

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

New Teacher Mentorship "Meet and Greet" September 24 in the Boardroom at Barnett House at 4pm. All beginning teachers are welcome. RSVP to Jan: 451-1196.

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Tempus fugit! It amazing that we are nearing October already. My greetings begin with a huge thank you to all who attended Opening Mass and contributed so generously (\$7,331) to the collection for WIN House. Thank you as well to all who are members of Council this year as school representatives. There were a large number of new teachers at our first meeting of the year and the energy and enthusiasm in the room was most rewarding. Please take a moment to thank the person or persons on your staff who have volunteered for this responsible position on your behalf. This is going to be an incredible year for our Local thanks to your involvement!

While there are so many conversations in our staff rooms and offices about impending claw backs to education, cutbacks, and budget reviews, let us all be very mindful of each other and be particularly sensitive to our colleagues who are experiencing huge amounts of stress and worry. May I suggest that we put some of our "worry energy" into a phone call or letter to our MLAs letting them know that our children should not be made to suffer for decisions that are made far from the classrooms of this province.

We seem to be always living in "interesting" times but thank heaven we share a faith community that offers us a spiritual lens to view social justice matters with respect for the dignity of persons as central to all our decisions.

Continue to care deeply for each other. ~Sandy

**CALLING ALL BEGINNING TEACHERS!**

The annual Beginning Teachers' 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](http://www.teachers.ab.ca) (see Resources For...Beginning Teachers' Conference).

**BY-ELECTION FOR ECT LOCAL VICE PRESIDENT**

Nominations for the position of Vice President of the Local opened on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. Nomination forms are available from the Local office by phoning Kathy MacIsaac: 451-1196. Completed forms must be returned to the Local office by 4pm on Tuesday, September 29 along with an 8 1/2 x 11 campaign poster to be copied and sent to each school. Candidate speeches will be delivered at the Council of School Representatives meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 20. Voting will take place from Oct. 21-26 with ballots returned to the Local office by 4pm on Tuesday, Oct. 27. The ballot count will occur on Wed., Oct. 28. For more information, please contact Kathy.

**100 SUBSTITUTE DAYS - Local draw on Wednesday, 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 Wednesday, 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](http://www.teachers.ab.ca)

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

PD Grant Applications (white-I per teacher) were enclosed in last 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 Wednesday, 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.

**WORDS OF INSPIRATION**

"Being powerful is like being a lady.

If you have to tell people you are, you aren't." ~ MARGARET THATCHER

**Included in this mailing:** Applications for Educational Trust Award (Please post and share)  
AAWE Salary Update (lime green) one per teacher

**Meetings and Events**

**Thursday, Sept. 24, 2009**

New Teacher Mentorship Program Meet and Greet, 4:15pm, Boardroom, Barnett

**Sept. 24 (eve)-26, 2009**

Beginning Teachers' Conf. Fantasyland Hotel. Visit [www.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.teachers.ab.ca) for info.

**Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009**

Nominations close for Local by-election

**Monday, October 5, 2009**

World Teacher Day

**Monday, Oct. 5, 2009**

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

**Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009**

EPC Meeting, 4:30pm, Room TBA, Barnett House

**Website:**

[www.local54.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.local54.teachers.ab.ca)

**Kathy MacIsaac**, Exec. Director

[kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca](mailto:kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca)

**Sandy Gillis**, Local President

[sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca](mailto:sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca)

**Jan Bossmin**, Office Manager

[jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca](mailto:jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca)

**Council Dates:**

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