

IF IT TAKES A VILLAGE ...

After recently attending a day long symposium concerning the issue of Teacher Induction Practices - *the support of the first 5 years of teaching* - co-sponsored by Alberta's universities, the Department of Education, the Alberta Teachers' Association, and the Council of Alberta School Superintendents, I am concerned by the grim statistics presented related to teacher retention. Fully 30 percent of some of our best and brightest teachers, new to the profession, leave it within the first 6 years. It has become increasingly apparent to the aforementioned stakeholders that a great deal more work must be done in this area. If it is true that it takes a village to raise a child, then it is also true that it takes a school staff, a school district and a provincial government to construct the necessary supports to retain a teacher. Please do your part to encourage, mentor and assist those teachers, in your school, in their first five years of teaching. *Shannon McElroy, President*

FAMILY FUN NIGHT - WEM WATER PARK - only \$5 a ticket!!!!

The Edmonton Public Local's Social Committee has extended an invitation for our members to join them at WEM's Waterpark on Friday, March 7, 2008 from 7:30 - 10:30pm. Tickets are \$5.00 per person (age 2 and under free). Normally these tickets cost \$20.00 each! We are including an order form to reprint in this week's mailing. Cheques are to be made payable to EDMONTON PUBLIC TEACHERS LOCAL 37 and sent to Local 54, Attention: Jan Bossmin, Room 402, Barnett House via IMC. Tickets will also be on sale at the December 11 Council meeting. If you have any questions, please phone the Local office (451-1196).

SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENT

Just a reminder to all teachers that Clause 2.6 of the Collective Agreement covers the expectations for substitute teacher assignments. Very simply it states that they will **normally** follow the schedule of the teacher who is absent. It also states that the schedule may be adjusted by the school administration if there were changes *that the absent teacher would normally have been assigned*. Please keep in mind that substitutes are our members and are covered by the same Agreement as you and this Agreement must not be violated. *Gerry McHugh, Executive Director*

PD BOOK SHARE

The 25 members of the Local's Book Share will be completing study of John C. Maxwell's *Today Matters* with a final wind up dinner meeting being held on Monday, Dec. 3. Watch for posters advertising the new book selection and registration date scheduled for January, 2008.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"Putting off an easy thing makes it hard.
Putting off a hard thing makes it impossible." ~ W.G.P.

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Please take the time to evaluate your needs as you report on your students' progress.  
Know you are appreciated by many each and every day.

**Included in this mailing:** Ticket order forms for EdPub's Family Fun Night at WEM Waterpark..please post and share

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## Meetings and Events

**Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2007**  
Substitute Mtg., 7pm,  
Room 502, Barnett House

**Monday, Dec. 3, 2007**  
Final PD Book Share, 4:30pm,  
Room 140, Barnett House

**Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007**  
Executive Mtg. #04, 4:30pm,  
Room 406, Barnett House

**Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2007**  
Council Mtg. #03, 6pm, Auditorium, Barnett House.  
Christmas Social to follow  
Council Meeting.  
**Please note: SANDWICHES  
WILL NOT BE SERVED  
BEFORE COUNCIL.**

**December 24 - January 4, 2008**

Christmas holidays!  
Local office will reopen at  
8:30am on Monday, January 7  
*Merry Christmas!*

## Local Email:

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S. McElroy, Local President  
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J. Bossmin, Office Manager  
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**Website:**  
[www.local54.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.local54.teachers.ab.ca)

## Council Dates:

Tuesday, Dec. 11/07-  
**CHRISTMAS CHEER!**  
Tuesday, January 22/08  
Tuesday, Feb. 26/08  
Tuesday, March 18/08  
Tuesday, April 22/08  
Tuesday, June 3/08