

Slate of Nominees for Waterloo OECTA Executive 2020-2021

Unit Recording Secretary



Candidate: Kyle Sutter

Position Sought: Unit Recording Secretary

Teaching Panel: Elementary

Teaching Experience

Sept. 2019- Present Carizon- Encompass Program- St. Agatha,
Permanent Grade 3/4/5- Special Education
Sept. 2018- Present YAP Program- Kitchener, ON
Grade 9/10/11/12 Teacher- Summer School
Sept. 2017- June 2018 Resurrection Catholic Secondary School
LTO- Grade 9 and 11 English and Grade 10, 11, 12 GLE
Nov. 2016- Feb. 2017 Monsignor Doyle Catholic Secondary School
LTO- Grade 10 History and Grade 12 Law
Jan. 2016- Nov. 2017 Waterloo Catholic District School Board
Occasional Teacher
Sept. 2014-Apr. 2016 Brock University – St. Catharines, ON
Teaching Assistant – EDUC 1F95

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

Sept. 2018- Present Unit Recording Secretary
Sept. 2018- Present Building's Committee Secretary
Sept. 2017- Jun. 2018 Resurrection C.S.S Staff Representative
Sept. 2017- Nov. 2017 Occasional Secretary

Volunteer Experience

Sept. 2015- Sept. 2017 Faculty of Education Graduate Student Society
Vice- President (Administration and Development)

Reason for Seeking this Position:

I have absolutely loved the time that I have spent at OECTA and I believe that I have not given enough back to this great union. I want to get more involved with the procedures and legislation connected to the OECTA. As such, I am running for the OECTA Unit Recording Secretary. I believe that my experience as a Unit Recording Secretary, Secondary Staff Representative, Building's Committee Secretary, and Occasional Secretary will allow me to collaborate with other OECTA members to work towards improving the experience of both teachers and students at the WCDSB. I have had the opportunity to be part of the Unit Executive and realize the importance of next year especially with the new collective agreement. As the Unit Recording Secretary, I believe that I can ensure that all members are well informed of the decisions made by the Unit Executives and CAR. I believe that I have the experience and enthusiasm needed to help improve the overall experience of teachers employed by the WCDSB. My philosophy is to always move forward and improve myself as a learner, teacher, and person. I believe my aspirations make me the perfect candidate for the Recording Unit Secretary position. As a former staff representative for Resurrection and a current permanent elementary teacher, I believe that I understand the needs for both panels and will work diligently to ensure that each panel moves forward in solidarity.

Treasurer (2 year term)

Candidate: Mark Devlin

Position Sought: Treasurer

Teaching Panel: Secondary

Teaching Experience

1999 - Present St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, WCDSB, Grades 9-12 Business, Economics and Careers
1991-1999 Resurrection Catholic Secondary School, WCDSB, Grades 9-12 Business, History and Religion

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

2017-2020 Unit Treasurer
2015-2020 Recognition Committee
2008-2020 Political Action Committee
2008-2020 School Association Representative
2015-2017 Secondary Assistant CEO
2009-2017 Secondary Councillor
2014-2016 Secondary Negotiating Committee

Provincial OECTA Experience

2013-2015/2017/2018 Leadership Training Program
2016-2017 Chair – Secondary Schools Committee
2015-2016 Secondary Schools Committee Member
1998-2020 Provincial AGM Delegate

Other Experience

2002-2020 Business Club Supervisor
2015/2017 Participant – Toronto Global Economic Forum
2005-2008 Workshop Leader – Investing Basics – Ontario Securities Commission

Computer Studies Specialist
Religion Specialist

Reason for Seeking this Position:

As your Treasurer and as a member of the Executive for the past few years I have paid special attention to your Unit's financial affairs. I feel quite strongly that it is important that we constantly seek ways to give our members value for their money. The maintenance of our Unit and in particular the ongoing management of our spending needs to be a priority. I am proud of the fact that our finances are now in the soundest condition in our Unit's history. We now do not have any ongoing debt including no longer having a mortgage. We are consistently a yearly budget with a surplus. I believe my background and experience will aid me in completing my responsibilities as Treasurer for our Unit.

Assistant to Elementary Vice President



Candidate: Heather Poje-Fascinato

Position Sought: Elementary Assistant Vice President

Panel: Elementary

Qualifications

2012 PQP Part 1
2003 Intermediate Qualifications, York University
2002 Special Education, Specialist
2000 Religious Education, Specialist

Education:

1988-1990 Mohawk College, 1988-1990
1997 Bachelor of Education, Brock University
1996 Bachelor of Arts, Wilfrid Laurier University / Dalhousie University

Teaching Experience:

2017-Present St. Gabriel, Health/Arts/Physical Education teacher
2016-2017 St. Agatha/St. Nicholas, Early Years to Grade ¾
2013-2015 St. Micheal, Grades 2 and 4, Classroom teacher
2011-2013 St. Anne (K), St. Anne (C), St. Ambrose, Holy Spirit, Our Lady of Fatima, St. Daniel, and St. Luke, Grades 1-3 (Itinerant teacher)
2001-2011 St. Lukes, Grades, 2, 4, 7 and 8, Classroom teacher
1998-2000 Monsignor Gleason, Grade 7 and 8, Classroom teacher
1998-2001 St. Daniel, Special Education teacher
1997-1998 Daily Occasional Teacher, WCDSB

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience

2010-2015, 2019-Present OECTA Waterloo Elementary Bargaining Unit, Assistant Vice President, Elementary
2020 PSIC Member and Strike Site Co-Coordinator (Elmira location)
2020 Elementary Collective Bargaining Committee/ Team
2012-Present Elementary Counsellor
2006-Present Provincial AGM Delegate
2015-Present Beginning Teachers Committer (UE liaison)
2014-Present Finance Committee
2014-Present Political Advisory Committee
2014-Present Recognition Committee
2016-Present Social Committee
2009-2018 Health and Safety Committee
2010-2018 Status of Women's Committee
2017-2018 Elementary Vice President
July 2015-Nov. 2016 Chief Negotiating Officer, Elementary
2015-2016 Grievance Officer, Elementary

2014-2015	Chair of Status of Women's Committee
2011-2013	Elementary Collective Bargaining Committee/Team
2006-2011	Council of Association Representative (Staff Rep)

Provincial OECTA Experience:

Chair of the Teacher Education Network – Wilfrid Laurier Faculty of Education
 OECTA Waterloo Liaison – Ontario Teachers' Federation – 2 year term
 2015-Present OECTA Waterloo Teacher Education Network representative
 2015-2016 OECTA Council of Presidents
 2018-2019 OECTA Leadership Specialist Training – Member Engagement
 2010-2011 OECTA Leadership Specialist Training - Collective Bargaining
 2010-2011 OECTA Leadership Specialist Training - Conflict Management
 2009-2010 OECTA Leadership Foundational Training Program (Graduate)
 Health and Safety Certification Part One and Two, specialist in Ergonomics

Other Awards and Experience:

OECTA Provincial, 2018 FemPower Leadership Conference
 OECTA Waterloo, 2016 Exemplary Service Award
 Dwyer and Sheila Sullivan Award (first female recipient)
 Staff Recognition Award (Monsignor Gleason)
 Pastoral Team Member (Board Level)
 Equity Advisory Committee, (Board Level)
 Conestoga College, Course Instructor, Educational Assistant Program
 Combined Grades Committee, Catholic Curriculum Consortium / W.C.D.S.B.

Reasoning for Seeking this Position:

As Assistant CEO Elementary and past Vice-President Elementary I bring a significant amount of experience and knowledge to the Labour Management table. With my strong advocacy skills and dedication to creating positive change within the workplace I will ensure elementary teachers' voices are heard. These are challenging times for our Local Bargaining Unit; we require a thoughtful, balanced approach as we work to bridge the gap between teachers and administration. In seeking the position of Elementary Assistant to the Vice President, I hope to represent my elementary colleagues and use my hard-earned skills and energy to continue to be your advocate. You may count on me to support our current release officers in all matters of concerns pertaining to Unit business – such as collective bargaining, member engagement, and political activism. And, you may count on me to vigorously oppose any move to undermine our bargaining position or adversely impact our work environment. OECTA members, now is the time to place your faith in committed individuals such as myself, to lead the charge and fight for your rights. I thank you in advance for your support. Remember, you are OECTA and I continue to be honoured and proud to serve you!

Elementary Councillor (2 positions)



Candidate: Amy Brillinger Tuka

Position Sought: Elementary Councillor

Teaching Experience:

2019-2020	St Anne (K): Kindergarten
2018/2019	Exchange Teacher to Parramatta Public School, Parramatta, Sydney NSW Australia – Year 1 – team teaching terms 3&4, then terms 1&2
2007/2018	St. Anne(K): Kindergarten, Gr 1, Gr 6
2005/07	Notre Dame: Gr 2/3
2004/05	St. Luke: FDK, Planning
2004	St. Peter: Gr 4 (LTO)

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

2019-2020	Presently: Elementary Bargaining Unit Councillor
2019-2020	Presently: EBU Negotiations Committee Member, Strike Site Coordinator (Amy Fee's Office location), Recognition Committee member/UE liaison, Health and Safety Committee Member, Finance Committee Member, JHSC Alternate Elementary Worker Representative (board level), Frequent Chair of Council of Association Representative Meetings.
2014-2018	Unit Executive Recording Secretary
2016/15, 15/14	E.B.U. Negotiations Table Team member
2011-present	E.B.U. Negotiations Committee member
2017/16	Structures Committee UE liaison
2017/16, 16/15	Finance Committee member/UE liaison
2017/16, 16/15, 15/14, 14/13, 12/11, 11/10, 10/09	Provincial AGM Delegate

2005-2018	Health and Safety Committee member/chair/recording secretary/UE liaison
2014/13	E.B.U. Recording Secretary
2005-2011	JHSC Worker Representative and Chair
2011-2018	JHSC Alternative Worker Representative

Provincial OECTA Experience:

2019-2020	Presently: OECTA Provincial Member Engagement Committee
2018/17, 17/16	OECTA Provincial Health and Safety Committee member
2018	OECTA Specialized Leadership Training – Contract Bargaining and Negotiations certificate completed.
2016	Leadership Training Foundations Conference (Mar/Apr, May)- Foundations Certificate Completed
2016, '15, '14, '13, '12, '11, '10	Provincial Regional Health and Safety Conferences

Other Experience:

2018-2019	NSW Teachers Federation member (attended meetings as school representative and conferences/dinners on Federation activism in New South Wales, Australia. Chaired Parramatta Public School Federation meetings and acted as Elections Officer for 2019 school representative elections.)
2011	Full Day Kindergarten Conference
2009	Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference
2008	New Association Representative Training
2005, 2007	Provincial Health and Safety Conferences (2 day)
2005	Beginning Teacher's Conference

Reason for Seeking this Position:

Representing all teachers for the betterment of education is a passion I have always had and continue to dedicate time and energy towards. This past year we have all fought for the education system that is one of the best in the world. I am proud of my contribution, but prouder of all the members of Waterloo OECTA. After working as an exchange teacher in Sydney Australia and witnessing how the working conditions for teachers affects the learning of students, I know there is no better place to work or people to work with than right here. I believe I have the experience, knowledge, drive and energy to represent Elementary Teachers through the next year. Sitting at the Negotiations table and taking the leadership course on this topic has prepared me to represent the teachers of Waterloo and to continue to work to ensure the best education system in the world remains at the top. I have a lot to offer and will work alongside the intelligent, dedicated and professional teachers who also make up the committees and executives of Waterloo OECTA. Please consider supporting me as I do my best to represent Waterloo's Elementary Teachers.



Candidate: Dorothea Kruger

Position Sought: Elementary Councillor

Teaching Panel: Elementary

Qualifications

Higher Diploma of Education	1988 Durban Teacher's College of South Africa
ABQ Primary	2006 Queens University
AQ Kindergarten 1	2012 Queens University
AQ Special Education 1	2013 Queens University
AQ Primary Math 1	2014 OECTA
AQ Reading 1	2015 Queens University
AQ Reading 2	2016 Queens University
AQ Religion 1	2017 Queens University
AQ Reading Specialist	2017 Queens University
AQ Special Education 2	2018 Queens University
AQ Special Education Specialist	2018 Queens University

Teaching Experience

1989- 2001	Department of Education, Junior Division, South Africa
2002 -2008	Uncertified Supply Teacher WRDSB
2009-2015	DOS and LTO Teacher WCDSB (St. Elizabeth, St. Michael, St. Gregory, St. Brigid, Holy Spirit)
2016-current	Permanent Elementary Teacher St. Gregory Grade 4 Permanent Elementary Teacher St. Michael Grade 2/ 3

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience.

- Member OECTA Waterloo Legislation Committee 2012-2018
- Beginner Teacher Conference 2013

- Conference for the Common Good 2013
- AGM 2014-2019
- FemPower 2019
- Member Unit Executive 2013-2019
- Member Unit Executive 2017-2019 Elementary Assistant CEO
- Member Association Reps 2014/2015- St. Brigid Staff Rep and Occasional Staff Rep
- Member and Liaison Human Rights Committee 2013-2018
- Member and Liaison Recognition Committee 2016-2018
- Member and Liaison Health and Safety Committee 2017-2019
- Member of Finance Committee 2017-2018
- Member of Strike Committee 2015
- Certified Member of WCDSB Joint Health and Safety Committee representing Elementary Teachers
- Health and Safety Training in: Appeals, Critical Incident, PTSD, Workplace Violence, Harassment And Occupational Diseases in the Workplace
- Provincial Training: Mental Health, Workplace Violence and Parliamentary Procedures

Reason for Seeking this Position:

As Elementary Councillor I will continue to be the vocal and constant voice of the Elementary Teachers and advocate tirelessly for the right of teachers to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect when using their professional judgement.

In these changing and challenging times, I will continue to communicate with and listen to our Elementary members so that I can confidently voice my opinion on their needs, wants and concerns as expressed to me.

I will continue my active and vocal involvement as a sitting member of the Unit Executive where I have never hesitated to ask for clarification, address delicate issues or passionately advocate for all teachers in various stages in their teaching career.

I will continue to support our very successful and unique model of a combined unit where all teachers and teaching assignments are equal, fairly represented and where we are proud to say we are Waterloo Catholic Teachers.

As a very active, well trained and certified worker member of the Board Joint Health and Safety Committee, I consistently strongly voice my opinion related to the rights of the worker. I strongly advocate the right to have competent supervisors who value their workers as their biggest asset. I continue to build firm relationships with other affiliates and I have connected with local Ministry of Labour inspectors with the goal to enforce a safe, non-violent and harassment free workplaces for all workers.

As a passionate and active member of our Unit, I believe that representing our Elementary Teachers is a privilege that needs to be taken seriously and requires dedication and a time commitment that I will continue giving wholeheartedly.

Elementary Secretary

Candidate: Marilym Lajeunesse

Position Sought: Elementary Secretary

Teaching Panel: Elementary

Teaching Experience:

Sept 2018 -Present	Planning Time teacher (St Nicholas, Sir Edgar Bauer)
Sept 2011-2018 St Anne K)	Itinerant Health Planning teacher (St John, St Teresa K, Christ the King, St Daniel, Holy Rosary, St Bernadette,
Sept 2004-2011	Intermediate Teacher (Monsignor Gleason, St John)

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

Present	Elementary Secretary
2018 – 2019	Elementary Unit Executive
2004 – Present	School Staff Rep (Monsignor Gleason, St John, Christ the King, St Daniel, Itinerant Rep)
2019 – Present	Social Committee member
2019 – Present	EBU negotiating member
2017 – Present	Status of Women committee member
2019 – 2020	Strike Site coordinator (Kitchener and Elmira)

Reasoning for Seeking this Position:

I have been involved in various facets of OECTA for much of my teaching career. In this role, I have used my interpersonal skills to effectively communicate with members. I strive to ensure that elementary members that I represent are well informed. I would like to continue in this role for the 2020 school year.

Assistant to Occasional Vice President

NO DECLARED CANDIDATE CURRENTLY

Occasional Councillor (2 positions)

Candidate: Carol Knight

Position Sought: Occasional Councillor

Teaching Panel: Occasional Teacher Elementary

Teaching Experience:

1988-Present	JK-6, Planning Time
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Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

2020	Provincial AGM delegate
2019-2020	Occasional Staff Representative
2020	Participated in International Women's Day representing Waterloo OECTA Occasional Teachers
2019-2020	Occasional Councillor
2018-2019	Staff Representative of the Year Award Winner
2017-2019	St. Michael Staff Representative

Reasoning for Seeking this Position

As a retired teacher, I have the experience and the time to serve as a representative for occasional teachers. I also have worked in many schools as an OT and have a unique understanding of the challenges they face. I also have a good understanding of the needs and contributions of our retired teachers. With the many challenges that this year has brought I'm hoping to have a full year next year to continue my work as an OT and an OT Councillor.

Candidate: John Kearns

Position Sought: Occasional Councillor

Teaching Panel: Occasional Teacher Elementary

Teaching Experience:

2006- Present	Supply Teacher, WCDSB
1975-2006	Elementary Panel, WCDSB

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience

Present	Waterloo OECTA OT and Political Advisory Committees
2015-2019	Assistant VPOT/ Waterloo OECTA
2010-2013	VPOT/ Waterloo OECTA
1975-2006	Multiple local Waterloo OECTA Committees
1975-2006	Staff Rep 5 elementary schools

Provincial OECTA Experience

2002-2003	Provincial OECTA Political Advisory Comm.
2000-2002	Provincial OECTA Political Advisory Comm.

Other experience: As VPOT/Waterloo OECTA (2010-2013), was involved as OT OECTA rep. in seven teacher debriefings for interview candidates with WCDSB.

Reasoning for Seeking this Position

My teaching experience, OECTA involvement experience (both locally/provincially), and my 8 years of service to our Waterloo OECTA. OT's as an OT officer garnering Labour Management meeting experience with our board position me as being knowledgeable and up to speed on key issues presently facing our Waterloo OECTA OT's. My passion for OT issues is the impetus for my pursuit of this position in order to continue to serve our hard-working OT's.

Occasional Secretary

NO DECLARED CANDIDATE CURRENTLY

Vice President Secondary (2 year term)



Candidate: Joanne Levato

Position Sought: Vice President Secondary

Teaching Panel: Secondary

Qualifications

2005	Religion Part 1, Western University
2003	Guidance Part 2, Western University
1998	Intermediate Division Qualifications: Mathematics, Western University
1994	Guidance Part 1, Western University
1994	Senior Division Qualification: Individual and Society, Western University
1993	Basic Qualifications, P/J, Brock University
1993	Special Education Part 1, Western University

Education

1997 Master of Education, Brock University
1993 Bachelor of Education, Brock University
1992 Bachelor of Arts-Child Studies, Brock University

Teaching Experience:

2014-Present Teacher/Guidance Counsellor, Young Adult Program, WCDSB
2007-2014 Guidance Program Head/Counsellor, St. Mary Secondary School, WCDSB
2006-2007 Transition Teacher
2004-2006 School Improvement Department Head, St. Benedict Secondary School, WCDSB
1999-2004 Guidance Counsellor, St. Benedict Secondary School, WCDSB
1998-1999 Grade 7/8 Teacher, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, WCDSB
1997-1998 JK/SK Teacher, Sir Edgar Bauer/St Michael Catholic Elementary School, WCDSB
1995-1996 Grade ½, St. Matthew Catholic Elementary School, WCDSB
1993-1994 Grade 7/8, St. Boniface Catholic Secondary School, WCDSB
1992 Teacher, Resurrection Catholic Secondary School, WCDSB

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

2019-Present Council of Association Rep for Section 23 Schools

Professional Learning

Peer Mediation Training
Mentor for the New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP)
Certificate in De-Escalation Strategies
Completed SafeTalk workshop for Suicide Alertness
Certificate in Prevention & Management of Aggressive Behaviour
Suicidal or Self-Harming Assessment Training
Code White Training
Certificate in Workplace Bullying
Certificate in Conflict Management

Committee Member/ Liason with WCDSB:

System Pathways, Transition Planning, SHSM, Program Council, ESL, Student Success, Literacy and Numeracy, WRDSB Chief Social Worker, Drug Addiction Counsellor from Ray of Hope, Graduation, Grade 9 parent Nights, and Compassionate Care Team

Reason for Seeking this Position

I have been a proud member of OECTA for over 25 years. I have taught in a variety of settings including Elementary, Secondary, Board level, Guidance, and Section 23 Schools. It was in the role of Guidance, that I found my passion as both a Program Head and Counsellor for over 15 years. I believe that my experience in these roles has given me the skills necessary to be successful in the Vice President Secondary OECTA position. Working closely with students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community members for most of my career has given me excellent skills in communication, facilitation and organization. I have developed strength in problem-solving, mediation and conflict resolution. I have the ability to learn new information quickly and interpret it accurately. I enjoy the challenges of learning new skills and implementing new ideas. As a result of these strengths and skills, I believe that I can be a strong advocate for all secondary teachers. My soul purpose would be to ensure that teachers have the best possible work conditions, fair treatment and support where they can thrive both personally and professionally. My mission to pursue fair treatment for teachers is a responsibility that I will take seriously so that all stakeholders in our education system have a positive experience. My background in the mental health/counselling settings has given me the tools necessary to assist teachers in overcoming stress and adversity while gaining the ability to learn and grow from these challenges. I care about your interests and your voice and will strive to help everyone in the best way I can



Candidate: David Geraghty

Position Sought: Vice President Secondary

Teaching Panel: Secondary

Education

2003 Master of Business Administration, Wilfrid Laurier University, Finance/Administration
2001 Master of Theological Studies Program, St. Peter's Seminary, London
1999 Bachelor of Education, University of Western, London, ON
1996 Bachelor of Arts, University of Western, London, ON

Additional Qualifications

December 2016 Co-operative Education, Part 1
May 2010 Guidance and Career Education, Part 1
February 2001 Religious Education, Part 2 (Equiv)
February 2001 Religious Education, Part 1 (Equiv)

Teaching Experience

2005-Present St Mary Catholic Secondary School, Mathematics Teacher, Religious Education, Alternative Education
2003-2005 Monsignor Doyle Catholic Secondary School, Mathematics Teacher
2001-2002 St. Agatha, Grade 7/8

2000-2001 Daily Occasional, WCDSB

Waterloo OECTA Unit Experience:

2020 Strike Captain (St. Mary Catholic Secondary School)
2007-2014 OECTA School Representative (St. Mary Catholic Secondary School)
2007 Recognition Committee, Professional Development Committee
2007 Collective Bargaining Committee
2006-2007 Beginning Teacher Committee

Provincial OECTA Experience

Waterloo Provincial AGM Delegate (6 years)

Other Experiences

2019 Multicultural Club Supervisor, St. Mary
2016-Present Junior Boys Soccer Coach, St. Mary
2014 St. John's Soup Kitchen, Volunteer
2008-2014 Senior Boys Soccer Coach, St. Mary
2009 WCDSB Multicultural Curriculum Project Writer
2004 Fanshawe College Instructor – Human Resource Management Program
2000 Holy See Mission to the United Nations, Junior Attaché, New York

Reason for Seeking this Position

Education is one of the most powerful tools for building a healthy society. To achieve true education, OECTA Waterloo stands shoulder to shoulder with teachers in constructing solid educational partnerships that are built on openness and integrity. I've seen educators, both young and old, speak bold truth tempered by empathy and I believe this is the conversation model for change. So how may I serve you? Having served our community as a school staff representative, provincial AGM delegate, seasoned teacher of varied disciplines, coach, as well as a father and husband, I bring many relevant gifts and talents to the table namely, clear and transparent communication, competence, reliability, and openness. With your support I will, as VP Secondary, endeavour to communicate clearly the purpose of OECTA as well as the services you deserve. Additionally, I will provide prompt, fact-based responses to your inquiries, relevant professional resources to support your teaching practice, and personal visits to your workplace that invite open conversation. It has become clear to me over my many years as an educator that I have plenty to learn. Through conversations with you, I am eager to learn your needs and to match best practices for protecting your rights and interests.

Assistant to Secondary Vice President

NO DECLARED CANDIDATE CURRENTLY

Secondary Councillor (2 positions)

NO DECLARED CANDIDATE CURRENTLY

Secondary Secretary

NO DECLARED CANDIDATE CURRENTLY