

OPSEU LOCAL 244 / (905) 844-9479

NEGOTIATION NEWS

THE UNION AND MANAGEMENT TEAMS ARE NOT BARGAINING AND NO TALKS ARE SCHEDULED.

A UNION SPOKESPERSON SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE TUITION FREEZE MIGHT PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED LIFE-LINE TO THE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE FIRST 2 DAYS

High Points:

A Sheridan retiree coming by the first day with the sole purpose of bringing us some donuts, telling us that he was on the picket line too in his day, wishing us luck and humbly driving off. I'll remember that kindness when I am retired. Meeting faculty I have never met before and reconnecting with others I haven't seen in a long while.

I often ask students driving in if they know why we are on strike. Most say "yes" and in a friendly way then I say "okay, pop quiz, so tell me why we are on strike", and many of them actually know the issues and the correct answer about class sizes!!

Fresh air and physical activity (albeit repetitive).

The 95% or more of drivers who patiently wait, are good natured, and willing to speak with us for a few seconds or even a few minutes... sure makes the day go by quicker and more positively.

The students who say they support us... makes a big difference!

Low Points:

Drivers who risk our safety by speeding past us or who pointedly ask if we have the legal right to stop them. Honestly, I don't know exactly what the legalities really are, I just think it is a matter of common courtesy, respect and plain

manners to slow down and stop. When people quote me this \$94K figure that keeps ending up in the media (even my Dad called me about it!). I sure don't make anything close to that. I have a suspicion that very few people do or will. Why don't they publish an average salary, rather than the maximum, for something that actually represents reality?

Having to call my bank to invoke the "skip a payment" option on my mortgage.

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FUN WITH MATH

MANAGEMENT CONTINUES TO PLAY FAST AND LOOSE WITH THE FACTS. A FULL PAGE AD RAN IN YESTERDAY'S PAPERS REPEATING THE ASSERTION THAT TEACHERS WILL MAKE \$94,000 PER YEAR, TEACH 14 HOURS PER WEEK TO CLASSES OF ONLY 23.

SINCE REALITY IS 180 DEGREES FROM THIS, LET'S LOOK AT HOW THEY DELIBERATELY TWIST THE FACTS.

THE \$94,000 FIGURE REPRESENTS WHAT A 2 STEP COORDINATOR AT

THE TOP OF THE GRID 4 YEARS FROM NOW WILL MAKE.

EXACTLY HOW MANY 2 STEP COORDINATORS ARE THERE? AVERAGES OR MEDIANS ARE THE ONLY REASONABLE WAY TO CHARACTERIZE EARNINGS. PERIOD!

ON WORK LOAD MANAGEMENT REPEATEDLY QUOTES TCH'S AS THE ONLY MEASUREMENT OF WHAT WE DO.

MANAGEMENT COMPLETELY IGNORES THE OTHER IMPORTANT

WORK FOR WHICH MANY OF US RECEIVE REDUCED TCH'S (COORDINATING, NEW PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH, ETC) .

MANAGEMENT TCH'S NUMBER IS COMPLETELY MISLEADING.

ON CLASS SIZED, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT MANAGEMENT FACTORS IN COUNSELORS AND LIBRARIANS TO ARTIFICIALLY LOWER THE STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO.

HEART WARMING STORY

AN ANGRY STUDENT WHO ACCELERATED THROUGH THE PICKET LINE WAS PULLED ASIDE BY PICKETERS AND THE PICKET CAPTAIN WHILE HIS NAME AND LICENSE WAS REPORTED. HE WAS IMPATIENT AND RUDE.

ABOUT AN HOUR LATER, THE SAME STUDENT PULLED OVER ON HIS WAY OUT TO APOLOGIZE. "I WAS RAISED BETTER THAN THAT" HE SAID, ADDING HE WAS JUST FRUSTRATED AND WORRIED ABOUT HIS YEAR.

QUEEN'S PARK RALLY
THURSDAY, MARCH 16TH
11:00 – 2:30
SIGN UP BY MONDAY AT 3PM SO WE CAN
ORGANIZE BUSES. YOU WILL BE
RELEASED FROM PICKET DUTY TO
ATTEND.