



## MEMBER NEWS ....

### **Congratulations to the following members who have recently announced retirement:**

Ruth Bailey, Limestone DSB;  
John Cruickshank, Peel DSB;  
Jim Watt, Toronto DSB.

*Retiring members are encouraged to remain involved with OPSOA as an Alumni Member.*

### **Welcome to the following new appointees:**

Susan Edwards, Upper Canada DSB  
Saryl Jacobson, Toronto DSB and  
Pat Warren-Chaplin, Limestone DSB.

**Congratulations** to Gord Campbell, York Region who has been appointed Director of Education at the Simcoe County DSB.

**Congratulations** to Philip O'Brien of the Upper Canada DSB who has been seconded to the Regional Ministry Office in Ottawa.

## *Season's Greetings from OPSOA*

The final school weeks of 2004 are here and the holiday season will bring some welcome respite for the supervisory officers who have followed a hectic fall schedule. This has been a busy year in schools with changes brought about by a new Ontario government. The climate within our boards has been positive although major issues have surfaced continually. A sense of partnership has grown in a number of significant areas.

The new year will see a new Deputy Minister, Ben Levin, in place and the addition of the Literacy Secretariat with Avis Glaze in charge. No doubt there will be further changes and additional programs.

The public district school boards will continue to be active and busy places leading the way to educational change in Ontario.

*~ Season's Greetings from the OPSOA Board of Directors and Staff ~*

## *A Comprehensive Staff Development Package from OPSOA*

The professional development offerings of OPSOA have grown significantly over the past few years. We now have a broad series of courses and events providing incentive and direction to new supervisory officers and on-going and updating sessions for experienced leaders.

Attached in this mailing you will find our new booklet, **SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE LEADERS**, which outlines courses available on OSONet, on-line courses and workshops and conferences. The details of the courses and workshops are available on OSONet and from the OPSOA office.

All courses on OSONet are available free to OPSOA members. You may use an entire course, choose a section or take out an exercise for work with your staff locally. The work in these courses is exemplary and reflects the practice by colleagues from various boards in Ontario. If you wish a presentation, contact the OPSOA office for pricing and presenter contacts.

The conferences and sessions outlined here have been very well received and were developed with the assistance of superintendents, directors and OPSOA alumni members.

## *Xerox Award for Superintendent of the Year - Ruth Mattingley*

The Canadian Association of School Administrators and Xerox Canada recognize the outstanding leadership of Supervisory Officers in each province across Canada on an annual basis. Awards are presented at the fall conference of CASA.

**Ruth Mattingley, Superintendent of Schools in the Lambton-Kent District School Board** was the recipient of the award for the public school boards of Ontario (OPSOA).

Leadership in education is a passion for Ruth who is known for her innovative and supportive work in her own board. At the provincial level, Ruth has been active with the OPSOA Board of Directors for several years and has served as President of that organization. She has also worked regularly with CASA and has just assumed the role of President of the national organization. Ruth recognizes the problems in holding together a national organization and she is eager to concentrate efforts on improving the image of CASA and strengthening its national voice. To this end, she invites the help of Ontario leaders who can show the way with national initiatives.

In her work with numerous committees, Ruth is known as a worker and a contributor, always seeking to improve learning for every sector of our schools.

Previous OPSOA recipients of this award have been Paul Collins of District School Board of Niagara and Grant Yeo of Durham District School Board. Congratulations, Ruth, from your colleagues across the province.

## Hats off to ...



- Eleanor Newman, Renfrew County DSB. Eleanor was recently honoured by the Music Teachers of Ontario for her outstanding contributions in this area. Congratulations, Eleanor!
- S.O. What's It All About? Facilitators – Paul Collins, Rauda Dickinson, Wayne Joudrie, Elaine Lewis, Wayne McNally and New S.O. Program Facilitators - Brenda Kearney, Sylvia Terpstra and Jim Vair – have received high praise from participants. Many thanks to these facilitators!
- Toronto DSB And Ottawa DSB – SO's launching Exchange Program – Ottawa S.O.'s visited TDSB November 24-26

## OPSOA

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



### **OPSOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005**

President	Tony Tumminieri, Toronto
Past-President	Larry Langdon, Hastings Pr. Edward
President-Elect	Colin Vickers, Near North
Treasurer	Wayne McNally, Peel
Central Region	Ken Thurston, York Region
Eastern Region	Don Fairweather, Upper Canada
Metro Region	Johanne Messner, Toronto
Northern Region	Heather Wilson-Boast, Superior-Greenstone
Southwestern Region	Barb McArthur, Niagara
Western Region	Michelle Forge, Bluewater
CASA Representative	Ruth Mattingley, Lambton-Kent
CODE Representative	Dusty Papke, Halton
Executive Director	Frank Kelly

### **UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

January 26-28, 2005 – CEO/SBO Annual Conference, Hotel Inter-Continental Yorkville, Toronto

March 3-4, 2005 – Public Directors’ Retreat, Niagara-on-the-Lake

April 13, 2005 – Phase 2 of the New Supervisory Official Program, Hotel Inter-Continental Yorkville, Toronto

April 13, 2005 – Pre-Conference (OPSOA & OPC) featuring Michael Fullan, Hotel Inter-Continental Yorkville, Toronto

April 13-15, 2005 – OPSOA Annual Conference, Hotel Inter-Continental Yorkville, Toronto

## ***OPSOA Regional Meetings a Success in Niagara***

On Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, over 100 OPSOA Supervisory Officers gathered for regional meetings in Niagara Falls. This session was blended with the Annual CASA Conference hosted by OPSOA and OCSOA.

Doug Fox, Superintendent with the Greater Essex DSB, made a presentation on his Superintendent’s Craft which is featured regularly on OSO.Net. Doug is one of a very few supervisory officers who take the time to translate experience into practical advice. He looks at how to operationalize good practice and passes this on to his colleagues. The many pieces he has written and published on OSO.Net serve as an invaluable guide for new and experienced superintendents in dealing with problems they face. Once again, we were reminded of the wealth of talent in our own organization.

A second session heard from Ontario Knowledge Network for Learning and the current initiative regarding e-learning. A large survey is underway in boards and members were given a preview of e-learning directions to come.

## ***OPSOA HOSTS CASA***

Following the Saturday OPSOA regional meetings, another 75 supervisory officers from across Canada joined in Niagara Falls and the annual CASA Conference featured a motivational keynote address from Terry Evanshen. On Sunday and Monday, speakers from across Canada made presentations on common issues, new initiatives and success stories in education.

## ***BEN LEVIN – NEW DEPUTY MINISTER***

Starting December 6, 2004, Ben Levin will take over the position of Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario. Mr. Levin comes from the University of Manitoba and was Deputy Minister in Manitoba from 1999 to 2002. He is known for his strong commitment to public education and since his appointment has contacted Ontario associations and stakeholders inviting identification of issues and areas of emphasis.

### **Highlights of Recent OPSOA Board Meetings:**

- *approved pursuing partnership with Microsoft*
- *initiated OPSOA position papers on diversity, governance and the role of the supervisory officer*
- *reviewed operation and directions for the SOQP*
- *approved the annual financial statement*
- *received reports from mentors and alumni*
- *reviewed professional development program*
- *considered agenda for annual conference*
- *OPSOA PD booklet received and being distributed to members and Education partners*
- *Supervising Principals identified from our Boards and will be invited to become OPSOA Associate Members*
- *Nomination Forms for OPSOA President-Elect have been distributed in previous OPSOA mailings*
- *Proposed split of Northern Region to be considered at December Board meeting.*

### ***OPC and OPSOA Discuss Common Issues***

On November 18, the OPSOA Board of Directors met with Doug Acton, President of OPC and Mike Benson, Executive Director and spent a very productive two hours reviewing positions on such items as: literacy and numeracy lead teacher status, Ontario College of Teachers consultations, principal workload study, positions on collective bargaining, professional development initiatives, governance, roles of principals and supervisory officers and a number of other items. The purpose of this meeting was to develop further liaisons and to review ways that the two organizations can come together for the mutual benefit of school program.

In the coming year, OPSOA and OPC will provide a number of common professional development opportunities.

***Mentoring of new SO’s is going extremely well thanks to Warren Rosborough, Audrey Amo, Sue Burke, Darlene Leaver, Trudy Lum, David Pedwell, Larry Street and Evelyn Wilson. Program co-sponsored by OPSOA and DSB’s.***

***NEW!***

*Watch for a new feature in our Newsletter  
“Celebration of Success” highlighting OPSOA members’ accomplishments*