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To: All Secondary Teachers From: Allyn Janicki

#### Tuesday April 16th 2019 **Memo #19**

# Interpreting the Budget

OECTA Provincial has provided the following information regarding Ontario's most recent Budget:

- \$1.4 billion tax cut for business in 2019-20, \$3.8 billion in tax relief over 6 years Balanced budget by 2023-24
- \$1 billion over five years to create 30 000 child care spaces including 10 000 spaces in new schools Child care tax credit which would provide 300 000 families up to 75% of their
- eligible child care expenses which is coming out of the education funding envelope Free dental care for low income seniors who lack benefits and earn less than \$19
- 300 annually
- Investing \$3.8 billion for mental health over 10 years
- Investing \$11.2 billion in new subway and LTR builds in the GTA over the next 10
- years.
- Confirms loss of teaching positions by re-announcing increase in class size average by one student per class in Grades 4-8 and increasing aggregate class size in secondary from 22:1 to 28:1, OECTA estimates this will result in a loss of

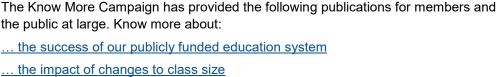
# **Education Sector**

- 4,000 teaching positions over the next four years across our system; Although some details won't be made available until the Grants for Student Needs are announced by the end of April we are confident in projecting that spending for
- education will be declining because; Overall funding for education is increasing by 1.2% over last year, well
  - below the rate of inflation which currently stands at 1.9%; Included in the total program spend is the cost of the new CARE tax credit
  - which will cost \$390 million per year over the next 6 years; and Although student enrolment is projected to increase by 0.87% over the most recent projection, we won't know what the per pupil funding will be
  - until the GSNs are announced. Confirms previously announced plan to scrap the Fair Hiring Regulation (Regulation 274);
- Aligns with previous government's investment in school renewal with a \$1.4 billion investment in the 2019-2020 school year;
- Phasing in a new math curriculum K-12 over the next four years with a focus on "math fundamentals" and away from Discovery math and offering student learning opportunities for math through summer learning programs and tutoring by 3rd
- parties; Confirms previous announcements that new teachers will be required to pass a math test to become certified to teach in Ontario, for teachers already in the system government will provide funding to take additional qualification courses in math:
- Introducing a Parent's Bill of Rights; Creating a Minister's Taskforce on School Boards;
- Modernizing EQAO;
- Accessing student learning opportunities for math through summer learning and
- tutoring by 3rd parties; and
- Providing \$3.7 million to fund a revised FMNI curriculum for Grades 9 to 12 and expanding the Indigenous Graduation Coach program.
- What Happens Now? The budget will be debated in the legislature. We can expect that the opposition parties

will find reasons to vote against it. Some funding details won't be available until the GSN

## announcement but the Finance Minister's statement in his budget speech touting an

investment in education over \$1 billion over the next three years is misleading. Funding does not keep up with the rate of inflation and the overall amount includes a nearly \$1 billion financial commitment over three years (\$2 billion over six years) to the new CARE (child care tax credit) so education funding is in decline. KNOW MORE



... misleading government messaging regarding education Please click on the links to read, and share widely!

immediately staff at 28:1, rather have initially adopted a phase in approach using a

ratio of approximately 24:1. This still resulted in declarations of surplus and redundancy. In all there were 27 teachers declared surplus, and 11 declared redundant. Chair postings at each school and the first round of job postings should have been shared by principals. Transfer request paperwork can be found here.

**Local Staffing** 

The staffing process for September 2019/20 is underway. The board opted to NOT

Details regarding the staffing process are outlined in clause 16.02 of the Collective Agreement. **Local Secondary Unit Elections** The Annual General Meeting of the Unit will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at the Unit Office, at 4:30 p.m., to elect the Executive for the 2019-2020 school year. The following positions are open for nominations:

The composition and duties of the Unit executive and its officers is laid out in the OECTA Handbook By-Laws - Section 2.105-2.120 and Section A of the Simcoe Muskoka

- Recording Secretary

- Councillor (maximum of five)

\* All teachers (permanent and occasional) may vote for all positions on the Executive. ONLY Occasional Teachers who attend the Unit General Meeting can vote for the Occasional Teacher Representative.\*

\*Occasional Teacher Representative\*

- First Vice-President

- Second Vice-President

Secondary Unit By-Laws. NEW: Duties for Occasional Teacher Representative position: (not currently in Unit By-

- to chair the occasional teacher bargaining unit executive committee

- to advise the unit executive on matters pertaining to occasional teachers The nomination form can be found here and must be completed and returned by Monday April 29th, 2019.

to assist the unit executive in its duties

Our local OECTA unit will be participating in Hike for Hospice on Sunday May 5th at Sunnidale Park. If you would like to participate or make a donation, our team

is "OECTA-Unit Simcoe". Please join us, it's a lot of fun. Everyone is welcome!

The President's Dinner: May 16th 2019

Please consider joining us on Thursday May 16th at the Barrie Golf and Country Club at 5p.m. Further details can be found here. RSVP to your Staff Rep by April

If you have any questions, please contact team captain Rita Borgogelli.

The President's Dinner is an annual tradition in which the local unit honours our retirees, pays tribute to those who have achieved the milestone of 25 years service, and celebrates The Frank Moore Memorial Award recipient.

OECTA Simcoe Muskoka Hike for Hospice

Sunday May 5th (9:30 registration) walk starts at 11:00 AM.

25th. Coming Soon!

Save the Date: May 25th Staying Informed

Information regarding the annual **OECTA Simcoe Muskoka Golf Tournament!** 

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