



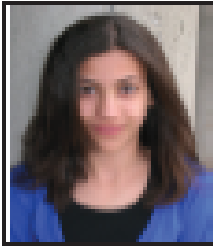
OFHSA Bulletin

Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations

Spring/Summer 2010

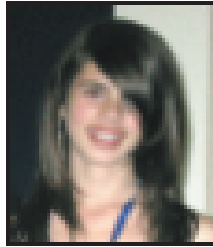
Meet this year's Citizenship Award winners

**Grade 5
Thames Valley** **Nadeen Elshawish**



Nadeen says:
"I love helping people every chance I get!"
Her nominators say, "I'm so proud that we have Nadeen in our school. "She constantly strives to produce level 4 work." "...a wonderful, quiet leader who excels at her academics." "...one of the special students who others should strive to be like."

**Grade 6
Hamilton-Wentworth** **Nadin Shahein**



Nadin says:
"I do all of these things to help people in the community."
Her nominators say, "dependable, responsible and respectful" "...outstanding role model." "...consistently demonstrates exemplary character attributes." "She truly cares about her classmates and helps them whenever she can." "Nadin is a gift..."

**Grade 8
Hamilton-Wentworth** **Craig Nugent**




Craig says:
"Volunteering became a significant part of my life."
His nominators say, "He has had a significant impact on our teachers, our students and the community." "...confidence and courage in speaking up." "He demonstrates respect to those around him." "...extremely reliable and dedicated..."

**Grade 9
Essex** **Judith Gutter**




Judith is extremely involved in her community, yet modest about it. Her nominators say, "Judith is one who works hard, extends the extra effort and achieves success in the end." "...a great community spirit." "She is an insightful, considerate young woman." "...a respected role model for other students...and in our community as well."

**Grade 10
Lambton** **Alieah Brown**



Alieah says,
"I plan on...volunteer work in our community for as long as I am able."
Her nominators say "...approaches every task with a positive attitude and puts forth 100% effort every time." "Alieah is an energetic and conscientious student." "...a peer teacher and mentor for the other students." "...a high achiever."


**Grade 11
Essex** **Jennifer Taylor**



Another low-key high achiever, Jen's accomplishments are numerous and varied. Her nominators say, "She is one of those students you know you can ask to help you with anything." "...a positive and proactive disposition." "She is highly respected by her peers and community members." "...truly a phenomenal role-model."

CONGRATULATIONS to this year's cream of the crop! Reading the praise for the 2009-10 Citizenship Award winners was an experience in superlatives. Words such as *energetic*, *commitment* and *hard-working* were repeated again and again throughout the nominations for these dynamic young individuals. Each student has a long list of community programs, school committees and volunteer events she or he is involved in, as well as maintaining consistently high marks throughout the academic year. Instead of trying to share everything they do with their "spare" time, we've chosen to share some of the glowing phrases the nominators used to describe these exemplary citizens. Where possible, we've also included a quote from each student, though all were pretty reticent in offering words about themselves. •

**Grade 12
Hamilton-Wentworth** **Jiashu Zheng**



Jiashu wouldn't blow her own horn either. But those who nominated her sure would: "She is truly compassionate and eager to help others." "...leads by example, takes initiative and never fails to motivate and encourage others." "Jiashu is the most amazing student I have ever taught." "Her enthusiasm is infectious!"

New board set-up, anti-violence endorsement approved at AGM

by Lee Gowen

OFHSA members voted to change the look of the board of directors and to endorse a stand on violence in hockey being linked to entertainment during the 2010 annual meeting.

After accepting the final report on the pilot project which allowed the addition of members-at-large to the OFHSA board of directors, on Friday evening the voting members approved the three recommendations.

The first, to allow the board of managers to appoint up to four members-at-large; the second, approval of terms of reference for those members and, third, that the board of directors report on the effectiveness of having members-at-large every other year.

On Sunday, several bylaw amendments and additions which clarified the responsibilities and rights of those members were also approved.

The report and bylaw amendments followed a four-year trial phase for the

project. Originally, OFHSA had hoped to attract people from outside the organization to bring some specific skills or expertise to the table. As it turned out that didn't happen.

However, other advantages were derived from having the at-large positions available.

OFHSA members who ordinarily would not have joined the board of directors had a chance to participate at the federation level.

Two of those people came from lone associations (not associated with a H&S Council) while the other two came from small councils.

The only way they could otherwise have gotten to the board table was as a workgroup leader but their isolation from other groups meant they were unfamiliar with those positions.

Two of those members-at-large have now agreed to take on workgroups, filling much-needed positions.

All of these people brought enthusiasm, caring and questions, along with their

unique perspectives, to the table to the benefit of everybody. (Read more about this year's work group leaders below.)

Members-at-large of the board of directors are appointed by the board of managers for a term of one year, with the possibility of serving for a second term.

They must be or agree to become a member of OFHSA and are full members of the board. However, they are not eligible for nomination to an officer's position based solely on their service as a member-at-large.

Two other bylaw amendments dealt with the timing of association annual meetings (before the end of June) and when association and council executive take office (at the end of June).

For the first time in 28 years, OFHSA members have added an endorsement to the policy book. OFHSA members voted to 'Lend their voice to the Hockey Canada's national

hockey summit to discuss player safety and address the links between violence as entertainment and violence on the ice."

This resolution was already passed by the Violence in the Media Coalition and the board of directors of the Ontario Public Schools Boards Association (OPSBA).

Recent research and incidents have focused the public on the amount of intentional violence in the game of hockey.

There is growing concern that hockey violence is being promoted by the glorification and portrayal of hockey violence as entertainment and as an integral part of the hockey culture.

The argument that it is not integral was well-made during the Vancouver Olympics as we watched both women and men in well-played, controlled games with no fighting and no overt violence. And not a single TV set was turned off. *

OFHSA Work Group Leaders - 2010-11



Cheryl Buderick is a dynamic mother of two based in Ontario's beautiful, rural "cottage country". With over seven years in H&S, she brings lots of positive energy, enthusiasm and great, fresh ideas to her new position as membership work group leader. Welcome aboard, Cheryl.



Eugenia Ings, one of OFHSA's northern members, is a busy, certified RECC and mother of two boys with ten years in the Thunder Bay H&S community. She is looking forward to incorporating your suggestions and ideas for improvement as this year's awards work group leader. Welcome, Eugenia.



Mark Snyder has been an active H&S member for about seven years, also serving as treasurer of Thames Valley Council and the Home and School representative for the Thames Valley Education Foundation. Mark works as a chartered accountant and comes on board as the finance work group leader. Welcome, Mark.



Tammy St. Louis, already a familiar face at the federation level, is a busy mother of three with 9 years in H&S, including presidency of her own association as well as Lambton-Kent Council. She looks forward to the new challenges set for her in the coming year as policy work group leader. Welcome back, Tammy.

Violence in the Media Coalition

To view the CD distributed to each school in Ontario by the Coalition please visit: <http://www.crvawc.ca/CritMedLitCD/index.html>. The parents' section is listed under "Additional Materials".

For more information, www.thefreeradical.ca is an excellent website that deals with media violence and has a section devoted to the Violence in the Media Coalition.

Conference 2010

April 16-18, Four Points Sheraton, London



There were lots of good times in London last month when delegates attended from far and wide to enjoy OFHSA's annual conference and AGM. This year, participants enjoyed new workshops, new displays, great goody bags and much camaraderie.

Top, left: Delegates and invited guests enjoyed excellent entertainment provided by Allied Winds, a collaboration of students from F.D. Roosevelt and Sir Winston Churchill public schools in London, during the Saturday night awards banquet.

Top, right: Michelle Taylor (at right), a teacher at Kincardine District Secondary School, received the Educator of the Year for 2009-10 award from Gail Walden.

Centre, left: Bette Turner (at right), federation past president and long-time advocate for Home and School, was the worthy recipient of the Col. R.S. McLaughlin Award. She was presented her award by Cindy Glofu (far left) and Lisa Tome, vice-president and president, respectively, of Windsor Council.

Below: Say hello to your new board of directors! We're pleased to present a full board this year, as follows: From far left, Corinne Wolsey, president; Lee Gowers, 1st Vice-President; Teresa Blum, 2nd Vice-President, Karen Berlet, Director-at-Large; Michelle Ercolini, Director-at-Large; Ron Rose, Director-at-Large; Sandra Binns, President - Hamilton-Wentworth Council; Eugema Ings, Awards Work Group Leader; Mark Brynders, Finance Work Group Leader; Cheryl Budarick, Membership Work Group Leader; and Tammy St. Louis, Policy Work Group Leader. Not shown: Darlene Brynders, President - Thames Valley Council. >



There's still time to submit your H&S PRO grant application

Applications for the 2010-11 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grants opened May 8th. Forms and information are now available online at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/reaching.html>, with a deadline of June 11, 2010.

The application and review process now takes place in the spring to ensure more projects can start at the beginning of the school year.

The Ministry of Education website shown above provides information on the program in 16 languages, plus detailed application forms, a listing of the regional/provincial PRO projects approved in 2009-10, the approved school council projects for 2009-10 and a few success stories of projects funded in the past.

As Home and Schoolers have known for decades, children do better in school when their parents play an active role in their education. PRO grants are your opportunity to receive the additional support for resources you need to become more involved in your children's education and to help support student learning.

There are two types of PRO grants:

- Grants for schools are available to school councils only. They can apply for grants to support initiatives that focus on reaching parents who may not be involved in their child's school because of language barriers, unfamiliarity with the Ontario school system or other factors.
- Grants for regional/provincial projects are available to parent organizations like Home and School associations and to school boards, non-profit organizations and post-secondary institutions working in partnership with parents.

This year's applications are now being accepted. The deadline for applications is June 11, 2010.

For more information on the program, please call the Ministry of Education, toll free, at 1-800-387-5514. Persons with a hearing disability may call 1-800-263-2892. +

OFHSA ASSOCIATIONS' 2010 ANNIVERSARIES

RAISE YOUR GLASSES IN A TOAST TO ALL HOME & SCHOOL MEMBERS, PAST AND PRESENT, WHO REPRESENT NEARLY 100 YEARS OF CARE, COMMITMENT AND DETERMINATION TO WORK TOWARD "THE BEST FOR EACH STUDENT".

85 YEARS

Princess Elizabeth, London

70 YEARS

Bellview, Brantford
Knollwood, London

60 YEARS

R.H. MacGregor, Toronto

75 YEARS

Hugh Beaton, Windsor
Worley Road, London

50 YEARS

Cosburn, Toronto
Dalewood, Hamilton
Northbrae, London

50 YEARS

Eagle Heights, London

30 YEARS

Elwood Memorial, Bolton
Evelyn Harrison, London

35 YEARS

McGillway Central, Ailsa Craig
W. Sherwood Fox, London

20 YEARS

Wildmay-Carrick, Wildmay
Byron Northview, London
Kennedy, Windsor

25 YEARS

C. E. Garton, Thunder Bay
Byerson, Hamilton
Delaware Central, Delaware

5 YEARS

Pilgrim Wood, Oakville
Bruce Junior, Toronto
Ancaster Meadow, Ancaster
Memorial, Stoney Creek
Mount Albion, Stoney Creek
Dr. John Seaton, Sheffield
Queen Victoria, Windsor

10 YEARS

Tecumseh, Mississauga

15 YEARS

Grand Bend, Grand Bend
H.W. Burgess, Wallaceburg
Indian Creek, Chatham
Bonaventure, London
Ingenoll DCI, Ingenoll
Princess Anne, London
St George Ross, London

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OFHSA among supporters of OPHEA statement

Following Premier McGuinty's reversal on the introduction of the new health and physical education curriculum, OPHEA (the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association) issued the following statement:

"We are urging the Ontario government to facilitate a quick resolution that will move the H&PE curriculum forward in Ontario's schools for fall

2010 while ensuring its integrity as a holistic, integrated policy that will benefit Ontario's children and youth".

Among the groups in support of the statement were ETFO (Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario) and People for Education.

OFHSA's board of directors moved quickly to have this organization added to the list of supporters.

Since then the Premier has agreed to introduce most of the new curriculum in September 2010.

The Human Development and Sexual Health portion will be replaced with the Growth and Development portion from the 1998 document pending further consultation.

To learn more about OPHEA and the H&PE Curriculum visit www.ophea.net +

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