
THE BOTTOM LINE

All the news for OPSEU Local 420

No. 16

Friday 24 March 2006

Thanks to all who came out last evening to the rally and demonstrated support for the reason we are on strike, "Quality education for College students."

We offer a special thanks to those who came, representing the following groups:

The Catholic Teachers Federation,

Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation

Local 421, Loyalist College

The Elementary Teachers Association,

Quinte Area Labor Council

OPSEU local 455 from Belleville, who generously donated \$500.00.

Thank-you also to Joe Callahan and Peter Snell for leading us in their musical renditions, including "I walk The Line".

I Walk The Line

I keep a close watch on this job of mine,
I keep my eyes wide open all the time,
I keep the students always in my mind,
Because your mine,
I walk the line.

I find it very, very easy to be true,
I find myself awake when each day's through,
Yes, I'll admit I'm working at night til two,
Because your mine,
I walk the line.

As sure as night is dark and day is light.
I'm on the job for you both day and night,
And happiness I've known proves that it's right,
Because you're mine,
I walk the line.

What's This About Strikebreaking?

In any strike, rumours will circulate about strikers who are believed to be engaging in strikebreaking. For the record, the Union Local takes this issue very seriously and is on the lookout for any activity which would constitute strikebreaking. Strikebreaking is, simply, engaging in any of the normal academic duties of a professor that would otherwise occur during a non-strike period.

Strikebreaking can be physical or electronic. It is the Local's position that you refrain from participating in all electronic communication with the College or with your students. Any type supervision or counseling of students or non-unionize faculty regarding current assignments is strikebreaking. And yes, this means that things like weekend telephone conversations from home, providing any sort of academic advice, are strikebreaking.


Everyone involved in the strike is human. Consequently, we recognize that It is NOT strikebreaking to engage in conversations that reflect a personal, humanistic interest in students. We all care about and want to be back with our students. Strikebreaking sends a message that not all faculty members feel this way, and it is simply disrespectful to your colleagues on the picket line.

Article 30 of the OPSEU Constitution dictates the procedure for identifying and managing suspected strikebreakers. In a nutshell, a general meeting is called, the purpose of which is to PUBLICLY NAME THE STRIKEBREAKERS. The allegations are presented, the member can defend his/her actions, then a vote of the present membership is conducted. If 2/3 of the voters agree that the actions comprise strikebreaking, then the strikebreaker is fined the equivalent of the monies earned for strike duty. Suspension from the Union follows.

All members need to be aware that this Union Local will actively pursue any allegations of strikebreaking.

*The full text of Article 30 is available at
<http://www.opseu.org/constitution/art29to30.htm>*

Today's Weather

WHAT'S INSIDE?			TODAY'S WEATHER	
Thursday Night Rally	1		High	6°C
What's This About Strikebreaking?	2		Low	-3°C
Today's Weather	3		Condition	Partly Cloudy
			P.O.P.	30%
			Wind	W 4 km/h S/W