

Happy Thanksgiving wishes to you from everyone here at the Local office!

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY— Friday October 5, 2007

A recent news report evaluating the progress of the Canadian initiative in Afghanistan paid particular attention to the fact that there are now more than 6,000,000 children attending school in that war torn country. Part of the story noted the increasing number of girls attending; a trend that is truly remarkable in light of that country's history and culture. As we reflect on this story we should give thought to those teaching these children and the conditions they must endure. Friday is World Teachers' Day, a day proclaimed by United Nations in recognition of the contributions and achievements of teachers throughout the world. In Canada, our achievements are significant but pale in comparison to those of our colleagues in countries with far fewer resources and less stability. So on October 5, 2007 let us celebrate not only our many accomplishments but also those of our less privileged colleagues from around the world. We should be proud of their achievements as well as our own!

Shannon McElroy, President

NEW TEACHERS WELCOMING CEREMONY—7pm, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

The New Teachers Welcoming Ceremony has been scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2007, beginning at 7pm. This evening will provide an official welcome to graduates who are new to the profession and experienced teachers who are new to the province of Alberta. Invitations to all teachers hired to the District since January 8, 2007 are being sent out in this week's mailing.

MATERNITY LEAVE INFORMATION NIGHT—Wed., October 17, 2007

If you are expecting a baby, or planning to start a family soon, we invite you to register for our Local's Maternity Leave Information Night being held Wednesday, October 17, 2007 in Room 502 at Barnett House, beginning at 7:00pm. Topics covered during the evening will include: the Collective Agreement, Employment Insurance, health benefits and recent developments regarding Maternity Leaves. You and your spouse are most welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served. Please register with the Local office by calling 451-1196.

SPEAKERS NEEDED FOR GETCA SESSIONS

If you know of an interesting speaker for a session at the Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention (March 1 and 2), please contact Amber Nicholson, the Executive Liaison to GETCA: nicholsonam@ecsd.net. The areas in need of speakers are: CTS, food and fashion, science, div I and II and Early Childhood.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"An idea can turn to dust or magic,
depending on the talent that rubs against it." ~ WILLIAM BERNBACH

Meetings and Events

Friday, Oct. 5, 2007
WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

Draws for Specialist Council Conferences Subs and PD Grants in Aid. Successful applicants will be notified through IMC.

Monday, Oct. 8, 2007
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2007
Scholarship Committee Mtg.,
4:00pm, Room 402, Barnett House

Wed., Oct. 10, 2007
WARD 2 Forum for candidates for school board trustee positions. 7:30pm
Cardinal Leger Jr HS
6110-144 Ave

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2007
WARD 5 Forum for candidates for school board trustee positions. 7:30pm
Louis St. Laurent Jr and Sr HS
11230 - 43 Ave.

Website:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Council Dates:

Tuesday, Oct. 23/07
Tuesday, Dec. 11/07
Tuesday, January 22/08
Tuesday, Feb. 26/08
Tuesday, March 18/08
Tuesday, April 22/08
Tuesday, June 3/08