

OPC
Thames Valley

Information Update
June, 2015

President's Remarks

It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve as your local OPC president this past year, a position that enabled me to represent your interests, grow professionally and support your individual circumstances as required. It has also given me the opportunity to meet many more of my P/VP colleagues and reaffirm my belief that our school administrators always have the best interests of students in mind. You truly go above and beyond each day, to ensure that every student is given a chance to succeed and feel a sense of belonging. Your professionalism, hard work and dedication to our students and public education are appreciated.

As an OPC executive, we are involved with a number of system initiatives where Principal and Vice-Principal input is sought and valued, as was the case this year with the follow-up conversations lead by our Director, Laura Elliot, around P/VP workload issues. Additionally, the core executive also enjoys regularly scheduled meetings with our Associate Directors where we discuss various hot topic issues (eg. unfilled vacancies), which affect our ability as Principal's and Vice-Principals to lead our schools effectively and safely. As well, we have recently shared excellent dialogue around the importance of building and maintaining sustainable, positive relationships between both our P/VPs and our Senior Administration. Upon reflecting on my recent experiences as your OPC President as well as the experiences I've had networking with P/VP colleagues across the province, there is no doubt in my mind that, as a system, we are fortunate to enjoy a very collegial and supportive relationship with our senior administration team.

We thank those of you who have and continue to take time to represent us on various system committees and to bring forward our perspective. As we move forward to the end of the year and into another school year in September, I encourage you to get involved with our local OPC and the many committees and initiatives with which we help out. Getting involved will make your professional life more fulfilling and rewarding. Getting involved does not end with the completion of our executive elections; it can be responding to a future call to join a committee that fits your interests and strengths.

I am also grateful to have had the opportunity to work with a very supportive OPC Executive and with Ron Jones, our Staff Officer, this past year. Their continuous support, hard work and expertise were instrumental in helping me represent you to the best of my ability. My hope is that you do feel your concerns were heard and acted upon appropriately and in a timely manner, by both myself and our executive.

Our final General Meeting date gives us the opportunity to give our best wishes to our retiring colleagues and to celebrate their successful careers and contributions. We hope you had the opportunity to join us, particularly given the recently changed political landscape.

Finally, thank you again for your professionalism, support and dedication this year and have a great end to the school year and a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Jason Pratt
OPC President, Thames Valley

OPC - Thames Valley Elections

The following is the OPC Thames Valley 2015 - 2016 Executive
President: Michael Deeb

President Elect: Scott Purvis

Past President: Jason Pratt

Vice President: Linda Carswell

Vice President: Margaret Sullivan

Secretary: Sylvie Blais

Treasurer: Scott Armstrong

Provincial Councillors: Janet Williamson, Andrew Smith, Dave Westaway

Members At Large: Scott Askey, Matt Bradacs, Susan Bruyns, Melina DiCarlo, Tracy Langelaan, AnnMarie Luce, Paul Panayi, Dawn Ruddick, Regina Smith, Paul Sydor

Promotions

Congratulations to the following members and potential member to be on their promotions and confirmations:

1) To the position of **Principal: Joe Wrigley, Hilary Montgomery, Christine Masterson, Kim Robertson, Ryan Nowell, Warren Zavarella, Cathy Brophy Andrew Smith, Mark Flumerfelt**

2) To the position of **Vice Principal: Ryan Leasa, Nicolle Valiquette, Katherine Martin, Milt Betteridge, Jason Schwartz, Tiffany Frederick, Matt Macgregor, Tricia Alexander, Mark Waters, Trish Elcombe, Heather Bosacki, Bradley Millward Jeff Holbrough, Brenda Williams, Sharon Nielson, Stephanie Hambides, Kerry Rank, Renee Shave, Heather Jakobi**

Meeting Dates for 2015-2016

General Dinner Meetings and Executive Meetings

General Dinner Meetings and Executive Meeting dates will be set by the executive in June and sent out in our final Update of the year.

Member Personal Information Update

Members are reminded that whenever they experience a change in assignment or location it is important that they report the changes to OPC Provincial at 1-800-701-2362 or www.principals.on.ca to ensure that their personal records are up to date.

OPC Assistance

Members are reminded that, if at any time they find themselves in a situation where they have questions or feel the need for additional support, they are encourage to contact OPC either locally or provincially.

The local executive would be happy to provide advice or assistance up to and including supporting members in a difficult meeting situation where such support is requested.

Where the situation would be better handled by provincial representation your local executive will encourage members to seek that assistance while providing the support possible at the local level.

OPC both locally and provincially are there to support the members. Please do not hesitate to seek this assistance at any time.

Professional Development

Members are often interested in learning about web sites that can provide them with valuable information regarding conferences.

The web site www.cde.ca.gov/re/ca/cc/ is one that members may find helpful.

Member Involvement

Appreciation is extended to the following members for representing OPC Thames Valley:

VP Interview Committee – **Melanie Stanley**

Principal Interview Committee – **Brendon White**

Safe Grad Committee – **Tammy Vacante**

School Year Calendar Committee – **Tiffany Birtch, Richard Pincombe**

SKOPUS Committee – **Joan Cooper, Mary Ellen Fauts**

TERT Steering Committee – **Linda Weir**

Windows 8 Implementation Committee – **Joan Cooper**

Literacy Coordinator Interview Committee – **Vivienne Bell-McKaig, Jeff Bruce**

FDK ECE Performance Appraisal Focus Group – **Darlene Charuk, Mary Roes**

Your Executive At Work

Some of the issues that the executive has been dealing with recently include:

Staffing, OPC Advocacy Program, Occasional Staff Shortages, Principal/VP Workload

Jason Pratt

OPC President

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