

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to the following members who have recently announced retirement or have recently retired:

Diane Bode, Algoma DSB

Pam Cooper, Algoma DSB

Marilyn Gouthro, Lakehead DSB

Philip O'Brien, Upper Canada DSB

Glenda Stevenson, Ottawa-Carleton DSB

Mark Valcic, Simcoe County DSB

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

Congratulations to the following new appointment:

Ian Sutherland, Acting Director, Lakehead DSB

Welcome to our new members:

Dennis Connor, York Region DSB

Larry Hope, Keewatin-Patricia DSB

David Pyper, Grand Erie DSB

Sharon Stephanian, Hamilton-Wentworth DSB

Please keep the OPSOA Office informed of any changes in appointments within our organization.

Congratulations to ...

Dr. Christopher Spence, Director of Education, Hamilton-Wentworth DSB, on the publication of his new book "Creating a Literacy Environment for Boys – Ideas for Administrators, Teachers and Parents"

OPSOA Membership Numbers
Active, New & Associate: 291
Alumni: 69

OPSOA CONFERENCE 2006 - APRIL 6 & 7

April 6 & 7, 2006 – InterContinental Toronto, 220 Bloor Street West, Toronto

This year's OPSOA Annual Conference will be held at the InterContinental Toronto on Bloor Street on April 6 and 7.

The theme is "**Using Data to Improve Student Success – Looking At and Beyond the Numb3rs**".

This year's conference is designed to help OPSOA members further explore the use of data, share experiences and expertise, develop strategies to build system capacity and examine global trends in order to harness data for sustainable school improvement. Whether it is "test score, demographic, global trend, qualitative or quantitative", data provides educators with the evidence that they need to make the right decisions about strategies to improve student achievement.

The planning committee, co-chaired by Don McLean (Toronto DSB) and Linda Fabi, (Waterloo Region DSB) is busy putting together an exciting and informative program, which will challenge and involve you as an educator. Alumni members will be joining in regular sessions and have been planning their own sessions as well. We hope to see many of our Alumni members there again this year.

Don't miss the opportunity to attend your annual conference. An "**Early Bird**" **Registration Form** is included in this mailing which includes registration and hotel information. Book your hotel room as soon as possible to obtain the OPSOA member's rate and to ensure your stay at this beautiful hotel!

You may be the lucky winner of the Early Bird Prize! **Deadline for the Early Bird Prize is February 28th.**

More specific information will follow shortly and remember to visit the OPSOA website for up-to-date news on program details. www.opsoa.org

JOINT OPSOA/OPC PRE CONFERENCE APRIL 5

April 5 – InterContinental Toronto Hotel, Bloor Street, Toronto

We are happy to announce the joint OPSOA/OPC Pre-Conference on Wednesday, April 5th with Michael Fullan will provide the opportunity for an in-depth discussion on many of the concepts that are an intricate part of the current government philosophy for education and leadership. Boards are encouraged to register two OPSOA members and two OPC members to this popular event.

Registration packages have been faxed to each Public Director and are also included in Directors' mailings this month.

Registration has been limited to 4 per board. Phase 2 participants of the 2005-06 New SO Program will also attend in addition to each board team.

OPSOA

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”*



OPSOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2005-2006

President	Colin Vickers, Near North
President-Elect	Ken Thurston, York Region
Treasurer	Wayne McNally, Peel
Central Region	Kirsten Parker, Simcoe County
Eastern Region	Larry Archibald, Ottawa-Carleton
Metro Region	Johanne Messner, Toronto
Northern Region	Lise Haman, Lakehead
Southwestern Region	Barb McArthur, Niagara
Western Region	Michelle Forge, Bluewater
Member-At-Large	Don Fairweather, Upper Canada
CODE Representative	Bill Hogarth, York Region
Executive Director	Frank Kelly

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

March 23 & 24, 2006 – Public Directors’
Retreat, Niagara-on-the-Lake

April 5, 2006 – Phase 2 of the New
Supervisory Official Program,
InterContinental Toronto

April 5, 2006 – Pre-Conference (OPSOA &
OPC) featuring Michael Fullan,
InterContinental Toronto

April 6 & 7, 2006 – OPSOA Annual
Conference, InterContinental Toronto

July 14-16, 2006 – CASA Summer
Leadership Program, InterContinental
Toronto

Conference Sponsors

The Planning Committee for this year’s OPSOA Conference is hoping that you can assist with the provision of doorprizes and donations. Each board is asked to kindly donate a doorprize to share at our Annual Conference. Also, if you know of a supplier who can assist or would like to contribute, please let the OPSOA Office know

Request for Involvement

It is hard to believe that we are moving into the second half of the first decade of the new millennium. Surely, such things as Y2k fears and the threats of government cuts to education programs seem long ago. Many would say that today’s climate for education in Ontario is publicly positive.

However, the challenges for educators remain real. There is still a severe pressure on leaders to provide program and facilities within limited budgets while meeting a growing public expectation for better achievement and higher completion rates.

No one said the job would be easy; very few saw all the factors that would converge to make it so tough.

As you move through 2006, OPSOA, your professional organization will support your professional development needs and provide you with forums to focus on the dominant issues you face. It is important that OPSOA review the significant priorities and take a leading position in this province.

We continue to appoint members to provincial committees and they represent us strongly. Often, these representatives will ask for the official position of the organization and frequently the response is only that there was discussion at the board of directors.

In 2006, we will strengthen that response by asking for additional member involvement to formalize positions on priority items. In January, a number of issues were highlighted for review:

- OPSOA Leadership for Learning to 18 Initiatives
- Sharing of action plans for Improvement of Literacy and Numeracy
- An updated direction for professional development offerings for our members.
- The working relationship of OPSOA and CODE.

The Board of Directors will gather the input of members on these and other issues through a variety of methods. As new priorities are identified through the Board of Directors, we will continue this pattern of broad review with recommendations back to the board. Through OSO Net, we will share the findings of each group. Please forward any suggestions you have for topics for consideration or for process.

Frank Kelly, Executive Director

Highlights of Recent Board of Directors’

Meetings:

- Reviewed the proposed 2006 Budget
- Approved last year’s Financial Audit for presentation to the membership
- Approved transfer of funds to accommodation reserve
- Initiated process to update OPSOA “Contracts That Work” document
- Met with OPC Executive Director and President on various issues
- Wrote Minister re role of Principal paper.
- Wrote Minister re Staff Meeting issues
- Wrote letter to Hamilton-Wentworth DSB Chair re concerns around recent negative comments to SO’s
- Accepted Nominating Committee recommendation for President-Elect
- Selected Distinguished Leadership Award winners from nominations

Alumni Update

The upcoming OPSOA Conference will include the following sessions for Alumni Members:

- “Play with your Mind” – a presentation on interest courses with U of T, Ryerson and the Royal Conservatory of Music
- Travel Presentation regarding Vacations to Australia
- Presentation by CARP (Canada’s Association for the 50 Plus).

For further information, please contact Larry Street at ipalladin@cogeco.ca.

Alumni members David Pedwell and Larry Street are members of the Conference Planning Committee.

Alumni members receive a special reduced rate when attending the OPSOA Annual Conference

See you at the conference!