

Avon Maitland
Teachers' Local

Special Points

of Interest

- Bids and Bites set for April 30, 2020

AM ETFO INFO

Unity in Action:

Province-Wide Strike by 200,000 ETFO, OSSTF, OECTA, AEFO Members on Friday, February 21

Province-wide full withdrawal of services strikes on Friday, February 21, 2020 -will see the participation by members of:

- Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) - 83,000 members;
- Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) - 60,000 members;
- Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) - 45,000 members; and
- l'Association des enseignantes et enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO) - 12,000 members.

For the first time since 1997, all the affiliates of the Ontario Teachers' Federation will mobilize their members to take simultaneous action.

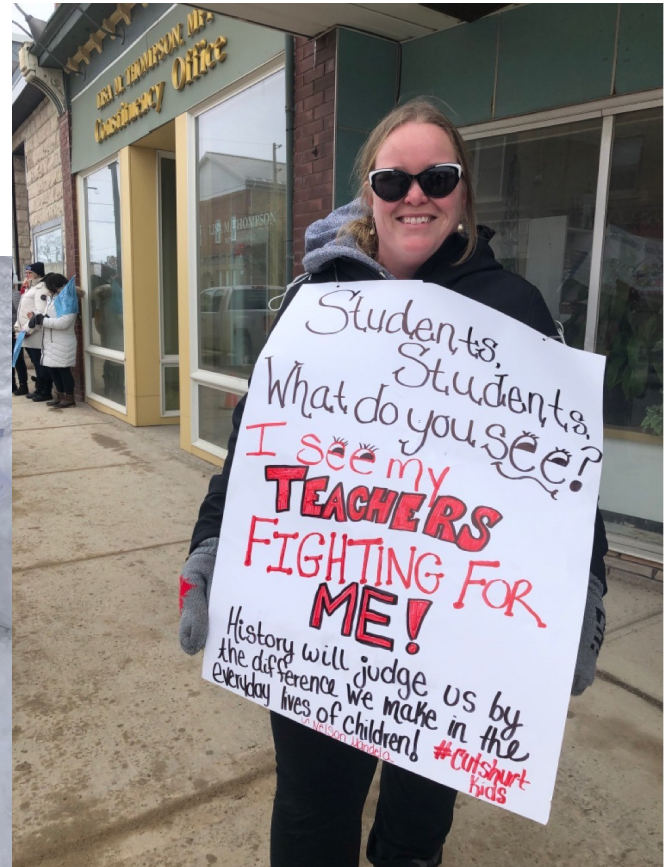
This unified action is meant to send a strong signal to the Ford government that teachers and education workers will not stand quietly by while it attempts to use the central bargaining process to rubber-stamp its agenda of destructive cuts and privatization.

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Kindergarten Classes Should be Capped at 26 Students and be Staffed by a Teacher and DECE



Thinking of Retiring



You can apply for your pension up to 4 months in advance but remember, you may send all your required documents now:

- a photocopy of your birth certificate, Canadian passport or Ontario driver's license
- a photocopy of your spouse's birth certificate, Canadian passport or Ontario driver's license
- a photocopy of your marriage certificate

You should check your service record for absences in the last 5 years which you may qualify to buy back.



Maternity/Parental Leaves

Our members that are currently on a leave and wanting to take a non-statutory leave for the teaching year of 2020/2021, need to have their letter of request by March 1st.

This only applies to members whose maternity/parental leave ends prior to August 31, 2020. Please contact Tim Barton (cao.ametfo@gmail.com) for further information or a letter if needed.

Wellness

There are both internal and external factors impacting a person's wellness. Despite our best efforts, stress and changes that are out of our control can get the better of us and put any of us at risk for a mental health illness. AMETFO members have three helpful tools available through our OTIP LTD Plan.



Feeling Better Now is an on-line tool to help yourself build mental health skills, to self-assess, and to help others who may be struggling. Go to www.feelingbetternow.com/otip

CAREpath is a cancer assistance program that helps patients and their families with their journey through cancer treatment. Call CAREpath at 1-800-290-5106 or visit www.otip.com/carepath

PosAction Plus provides 12 hours of totally free professional confidential counseling. Call 1-800-668-0193. Our OTIP LTD contract number is 48155 and our division number is 901

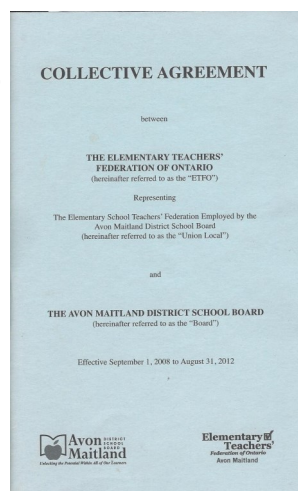
Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is immediate, confidential help for any concern, toll-free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 1.800.387.4765 or visit www.shepell.com

Did You Know?

Did you know that March 1 is an important deadline? If you wish to apply for a Deferred Salary Leave Plan (Article 26), Leave of Absence Without Pay (Article 19), or receive \$150 for retiring at the end of the year (Article 18), your written application must be received by the board by March

1.

Did you know prep time shall be allocated to teachers to be used for professional activities **as determined by the teacher?** Prep time is prorated with a 1.0 FTE teacher having 240 minutes per 5 day cycle in blocks of at least 30 minutes. (12.06 Preparation Time)



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Coming Events

February 12 - Executive Meeting

February 17 - Family Day

March 10 - Executive Meeting

March 16 - 20 - March Break

April 7 - Executive Meeting

April 10 - 13 - Easter weekend

April 15 - Retirement Benefits Workshop

April 20 - Climate and Social Justice Professional Learning Workshop

April 21 - Maternity/Parental/Adoption Leave Workshop

April 28 - Crayola: Numeracy Through Art Professional Learning Workshop

April 30 - Bids and Bites

May 1 - P.A. Day

June (date to be confirmed) - Introduction to Music for Primary/Junior Professional Learning Workshop

June 5 - Awards and Retirement Celebration

June 8 - P.A. Day for Assessment and Reporting

June 16 - Executive Meeting

June 26 - P.A. Day

The Avon Maitland Teachers' Local is the union local in the Huron and Perth area for the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. The Avon Maitland Teachers' Local represents all of the 600 full and part time elementary teachers employed by the Avon Maitland District School Board.

President

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