

OCEOTA February General Meeting
February 9th, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order at 4:40pm

2. ETFO Human Rights and Land Acknowledgement Statement was read by executive member Elkhoul.

3. Welcome and President Remarks – President Dyer welcomed the membership by starting the meeting by sharing that we are in a crucial time. We are starting the Collective Bargaining process as our current Collective Agreement is set to expire this August as we, the OCDSB, are under Supervision from the Ministry. By being under supervision, it is a very different process than when we had a Board of Trustees approving a Tentative Collective Agreement. Now there is little to no barrier between us and bargaining with the Government. Under the current government, there is not enough funding and its effects not only on us but on the children. As Occasional Teachers we have the privilege to create your schedule and work at places of your choosing. The choices made by OTs indicate where there are problems in the system.

Currently the OCDSB is in the process of their LTO pool hiring season. Dyer explained the requirements of what is needed, how morphing LTOs should be avoided as a LTO reference and the importance of having a positive, written confirmation versus a verbal one. Path to Permanency is a high priority for many OTs. Dyer spoke about the DOT program: how the program has recently changed, the Administrator's accountability, no longer DOT dispatchers, a problem with the redeployment aspect. OCEOTA recently bought buttons from a Canadian company to join in solidarity with all Unions and affiliates in Ottawa. These buttons are to be worn on the Day of Action on April 29th as well as in conjunction with the RedforEd Fridays (1st of each Month) and Purple Wednesdays for all worker groups. Dyer concluded his remarks with what is happening in Toronto with the Bowmore School suspending and firing employees for not participating in extra-curriculars.

4. **Business Meeting begins** (Chair Dyer):

a. Approval of Agenda – Mover Szewczyk-Chan / Seconder – Zetsche, **carried**

b. Approval of Minutes from Last General Meeting – October 22th, 2025 – Mover – Szewczyk-Chan / Seconder – Langevin, **carried**

c. ETFO AM Resolution Submission – We have received one submission for a resolution to be passed by OCEOTA to be shared with ETFO for Annual Meeting.

THAT ETFO lobby the Ministry of Education to consider the separation of Year 1 Junior Kindergarten (JK) and Year 2 Senior Kindergarten (SK)

Rationale:

Development focus for Year 1 where there is a focus on play-based learning, school routines, and behavioural expectations. No French instruction until Year 2. This would be led by a teacher and an ECE. Curriculum Focus for Year 2, led by a teacher and an ECE team, where there is more focus on intentionally teaching from the curriculum to ensure students are adequately prepared for Grade 1.

Debate included many questions, considered components of the motion, aspects and elements. New Kindergarten curriculum brought up. The pros of separating by year and cons. Mover was unable to attend the GM to assist in debate

Vote on bringing forward to ETFO Annual Meeting, **lost**.

Action Item Szewczyk-Chan will reach out to the member that submitted the motion and share with her what was discussed throughout the meeting.

d. Treasurer's Report – Read by Szewczyk-Chan.

5. Business Arising

a. CTF Bargaining Conference – President Dyer explained what the CTF is, what this conference is about and why OCEOTA would benefit from sending their Chief Negotiator to attend. The potential overspending of the budget line 5.03 this year and costs associated with attendance.

Walther moved and Szewczyk-Chan seconded motion to approve sending them to the conference.

There were a few questions from the membership. Dyer passed the chair responsibility to Szewczyk-Chan and withdrew from meeting.

Deputy chair Szewczyk-Chan called for a vote, **carried**

b. Local Collective Bargaining

Szewczyk-Chan spoke to the membership about the Local Collective Bargaining Survey and urged the members to complete the survey to help OCEOTA determine the most important topics for negotiations, and participate in a CB focus group or the OCEOTA Collective Bargaining Committee.

End Of Business Section Of General Meeting

6. Upcoming Events and Door Prizes – Executive member Treffers spoke about the upcoming PWHL game on April 18th and asked members to sign up and share with other members. Executive member Tariq spoke about the upcoming New Members Orientation Feb 12th meeting. Two door prizes were presented – \$50 was won by Member Pamela and Shari won the OTIP emergency car starter kit.

7. Question and Answer Period

- Much of the question and answer period was spent talking about the DOT program and its' problems.
- Emergency Classroom Supervisors (ECS) questions arose.
- Rules around cancelling assignments referenced within the Collective Agreement.
- The LTO pool potential for Members who are restricted to 50 days.
- The PL Fund and how to use access.

8. Adjourned meeting at 6:30pm

Mover Elkhoul and Secunder Ho