



**OSSTF District 21**  
**Occasional Teachers' Branch – Hamilton-Wentworth**  
**NEWSLETTER - MARCH, 2008**  
www.district 21.ca

All occasional teachers are invited to attend the *Teachers' Unit* Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Thursday, April 17, 2008 at LIUNA Station, 360 James St. North, Hamilton at 4:00 pm.**

To be eligible to vote at the **Thursday, April 17, 2008 Teachers' Unit Annual General Meeting, you must have taught at least 1 day within the last 90 days. (A pay slip is deemed appropriate proof.)** If you plan to attend, please call Joanne Stirling (905-574-8285) at the District 21 Office by April 10, 2008.

**NOTE: LTO members may have already signed up at their schools.**

All occasional teachers are also invited to attend the *Occasional Teachers'* Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Thursday, May 22, 2008 at District 21 Office, 1423 Upper Ottawa St., Hamilton at 4:00 PM.**

To be eligible to vote at the **Thursday, May 22, 2008 Teachers' Unit Annual General Meeting, you must have taught at least 1 day within the last 90 days. (A pay slip is deemed appropriate proof.)** If you plan to attend, please call Joanne Stirling (905-574-8285) at the District 21 Office by May 15, 2008.

- The purpose of this meeting will be to elect the 2008-2009 Executive members.
- To discuss negotiations direction. Currently we are attempting to integrate the Occasional Teachers Collective Agreement into the Teachers' Bargaining Unit Collective Agreement. This is an initiative from the Provincial OSSTF and it would end the anomaly of the District 21 Constitution whereby occasional teachers are a branch of the Teachers' Unit but recognized by the HWDSB as a separate Bargaining Unit. This initiative only makes sense - **"a teacher is a teacher."**
- We will also need to discuss constitutional changes re: above negotiations direction.
- If unsuccessful with the integration of Briefs, we will have to discuss the Occasional Teachers' Brief.

**By attending the above two Annual General Meetings you will be a part of the decision making process for all teachers - "BE INFORMED AND BE INVOLVED."**

Your College of Teachers' fee for 2008 is **\$104** and may be paid on the College website. The HWDSB does not automatically deduct for occasional teachers, therefore, you need to make your own arrangements. Failure to pay will result in removal from the Occasional Teacher List and you will incur a late fee if you wish to be reinstated by the College

The months of May and June, 2008 will be a Levy Holiday for all teachers, including occasional teachers.

**Please ensure that you complete a Reactivation Form which is available in the schools and must be completed and returned to the HWDSB by June 30, 2008 in order for your name to remain on the HWDSB Occasional Teachers List.**