### **New contract gives teachers** an extra PD day in April

As a result of the negotiated terms of settlement between the Ministry of Education and Ontario teachers that took place during the bargaining process last year, every school board in Ontario is now required to provide an additional Professional Activity (PA) Day each school year.

The Ministry of Education has asked school boards to provide the additional PA Day, beginning this school year (2015-16).

Halton Catholic District School Board, in consultation with the Halton District School Board, stated in press release that this extra PA Day will be provided this school year across Halton schools on Friday, April 8.

"We are communicating this additional PA

Day well in advance so that parents have ample time to make the appropriate arrangements for their families," said Colin McGillicuddy, Superintendent of Education. "The specific topics for the additional PA Day, identified by the Ministry of Education will ensure that staff and programs are in place to support student achievement and well-being."

The 2015-2016 School Year Calendar consists of 188 instructional days, of which 10 days (five per semester) are classified as secondary school examination days.

Beginning this year and moving forward, the Ministry of Education has mandated that seven Professional Activity Days are included on the calendar throughout the year.

#### HDSB has tentative local agreement with office, clerical and technical staff

Halton District School Board announced last week that a tentative local agreement has been reached with OCTU-OSSTF District 20 Halton, which represents more than 300 Halton office, clerical and technical staff.

The tentative deal must be ratified by

both the OCTU (Office Clerical and Technical Unit) Halton local members and the Halton District School Board.

Terms of the tentative agreement remain confidential until the ratification process is completed.



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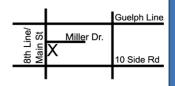
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