

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....

Hi everyone!

January 22 is an important ATA date for elections as all nomination forms must be completed by this date. Our District Representatives (Harold, Mary and Sherry) have provided critical and outstanding service to Edmonton teachers and thus the positions are ones that I encourage anyone who wants to serve teachers at the provincial level to consider. If you need information regarding the actual process of getting paper work together, please contact us here at the Local office (780-451-1196).

As we prepare ourselves collectively for our upcoming Faith Development Day, please keep in mind our theme for this year's event: *Walking Together; The Feet of Social Justice*. Take pride in the fact that our individual feet are "walking the talk" every day as we journey together in work and play. Taking care of each other and being mindful that we are in this great endeavour together, are simple ways of ensuring that justice prevails in our classrooms and staffrooms. You, the teachers of this Local, are gifts to the children and parents of Edmonton. Keep up the wonderful work and stay warm!

~Sandy

ARE YOU AN AVID FACEBOOK USER?

The topic of Internet use always lends itself to much discussion. If you regularly use email or Facebook, I would advise you that before you post something on a wall or press "Send", you should re-read your email messages and Facebook entries and decide if they are appropriate for the world to see. This includes your family, your church, your employer and your students. It might also be worthwhile to review the District's policy 129 on acceptable use of ECSDNet.

~Kathy Maclsaac, Executive Director

OUR CONDOLENCES

Please keep Harold Neth (District Representative, Edmonton City) and his family in your prayers. Harold's father, Steve, passed away on Thursday, January 8, 2009 in Provost, Alberta.

NOTE TO CSRs:

A vote will be taken at the January 20 Council Meeting of School Representatives on a possible earlier start time for future Council meetings. Please be advised that if you vote for a 5pm start time, the set up for Council **will not** include tables. The auditorium will be set up "theatre style" with chairs only. If you want to continue having tables (classroom style), the start time for Council will have to remain at 6pm.

BUS PASSES FOR CONVENTION

Two day bus passes for use during teachers' convention (Feb. 26/27) will be available at both the January 20 and February 24 Council meetings at a cost of \$7.00 each. CASH ONLY. We ask the Council reps to purchase passes needed by their staff members. Substitutes may purchase passes at the Local office after January 20, 2009.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.

~Maya Angelou, American author and performer

Meetings and Events

Monday, Jan. 19, 2009

Pre Retirement Workshop-
PART 2, 5:30- 8:30pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Dinner is available at 5:30pm.

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009

Council Mtg. #04, 6pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Sandwiches available at
5:15pm.

Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009

Substitute Mtg. #3, 7pm, St.
James School, 7814-83 St.
Limited to those substitutes
who participated in the De-
cember 2 SMART Board
presentation. This is Part 2
of the session.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009

District Faith Development Day-
See you at the Shaw!

Website:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Kathy Maclsaac, Exec. Director
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Sandy Gillis, Local President
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Jan Bossmin, Office Manager
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Council Dates:

Tuesday, January 20/09

Tuesday, Feb. 24/09

Tuesday, March 17/09

Tuesday, April 21/09

Tuesday, June 2/09