

17 HIRING PRACTICES

OCSTA and OECTA agree that the hiring practices outlined below support school boards' efforts to promote diversity in hiring practices and provide opportunities for mobility for Catholic teachers.

All vacant Long-Term Occasional Teaching Assignments and Permanent Teaching Positions shall be filled in accordance with the following:

17.1 Seniority

Seniority as an Occasional Teacher shall commence on the most recent date of hire to the Occasional Teacher Bargaining Unit and shall continue uninterrupted thereafter while employed in the occasional teacher bargaining unit.

17.2 The Occasional Teacher Seniority Roster (the "Roster")

17.2.1 The Roster shall contain, in decreasing order of seniority, the names of the Occasional Teachers, their most recent date of hire to the Occasional Teacher Bargaining Unit (seniority date), and their teaching experience.

17.2.2 For the purpose of establishing the order of the Roster, where seniority is equal among two (2) or more Occasional Teachers, the tie shall be broken according to the following criteria and in the following order, based on the greater experience:

17.2.2.1 Experience accrued as a member of the Occasional Teacher Bargaining Unit, defined as the total number of days worked since the most recent date of hire to the Bargaining Unit (seniority date);

17.2.2.2 Teaching experience as a certified teacher in Ontario;

17.2.2.3 Or failing that, by lot conducted in the presence of the local Unit President or designate.

17.2.3The Board shall provide the Roster, as at September 1st of each school year, to the local Unit President and shall post electronically a copy of the Roster by Sept 30th of each school year.

17.2.4Interview and hiring cycles to the Roster shall occur a minimum of twice during the school year. Where a school board is unable to fill all daily teaching assignments on a regular basis, the school board shall interview more frequently to attempt to increase the number of occasional teachers on Roster, subject to the maximum number allowed by the local collective agreement.

17.3 The Appointment of Occasional Teachers in Long Term Assignments:

Subject to denominational rights enjoyed by a Separate School Board, the following shall be the process for the appointment of Occasional Teachers into Long Term assignments:

17.3.1 The school board shall not make an offer to any other person to fill a long-term assignment before having placed all redundant and supernumerary teachers in order of seniority.

17.3.2 If the Long Term assignment is not filled in accordance with 17.3.1, the school board shall post the assignment on its website for all occasional teachers on the school board's Roster to access, for at least three (3) weekdays, and will fill the assignment in accordance with the following:

17.3.2.1 All Occasional Teachers shall have the ability to upload their portfolio to a secure and confidential space on Apply to Education or other equivalent space. Furthermore, Occasional Teachers shall be able to add/delete documents from their portfolio at all times;

17.3.2.2 The school board shall identify the five most senior applicants to the LTO assignment posting who are available for the assignment and hold the required qualifications for the assignment, in accordance with articles 17.5.2 and 17.9 below. An Occasional Teacher shall be considered available for the assignment if said teacher has not already been assigned to another LTO position during the term of the LTO assignment being filled in accordance with this process. Each of the five most senior applicants shall be contacted and asked to confirm that they wish to be considered for the position. If any of the five applicants indicate that they do not wish to be considered, the board shall contact the next most senior qualified applicant, thereby ensuring that five applicants are considered. No further changes shall be made to the list of applicants to be considered for the assignment.

17.3.2.3 The school board shall select the successful applicant from the applicants identified in 17.3.2.2. In doing so, the school board shall access and consider the information contained in the Occasional Teacher's portfolio. Should less than five (5) qualified applicants apply to the LTO assignment posting, the school board shall select the successful applicant from the qualified applicants;

17.3.2.4 If no qualified occasional teachers apply to the LTO assignment posting or if all qualified applicants decline the position, the school board may hire an external qualified teacher, in accordance with articles 17.5.2 and 17.9 below, who is not on the Roster, to fill this assignment.

17.4 Occasional Teacher Evaluations

17.4.1 All occasional teachers completing an LTO assignment of a minimum of four (4) months in duration shall receive an evaluation using the templated process that has been mutually agreed to by the school board

and OECTA. Should the occasional teacher receive an unsatisfactory evaluation, an evaluation shall occur during the next LTO assignment of at least two (2) months duration. Should the occasional teacher receive a satisfactory evaluation at any time, further evaluations may occur where a principal has reasonably identified concerns in the occasional teacher's performance.

- 17.4.2** Where an occasional teacher receives an unsatisfactory evaluation, the school board shall arrange for a meeting with the Unit President or designate and the occasional teacher. The meeting shall take place within one month of the issuance of the evaluation, or as mutually agreed to by the school board and the local unit president or designate. The occasional teacher shall be debriefed, and provided with a written improvement plan. The improvement plan shall identify recommendations to address any areas of improvement identified in the evaluation. The recommendations and the timelines for completion of the recommendations shall be reasonable and accessible.
- 17.4.3** Occasional teachers who receive an unsatisfactory evaluation shall be required to complete the recommendations found in the improvement plan within the timelines identified. Said occasional teachers shall remain eligible to apply and be considered for other LTO assignments provided that the occasional teacher is able to demonstrate that they are actively working to complete the recommendations.
- 17.4.4** Should the occasional teacher receive a second evaluation during the completion of a subsequent LTO assignment and should that evaluation result in an unsatisfactory rating, the school board shall arrange for a meeting involving a supervisory officer, the Unit President or designate and the occasional teacher. The meeting shall take place within one month of the issuance of the evaluation, or as mutually agreed to by the school board and the local unit president or designate. The occasional teacher will be debriefed and provided with a written improvement plan and a timeline for completion, in accordance with 17.4.2. It is understood that the teacher will not be eligible to apply for any subsequent LTO assignments until the improvement plan has been successfully completed.
- 17.4.5** Should an occasional teacher receive three unsatisfactory evaluations the school board may suspend the teacher's eligibility for additional LTO assignments. The Association may refer the matter of the occasional teacher's eligibility for any future LTO assignments to an arbitrator pursuant to the arbitration provisions in Part B of the collective agreement. The parties agree to take all reasonable steps to ensure the matter is determined as quickly as possible.
- 17.5** Postings for LTO Assignments and Permanent Positions
- 17.5.1** In addition to any requirements as outlined in the local terms of the collective agreement, each posting shall identify the posting number, the school, division(s) or grade(s) and, as applicable, subject(s), the FTE, the start and end dates of the assignment, the posting start and closing dates.
- 17.5.2** For an applicant to be considered qualified for the position, the applicant shall hold the required qualifications, as per the *Education Act* and *Regulations* (as recorded on the Ontario College of Teachers Certificate of Qualification), in the subject(s) and division(s) identified in the posting. Where a posting identifies more than two subjects, it shall identify the two subjects for which qualifications are required.
- 17.5.3** If one of the subjects identified in the posting is a restricted subject, as identified in Regulation 298, the applicant must hold the qualification for the restricted subject.

17.5.4 All postings shall identify that the end date is subject to change, as applicable.

17.6 The Hiring of Occasional Teachers to 65% of Permanent Teaching Positions

The school board shall not make an offer to any other person to fill a permanent position before having placed all redundant and supernumerary teachers in order of seniority.

Subject to the requirement to first place redundant and supernumerary teachers and the denominational rights enjoyed by a Separate School Board, and subject to the provisions hereafter, and subject to Regulation 298, school boards shall fill a minimum of sixty-five percent (65%) of all vacant permanent teaching positions, including a minimum of sixty-five percent (65%) of all full-time (1.0 FTE), posted for each school year, in accordance with the following procedure:

- 17.6.1** Occasional Teachers who have completed a minimum of one (1) LTO assignment that was a minimum of four (4) months in duration, and, in accordance with 17.4.1, whose last evaluation resulted in a satisfactory rating, shall be eligible to apply for any posted permanent teaching positions;
- 17.6.2** All vacant permanent teaching positions shall be posted on the school board's website available to all the school board's occasional teachers on the school board's Roster for at least three (3) weekdays, in accordance with article 17.5.
- 17.6.3** Subject to article 17.7 the school board shall identify the three (3) most senior applicants to the position who hold the required qualifications for the position, in accordance with articles 17.5.2 and 17.9, to be interviewed for the position. Prior to interviewing any of the three applicants, the applicants shall be contacted and asked to confirm that they wish to be interviewed for the position. If any of the three applicants indicate that they do not wish to be considered, the board shall contact the next most senior qualified applicant, thereby ensuring that three applicants are interviewed. No further changes shall be made to the list of applicants to be considered for the position. Each of the identified applicants shall then be interviewed.
- 17.6.4** Following the interviews, the school board shall select the successful applicant from the applicants identified in 17.6.3. Should less than three (3) qualified applicants apply to the vacant permanent teaching posting, the school board shall interview all applicants and, after interviewing each, select the successful applicant from the qualified applicants.
- 17.6.5** If no qualified occasional teachers apply to the vacant permanent teaching position posting or if all qualified applicants decline the position, the school board may hire an external qualified teacher who is not on the Roster to fill this position.

17.7 The Hiring of Occasional Teachers to 35% of Permanent Teaching Positions

The school board shall not make an offer to any other person to fill a permanent position before having placed all redundant and supernumerary teachers in order of seniority.

Subject to the requirement to first place redundant and supernumerary teachers and the denominational rights enjoyed by a Separate School Board, and subject to the provisions hereafter, and subject to Regulation 298, school boards shall fill a maximum of thirty-five percent (35%) of all vacant permanent teaching positions, including a maximum of thirty-five percent (35%) of all full-time (1.0 FTE), posted for each school year, from applicants from the Roster, in accordance with the following procedure:

- 17.7.1.1** The school board shall post the vacant positions consistent with article 17.5 and, subsequent to interviewing a minimum of three (3) applicants who hold the required qualifications for the position, in accordance with articles 17.5.2. and 17.9, shall select the successful applicant for the permanent position.
- 17.7.1.2** Should less than three (3) qualified applicants apply to the vacant permanent teaching posting, the school board shall interview all applicants and, after interviewing each, select the successful applicant from the qualified applicants;
- 17.7.1.3** In addition to the applicants from the Roster, a school board may choose, as one of the applicants to be interviewed, a teacher employed as a permanent teacher elsewhere in the province who has applied to the posting. Should the school board hire that teacher, the school board shall provide the name of the former employing District School Board to the local unit president, in addition to all other information that the school board is required to provide.
- 17.7.1.4** School boards shall ensure that at no time during a school year does the number of vacant permanent teaching positions filled in accordance with the provisions of 17.7 exceed thirty-five (35%) percent of the total number of vacant permanent teaching positions or thirty-five percent (35%) of all full-time (1.0 FTE) vacant permanent teaching assignments filled during the school year.
- 17.7.2** Under either of the processes outlined in 17.6 or 17.7, following the interview, Occasional Teachers who are not successful and make the request, shall be debriefed by a member of the interview team who will provide recommendations, in writing, that shall be made to help enhance professional growth that may lead to a successful application in the future. The school board shall arrange for the meeting involving the Unit President or designate and the occasional teacher. The meeting shall take place within one month of the issuance of the interview, or as mutually agreed to by the school board and the local unit president or designate.
- 17.8** It is understood that all teachers hired under article 17.6 and 17.7 are subject to the surplus and redundancy provisions of the collective agreement.
- 17.9** Additional Qualifications for Specialized Assignments/Positions
 OCSTA and the Association recognize that in addition to the required qualifications for both LTO assignments and permanent positions as defined in article 17.5.2, the following positions shall include the additional requirements listed below:
- i. Special Education Self-Contained Classes – at least 2 years in accumulated experience as a Special Education Resource Teacher, or hold a Special Education Specialist qualification.
 - ii. French Immersion Assignments/Positions – applicants may be required to demonstrate their French fluency. It is understood that this is not a requirement for core French assignments/positions. Teachers with an FSL Specialist qualification or a DELF qualification shall be exempt from this requirement.

Note: OCSTA and OECTA agree to form a committee consisting of up to three representatives from each party to further examine the topic of qualifications for secondary courses. The goal of the committee is to reach an agreement that identifies the qualifications needed for subjects for which there currently is no agreement as to the qualifications needed.