Memorandum To: Directors of Education

From: George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

Date: September 23, 2014

Subject: Honoraria for District School Board Members

Further to Minister Sandals’ letter to trustees on September 23, 2014, I am writing to provide you with information about amendments to O. Reg. 357/06 – *Honoraria for Board Members*. As you know, restrictions on increases to trustee honoraria have been in place since March 2010.

The amending regulation (O. Reg. 190/14), which was filed on September 23, 2014, establishes the base amount limit of honoraria that the board may pay for the 2014-18 term of office at $5,900. It also changes the calculation of future increases to the base amount limit which depends on the Ontario Consumer Price Index. These changes are discussed in greater detail below.

As boards are required to set their honoraria policy by October 15, I will take this opportunity to review the allowable payments under each component of honoraria for the 2014-2018 term of office.

*Base amount*

The board may set an amount that does not exceed $5,900 for a trustee for each year of the term of office. To this amount, the board may add up to $5,000 for the chair and up to $2,500 for the vice-chair.

For clarity, adjustments to the base amount limit for future terms will be limited to the increase in the Ontario Consumer Price Index from the previous term of office.
Enrolment amount

The enrolment amount limit is recalculated annually. The limit for each year of office is tied to the estimate of the board’s day school average daily enrolment (ADE) for the previous year. For example, the 2014-15 enrolment amount would be based on the board’s day school estimate for the 2013-14 school year that was reported in June 2013. The formula for calculating the enrolment amount limit is found in section 6 of O. Reg. 357/06.

Attendance amount

The board may pay up to $50 for attendance at a meeting of a committee of the board that is required to be established by an act or regulation. Boards may not pay an attendance amount for attending other meetings. There are currently four committees that require membership of one or more trustees under the Education Act: Audit Committee, Parent Involvement Committee, Supervised Alternative Learning Committee and Special Education Advisory Committee.

Distance amount

For boards and trustees who meet the criteria in section 8 (2) of O. Reg. 357/06, there is a limit of $50 that may be paid for attending a meeting of the board or of a committee of the board that is required to be established by an act or regulation. The board must have a board area greater than 9,000 km² or a dispersal factor greater than 25 as set out in O. Reg. 412/00. The board member must reside more than 200 km from the meeting location and the member can only receive the distance amount once in respect of any single day.

The amending regulation is attached and the revised version of O. Reg. 357/06 will be available shortly on the E-Laws website: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.

Should you have any questions regarding the changes to O. Reg. 357/06, please contact Bruce Drewett at 416-325-1079 or Bruce.Drewett@ontario.ca

Sincerely,

George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

Attachments:
O. Reg. 190/14 (the amending regulation)
Minister Sandals’ September 23, 2014 letter to trustees

c: Executive Directors of School Board Associations
Superintendents of Business and Finance