

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

OMG! June is here and there is soooooo much to do. I have an idea. Take a deep breath and realize that we have the same sense of panic every year and no matter how much we fret about it, it all works out.

This week, a special gathering took place at the Mayfield Inn with lectures by Gwynne Dyer, Scott Murray and Mark Anielski. Approximately three hundred were in attendance for Tuesday night's presentation and I must say that our brains were highly stimulated as the topic of "what kind of Alberta do we envisage for 2030 and beyond?" was discussed. Naturally the environment, economy and industry were highlighted and I encourage you all to visit learningourway.ca for full details and the opportunity to voice your questions, concerns and ideas. What struck me most deeply about the evening was the talk by Anielski. He is an Edmontonian with a deep philosophical approach to life and the future. He said that even though we are faced with many catastrophic events and dire predictions for the future, the basis for our survival will depend on our ability to build and sustain community. He stressed the fact that we teachers know so well: we are spiritual beings who strive for happiness and happiness has the latin root of *well being of spirit*. This well being of spirit is heavily rooted in right relationship with each other and every day in our staffrooms and classrooms we do everything in our power to maintain this with each other.

As the giftedness that lies within each of us swirls around and lands in new communities for next year let us be mindful of the anxiety that comes with change and welcome our new colleagues into caring communities. Continue to care and keep planning for a few weeks of R and R. ~Sandy

CONGRATULATIONS, RETIREES!

Last Thursday evening, we celebrated the careers of 34 of our teachers retiring this year from Edmonton Catholic Schools. Mass was held at St Agnes Church, followed by dinner at St Basil's Cultural Centre. Many thanks to: our planning committee: Denis Gauthier (Chair), Sandra Esposito, Derek Hatch, Brett Mackey, Shannon McElroy, Sean McGuinness, Jo Rennie, David Warawa, Sandy Gillis, Kathy Maclsaac and Jan Bossmen and those who participated in the ministries at Mass: David Fiala, Jan Farthing, Sheron Jonzon, Claudette Collins-Carriere, Simone Doucette, Heather Jamieson, Beth Pecson, Angela Anderson, Trish Hobden, Ray McLellan and Caroline Walsh, who spoke on behalf of the retirees. The Local sincerely acknowledges its partnership with the Board of Trustees who share the costs of this event.

SCHOOL OPENING CELEBRATION

The School Opening Celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, August 31 at the Winspear Centre. We ask that staff gather for the welcoming at 8:30am so that the Mass can begin promptly at 9:00am. If you would like to volunteer to be an **usher**, please email Azza Ghali: Azza.Ghali@ecsd.net or Dan Alba: Daniel.Alba@ecsd.net. Anyone interested in joining the **choir** may contact Ray McLellan: Raymond.McLellan@ecsd.net. All rehearsals will take place on Monday, August 30, at the Winspear: Rehearsal for ushers -5pm; choir -6pm.

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR GRANT IN AID FOR REIMBURSEMENT?

To ensure your grant in aid for 2009-2010 is eligible for reimbursement from the Local, you must send your Grant In Aid form with proof of attendance from your approved conference, along with your expenses, **before Friday, June 11**. The financial year of the Local closes on June 30. Grants received after June 11 may not be processed. ~Kathy Maclsaac, Executive Director

COUNCIL MEETING #08 - June 8, 2010

Among the items on the agenda for our last Council meeting of the year will be the Local's budget for 2010/11, a presentation on teaching in Africa by Carol Bahry, as well as elections of next year's Executive members and committee chairs. Included with Intercom 29 and in today's mailing is a list of the duties and responsibilities of the Executive positions available, as well as a list of committees. If you are interested in an Executive position, or in chairing a committee, please contact: Kathy Maclsaac (780-451-1196).

NEW! Local Scholarships Now Available! For criteria and application forms please visit: www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

The deadline for applications is September 6, 2010.

Meetings and Events

Monday, June 7, 2010

Final Executive Meeting of the year! Executive will meet at 4:30pm, Room 406, Barnett House.

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Final Council Meeting of the year! Sandwiches will be available at 5:15pm. Meeting begins at 6pm. Elections for Executive Liaison and Committee Chairs to take place.

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Economic Policy Committee Mtg., 4:30pm, Room 402, Barnett House

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

Executive members' dinner with the Minister of Education, 5pm, Barnett House

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Local Executive will attend the Trustee Dinner at 4:30pm, Catholic Education Services Building

Included in this mailing:

1. Poster advertising the School Opening Mass on Tuesday, August 31, 2010 at the Winspear Centre -Please post & share
2. Info sheet re: Committees/Executive positions for June 8 Council elections (Ultra lemon-please post and share)
3. ARTA News & Views
4. Under separate cover to high school counselors: Local scholarship application forms

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"The only people you should try to get even with are those who have helped you."

~Author Unknown