

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings everyone and my how time slips sway!

Here we are nearing Spring Break and enjoying the opportunity to say a special "thank you" to the substitute teachers who grace our classrooms. One of our key characteristics, hospitality, is highlighted every time a substitute is welcomed to our school. Let us all make sure that every guest teacher we receive in our buildings is indeed, welcomed and feels that they have an important role in the life of our schools.

This is not the easiest job in our District and so I offer the following as gentle reminders because we get so caught up in the busyness of the day. At the beginning of each year, we should make sure to update our profile so that any change of assignment is listed. Any new substitute will welcome knowing where to park, which entrance is open and at what time, how to get classroom keys, any special information regarding staffroom or classroom routines that will help the day go smoothly. Upon arrival, any of us in the building should take the time to give them a heads up on any special happenings throughout the day and check to make sure that all is well when the opportunity presents itself. In the staffrooms, please make sure to include them in table talk so that they do not feel like an observer.

In closing, I hope you are paying attention to this Intercom. There is an opportunity for little surprise...The first email I receive letting me know of the "typo" in my last Intercom message will receive a gift from me before Spring Break.

Take extra care of each other during this stressful time \$\$\$~Sandy

### RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Teachers! Are you planning to retire this year? If so, you might want to mark Thursday, May 27th on your calendars. The Catholic Teachers Local in conjunction with the Board of Trustees invite you to a Mass at St. Agnes Church followed by a reception at St. Basil's Cultural Centre. We hope you can join us to celebrate your many years of dedicated service to this wonderful profession.

### CONVENTION TRIVIA

Patti Liogier, Religious Education Services, is the winner of our most recent Local News contest. Her correct answer "Larry/Tomatoes" was the first to arrive in Kathy's email inbox. Enjoy your dinner on us, Patti

### MONEY AVAILABLE FOR S.P.I.C.E and BLUEPRINTS DELEGATES

Once again the Local office will sponsor delegates to attend SPICE (April 29-May 2) and BLUEPRINTS (May 4 -7) at The Delta Lodge, Kananaskis. Accommodation (double occupancy), conference registration, materials and meals will be covered. The cost of your substitute will be your responsibility. If you are interested in sponsorship from the Local, print your name, the conference you wish to attend and your email address on your school's letterhead and fax it in to the Local office (780-454-1250) by Monday, March 22. The draw will be made at noon on Monday, March 22. For more information visit: [www.acsta.ab.ca](http://www.acsta.ab.ca) or phone 484-6209.

### THANKS:

We wish to thank the two special guests who attended our Council meeting on Tuesday evening: Cory Schoffer, of the ATA's Member Services, whose presentation "Shhhh...It's Private!" focused on our responsibilities in the area of confidentiality and Laurie Pelkie, Assistant Superintendent, who addressed over an hour of thoughtful questions posed by teachers on such topics as: Catholicity and cutbacks in Religious Education Services, co-principals and administrative re-assignments, teacher displacement, potential loss of jobs, Special Ed funding, and school/program closures.

### Meetings and Events

#### Monday, March 22, 2010

Draw to be made at noon for Local sponsorship for S.P.I.C.E and BLUEPRINTS

#### SPRING BREAK & Easter

March 29-April 5

The Local office will be closed for Spring Break & Easter Holidays. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 8:30am.

#### Tuesday, April 6, 2010

Teacher Retirement Reception Committee Meeting, 4:15pm, Room 402, Barnett House

#### Monday, April 12, 2010

Executive Meeting #08, 4:30pm, Room 406, Barnett House

#### Thursday, April 15, 2010

PD Beginning Teachers Mentorship Program, 3:30-7:30pm, Auditorium, Barnett House

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### WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"Worry doesn't help tomorrow's troubles, but it does ruin today's happiness."

**ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE NEWS**  
**“Wayne’s World”**

What are Personal Leave Days? Collective Agreement—Article 6.2(e)

You are entitled to 2 days of leave per year at the cost of a substitute (currently \$203.00) regardless of whether a replacement is needed or not. The cost is deducted at the end of the following pay period. This allows you to be away from work for any reason, and still be covered by all of your employment benefits. It’s about flexibility when personal matters require you to be elsewhere -important family get-togethers, or perhaps even an extra day to take advantage of that great seat sale!

Personal leave days require no approval, but certainly the courtesy of letting principals or supervisors know ahead of time is appropriate. Use absence code lv.w.sub-CA (51) when booking your personal days.