

President's Message

April 1, 2019

Education Rally This Weekend

This Saturday, April 6, OSSTF has organized a Rally for Education at Queen's Park, starting at 12:00pm. Educators, students, parents and the public have been invited to attend the rally to show their support for publicly funded education and to say no to the pending cuts announced by the government. Busing is being arranged from many school boards.

The OPC supports the intent of the rally and is concerned about the negative impacts that the proposed funding cuts and changes will have for students in our schools. We believe that every educator, including P/VPs, is entitled to attend the weekend event to express, peacefully and respectfully, their concerns about the potential actions the government may take in the education sector. As always, we know that any of our Members choosing to attend this rally will represent both your boards and the OPC in a highly professional manner.

As an organization, we have and will continue to express our concerns and provide our feedback to the government directly in ongoing meetings and through the consultation process.

Looking for Input on Government Consultations

In March, the government invited further submissions (due May 31, 2019) on [Hiring Practices](#) (Reg. 274) and [Class Size](#). We will be working with your Provincial Executive to frame our further submissions, and this will be an important working discussion at our Provincial Council meeting in early May. If you have views you'd like to share in respect of these next consultations, which include some focused questions included in the links above, please share them with your Provincial Councillor or directly with me at president@principals.ca.

Seeking a Protective Services Consultant for the OPC

To ensure we continue to meet the professional needs of our Members, we are [seeking a Protective Services Consultant](#) to join our Protective Services Team. The role entails offering valuable professional counsel to principals and vice-principals, providing one-to-one support and advice, representing Members in workplace investigations and discipline matters, developing relationships with school board senior administration teams and leading topical group workshops. We are looking for an experienced administrator with knowledge of school board and provincial level initiatives and an understanding of the legal issues facing Ontario principals and vice-principals.

Applications must be received no later than 4:30 pm on **Thursday, April 18, 2019**. Applicants being considered for interviews must be available for interviews on **Tuesday, May 14, 2019**.

Media

[Guidance counsellors seek more support for dealing with mental health concerns](#)

[TDSB Director says loss of 1 teacher equals loss of 6 courses](#)

[Anxiety grows over mental health funding as provincial budget looms](#)

[Redesigned autism program will cost \\$300 million more than current budget](#)

[Quebec educators banned from wearing religious symbols](#)

[Surge in cannabis use among Canadian youth preceded legalization](#)

[Finance Minister says budget will not be balanced at expense of critical programs](#)

[Confusion remains for teachers over sex ed curriculum](#)

[Thames Valley wants kids with lice to stay in school](#)

Queen's Park

There were questions in the House about [mandatory online courses in secondary school](#), [loss of teachers in secondary schools](#), [consultation process for autism funding](#), [layoffs of autism treatment providers](#), [loss of teaching positions in small and rural communities](#), [cuts to youth employment opportunities](#), [pausing changes to autism treatment programming](#) and [potential cuts to arts programming in schools](#).