

**Upper Grand Occasional Teachers' Local
Executive Meeting**

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 at 4:55 P.M.
Orchard Park, Guelph, On.

Present: Marina Howlett, John Ritchie, Donna Henderson, Carol Christie, Jacquie Gray, Pat Klypycz,
John Parkyn, Ted Pritchard, Ruth Tomlins, Barb Walkey
Regrets: Andrew Aloe, Ralph Rainford,

1. **Call to Order and Welcome:** Marina opened the meeting.

2. **Additions/ Approval of the Agenda:**

'Motion 1' "Move to accept the Agenda as printed."

Moved by John Parkyn, Seconded by John Ritchie

CARRIED

3. **Approval of Minutes** of the October 23, 2008 meeting:

'Motion 2' "Move the minutes of the October 23, 2008 meeting be accepted as circulated."

Moved by Donna Henderson, Seconded by Barb Walkey

CARRIED

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance in Chequing- \$12,242.00; in Savings- \$11,749.11. The Auditors' fees have been paid. We also have received the ETFO telephone allowance for 2008-2009. We are in good financial shape.

'Motion 3' "Move to accept the Treasurer's Report."

Moved by John Ritchie, Seconded by Jacquie Gray

CARRIED

5. **President's Report:** (a) **Release Days:** Sept. 2008- 5 days; Oct. 2008- 5 days; Nov. 2008- 5 days. Sept. 2008 to June 2009 there will be 90 days of Presidential Release.

6. **Professional Development:** (a) **Joint Event: (Status/Equity)** sponsored by OT's and Contract Teachers will be coming Feb.11, 12 or 19 to the Marden Community Centre. The Guest Speaker will be an inspirational speaker, Tonya Verbeek, Olympic Bronze Medalist, from Niagara OT.

(b) **Classroom Management workshop**, J.D.Hogarth P.S.,

Wednesday, Dec.3, 2008, 4:30-7:30.

(c) **Smart Find In-service/ Employment Insurance Workshop**,

Guelph Board Office, Friday Dec.5, 2008, 9-12. John Ritchie and John Parkyn want to prepare a simplified explanation of the process to be unavailable for ½ day in Smart Find. A mini-newsletter will go out to the membership to announce the workshops on Dec.3rd and 5th.

7. Political Action/ Collective Bargaining: November 11, the committee reviewed the preliminary submission. Provincial Collective Bargaining workshops provided information to build into our Submission. There is no reflection on the Provincial mood. We will not likely settle for two to three years. Because of that length of time there must definitely be a clause for retroactive reimbursement. We want improved Benefits and better access to Benefits. Presidential Release time for Board Business should be 50 days as it is in the Secondary OT contract not the current 25. We want to ensure that an LTO position includes the last PD Day in June. Small items in wording have been cleaned up. Probationary Period has been eliminated. Errors in language should be fixed before printing. There will be a Table of Contents. Board should pay for printing. These were the items shared with the Executive.

8. Fall General Meeting: Date Thursday, November 20, 2008. **Guest Speaker:** Hilda Watkins, ETFO Vice- President will be speaking about Bargaining and Pension. The location for this meeting is Orchard Park. **Registration** will be covered by John Ritchie and Barb Walkey. **Door prizes/raffle** will be the responsibility of Jacquie Gray, Pat Klypycz, and Ruth Tomlins. **Set-up** will be done in the afternoon by Marina, John Ritchie and Ted Pritchard. Andrew Aloe will **thank the Speaker** and Ralph Rainford will take the **minutes**.

9. SMARTFIND (SEMS) Update: Jim Whyte says the system can be grieved because it is not a “random” selection that is equitable to all members. Documentation may prove that some schools are calling their own OTs or are pre-booking. There was much discussion about emergency and regular OT usage. Be sure to check the correct phone number is being used in the system to reach you, also be sure to notify the Board if your number is long distance from Guelph. Sometimes when using a cell phone there can be a long distance tower signal when Smart Find calls with a job. These comments lead to very active discussion. Marina also shared information that retired teachers may be allowed to teach more than 20 days. By new rules the time may be increased for easier record keeping.

11. Other Business:

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. after a delicious meal ordered in by Ted.

Next Executive Meeting will be our pot luck Christmas dinner prepared in Donna Henderson’s home in Orangeville on Tues. December 16, 2008 at 4:45 PM.