

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to another year of surprises, new faces and the joy of connecting with students and staff. I hope the summer break refreshed the body and mind.

We begin this school year with renewed optimism for ourselves, our families and our students and because we "teach," we model this optimism for our students on a daily basis despite the economic and social turmoil facing the province and world. Within our faith context we are possibly the only voices of hope that our children will hear this year thus deepening our commitment to the valuable societal work that we do!

It is critical for all of us to take care of each other in our places of work. I realize that this is our practice, but it is necessary to have it said on occasion so that we are continually aware of our need for a strong and supportive community as we practice our craft.

Have a terrific 2009-2010.

Sandy, Amy, Patti, Wayne, Pina, Jonathan, Rob, Azza, Amber, Kyle, Kathy, and Jan

100 SUBSTITUTE DAYS - Local draw on Tuesday, September 30, 2009

The draw for the 100 sub days granted through the Collective Agreement 6.2(b) to attend ATA Specialist Council Conferences will take place on Tuesday, September 30. All recipients will be notified at the beginning of October. If you would like to enter your name for one of these substitute days, please fax your name, your email address, and the name of the specialist conference you will be attending to the Local office on your school's letterhead to the Local (780-454-1250). Please indicate the day you will require the substitute. For detailed information about each conference, please visit the ATA's website: www.teachers.ab.ca

LOCAL PD GRANT APPLICATIONS-Draw taking place on Sept. 30/09

PD Grant Applications (white-1 per teacher) are enclosed in this week's mailing. The Local allots \$20,000.00 for PD Grants per year. A draw for the Grants-In-Aid will take place on Tuesday, September 30. All applicants will be notified of their status by the beginning of October. Please note: you are only eligible for the Local Grant-In-Aid once every two years.

CALLING ALL TEACHERS NEW TO THE PROFESSION!

The annual Beginning Teachers' Conference. The conference will be held at the Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Sept. 24 (eve) - 26, 2009. **Registration is limited**, so please apply early to avoid disappointment. There is NO registration fee. Posters and information packages were sent to schools in an earlier mailing from the Association. For detailed information and registration forms, please visit the ATA website: www.teachers.ab.ca (see Resources For...Beginning Teachers' Conference).

BEGINNING TEACHERS' CONFERENCE GARAGE SALE

Share your collective resources and experience with our newest colleagues! Bring those teaching boxes that are taking over your basement to "The Beginning Teachers' Conference Garage Sale at the Fantasyland Hotel at WEM on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 2-4pm. Take this opportunity to sell your "gently used" teaching books/materials/posters at a reasonable cost to our first year teachers! Tables will be provided. You will be responsible for transporting your own materials and for monitoring your table. Please come out and support our first year teachers! For further information, please phone the Local office: 780-451-1196.

MEMBER DIARIES:

The Local has a limited number of ATA Member's Diaries available. If a staff member wishes a Member's Diary, please inform your Local Council Representative. Orders will be filled at the Sept. 15 Council Meeting.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"To acquire knowledge, one must study;
but to acquire wisdom, one must observe." ~ *Marilyn vos Savant*

Meetings and Events

Monday, Sept. 14, 2009

Executive Mtg. #1, 4:15pm,
Room 406, Barnett House

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009

Council Mtg. #01, 6pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Sandwiches available at
5:15pm

Sept. 24 (eve)-26, 2009

Beginning Teachers' Conf.
Fantasyland Hotel. Visit
www.teachers.ab.ca for info.

Monday, October 5, 2008

World Teacher Day

Monday, Oct. 5, 2008

Executive Mtg. #2, 4:15pm,
Room 406, Barnett House

Website:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director

kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

Sandy Gillis, Local President

sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca

Jan Bossmin, Office Manager

jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

Council Dates:

Tuesday, Sept. 15/09

Tuesday, Oct. 20/09

Tuesday, Dec. 15/09

Tuesday, January 19/10

Tuesday, Feb. 16/10

Tuesday, March 16/10

Tuesday, April 20/10

Tuesday, May 18/10