s Public
Supervisory Officials”**



Leadership Initiative

OPSOA members took part in a tri-level leadership meeting of school and association representatives with the Deputy Minister on March 12. Principals, superintendents and directors took part. The session was a follow up to the Principal Congress. Discussion focused on increasing the positive impact of school and system leadership on the Ministry’s core priorities, improving collaboration between school and system leaders and increasing capacity in a number of leadership areas. Further meetings are scheduled.

2009 OPSOA AGM Meeting Package

Your Package for the OPSOA Annual General Meeting is included in this mailing. The AGM will take place at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 24th at the Hilton Toronto, just prior to the Minister of Education (invited). Proxy Votes must be registered one hour prior to the AGM. **Please bring this package with you to the AGM.**

Congratulations to new Public DSB Directors

Roger Clarke has been appointed Director of Education at the Renfrew County DSB succeeding Eleanor Newman who has joined the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat.
Warren Kennedy, Superintendent in Lambton Kent DSB, has been appointed Director of Education at the Greater Essex County DSB succeeding Mary Jean Gallagher who has assumed the leadership of the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat.
Mary Jean and Eleanor will be a strong team to lead program development and enhance achievement across the province.
Christopher Spence, Director of Education with the Hamilton-Wentworth DSB, has been confirmed as the new Director of Education at the Toronto DSB. We congratulate Chris as he takes on the challenge of the largest school board in Canada.

Report from S.O. – What’s It All About?

On November 2nd and 3rd, 2008, we were proud to represent OPSOA in offering the workshop, “S.O. - What’s It All About?” for the tenth time. This year we had 22 registrants, bringing the overall total of participants to approximately 300. That number will have encouraged a number of potential “new” members roughly equal to the number of active current members. As an organization committed to developing future educational leaders in Ontario, we have surely demonstrated to our own members as well as to Ministry and College of Teachers personnel our commitment to succession planning in Ontario education.

Your workshop team included Dane Tutton, Acting Manager of E- Learning, Ministry of Education, on secondment from Halton DSB; Rauda Dickinson, TDSB; and Lori Wilder, Bluewater DSB. The team felt a strong connection was made between themselves and this year’s participants and is pleased to report that those feelings appear to be reciprocated in the evaluations. Many of the participants commented on the fact that the workshop tone and pace were such that they had an opportunity to reflect on, and in some cases make decisions, concerning their professional journey. In general, participants seemed to feel that a welcome range of honest opinions was provided by our team, as well as an opportunity to network with colleagues from across the province.

We were pleased to have cameo appearances by Frank Kelly and Lise Haman who brought greetings from OPSOA.

We are grateful for the support we received from Kathy and Frank. Finally, the SOWIAA Team would like to thank the Board for the opportunity to serve OPSOA. We enjoyed speaking proudly and enthusiastically of our role, of our colleagues, and of our organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Rauda Dickinson, Dane Tutton, Lori Wilder



OPSOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2008 - 2009

President	Lise Haman, Lakehead
President-Elect	Linda Fabi, Waterloo
Treasurer	Steven Parfeniuk, Halton
Central Region	Tony Pontes, Peel
Eastern Region	Peter Gamwell, Ottawa-Carleton
Metro Region	Michael Smith, Toronto
Northern Region	Ken Ryan, DSB ONE
Southwestern Region	Ken Bain, Hamilton-Wentworth
Western Region	Laura Elliott, Thames Valley
CASA Representative	Jim Grieve, Peel
CODE Representative	Bill Hogarth, York Region
Executive Director	Frank Kelly

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 26-27, 2009 – Public CODE Retreat, Niagara on the Lake
April 22, 2009– OPSOA/OPC Symposium with Michael Fullan and Andy Hargreaves, Hilton Toronto
April 22, 2009–New Supervisory Official, Phase 2, Hilton Toronto
April 22-24, 2009 – OPSOA Annual Conference, Hilton Toronto
July 9-12, 2009 – CASA Annual Conference, Blackfoot Inn, Calgary, AB (register at www.casa-acas.ca)
August 16-18, 2009 – OPSOA Board of Directors’ Strategic Planning Session, Ottawa