



Professional Development Update

As per the Provincial Discussion Framework in the last round of bargaining, the government will provide funds to Boards to use exclusively for the Professional Development of Teachers. The PDT also requires Teachers' Associations to have input into the use and allocation of those funds.

The Secondary Joint PD Committee has met to discuss the use of this year's funds (\$153,000). Due to the late disclosure of the funds for the current year, most of the funds will be used to develop PD for the 2010-11 school year. However, a portion of the funds will be allocated this year to two areas outlined below.

Teachers are strongly encouraged to access these funds that have been specifically designated for self-directed professional development.

These PD opportunities can also be used to support goals identified by teachers in their Annual Learning Plans.

Conference Funding

The Dufferin-Peel Secondary Joint Professional Development Committee has allocated up to \$30,000.00 towards conference funding for the remainder of this year. This is in addition to the existing annual conference funding. At this point, this is a one time funding allocation which will end at the end of July, 2010.

Teachers are encouraged to apply for conference funding for any education related seminar, workshop, or conference that takes place by the end of July, 2010.

Teachers are eligible even if they have received funding to attend a conference this year or last.

Please see your OECTA staff rep for the application form and submit for approval. Please note that receipts for the conference, seminar or workshop must be submitted within 2 weeks of the date of the session.

Please see over.

SHARE for Experienced Teachers

(Supporting, Hosting, Affirming, Reflecting, Encouraging)

The SHARE Program is modeled on the one designed for NTIP Teachers. Experienced Teachers (more than five years experience) can access the opportunity to visit each other's classrooms to gain knowledge of specific programs or areas. The program also allows Teachers to come together to discuss common concerns in the classroom and share their expertise. It also is in keeping with OECTA's goal of providing Teachers with self-directed and job-embedded PD opportunities.

Areas of interest may include:

- Grade / Level Specific Strategies
- Culminating Activities
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Reluctant Readers
- Boys' Literacy
- Alternative Education / Credit Recovery
- Using Media in the Classroom
- Graphic Novels
- Introducing New Units / Concepts
- Locally Developed Courses
- Alternative Programming

The Share Program will cover the costs of supply teachers for both the visiting and host Teachers. The visiting Teacher can access a half or full day supply. The host Teacher can access a half-day supply to meet and consult with the visiting Teacher.

Teachers can work with Teachers in their own schools or in other schools in the Board. It is up to the visiting Teacher to find a suitable program to visit and consult with the potential host Teacher to arrange a mutually convenient date/time. Both Teachers should consult with Administration to select appropriate days.

When this has been done, the visiting Teacher completes the SHARE Funding Application Form which can be found on the 'Program and Special Education Communication Portal' under 'Secondary PD Information'. To access this portal, type 'FYI' on the Internet browser. Forward the form to Charles Blanchard (Fax # 905 890-6475). Once the funding has been approved, both Teachers will be notified by email. The appropriate TRACS code will be provided in the email.

Requests will be honoured on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have any questions about accessing the PD Funds, please see your Staff Rep or contact the DPSU office. Staff Reps have been provided with copies of applications forms for both Conference Funding and SHARE for your convenience.

SHARE Application Form

Visiting Teacher Information

Name: _____

School: _____

Supply Request (check one): Full Day _____ Half Day _____

Host Teacher Information

Name: _____

School: _____

Supply Request (check one): Half Day _____ No Supply _____

Date Requested: _____

Board Use Only:

Request Approved: _____ Request Denied: _____

Return Form via Fax to Charles Blanchard

Fax # 905 890-6475