

Edmonton Catholic Teachers
Local 54 of The Alberta Teachers' Association

THE INTERCOM

November 25, 2010

Issue No. 10

Local Ph.-780-451-1196

Local Fax-780-454-1250

BARGAINING SURVEYS STILL BEING ACCEPTED: The Local office will still accept your survey results. Please send to the Local office via IMC.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings all,

This past week at the Reimagining our Catholic Schools Conference in Jasper, the first keynote address by Ian Jukes was so indicative of the times we live in. His presentation was on technology and his presentation style was highly energetic and charged with all the recent and upcoming advances in technology. He was "machine gun"- like in spouting off what seemed like zillions of facts regarding the exponential increase in technological advances since 1979 with terms like "hybrid environment," the cloud, and medical applications that, when reflected upon, are only missing the adjective "miraculous." I asked him at the break why he presented in such a way and he told me that it was his way of capturing the feeling that educational folks experience in trying to stay current when every time we innovate, the next generation of everything is right around the corner! Laptops are out, I Pads are in and so the story goes. In listening to Ian, I was thinking that we need something to keep our eye on the prize and bring a sense of calm to our busy and hectic lives. This "INTERCOM" came to mind and I thought: "INTERCALM" and then "INNER CALM." Perhaps this weekly message could become that source for us teachers that we need reminders of what our real purpose is in this enterprise of Catholic education and that we need to project to our children our own inner calmness as a sign of a spirituality that comes from lives of prayer and reflection. One such reminder was from Bishop David when he asked us to view our schools as parishes and to look at our sites in light of nine indicators of health: Holiness, Prayer, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Word of God, Witness of Love, Diversity of Vocation, Christian Unity and the Gift of Young People. Simply saying these words can have a soothing effect. Along with this bitter cold and all the preparation that comes with reporting out to parents, be mindful of each other and find special ways to care for your neighbor.

Continue to care,

Sandy

Meetings & Events

Friday, Sat., Nov. 26-27

Fall Teacher Welfare Area Conference, (TWAC)
Ramada Hotel, Edmonton

Monday, Nov. 29, 2010

Scholarship Committee Mtg. 4pm, Barnett House, Room 120

Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2010

PD New Teacher Mentorship Inservice, 1-3pm, St. Peter Ed Centre, LSI

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010

Executive Mtg. #4, 5pm, Barnett House, Boardroom

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2010

Economic Policy Committee Mtg., 4:15pm, Barnett House, Room TBA

LOCAL PD - INTERVISITATION OPPORTUNITY

The Local's PD Committee is offering 200 Intervisitation Grant opportunities for members to observe colleagues in educational settings. The Local will cover the cost of a substitute teacher for one half day. If you are interested in this valuable professional development opportunity, please complete the form which was included with Intercom 8 and fax it to the Local office (780-454-1250). To save paper and ink we ask that only the grant be faxed (no cover page). Once your completed form is received, an email will be sent to you with your grant number. If you have any questions, please email jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca All assigned Intervisitation Grants must be used by Friday, June 10, 2011.

PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED!

Heather Johnson, pension consultant, will be presenting a two-part Pre-Retirement Workshop in January for interested teaching staff. The sessions will include dinner and will run from 6-9pm on Monday, January 24 (Part 1), and Monday, January 31 (Part 2). Both sessions will be offered in the auditorium at Barnett House. The workshops are free of charge, sponsored by the Local, and are limited to 75 participants. Email Jan to register: jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE!!-Deadline extended to Dec. 3rd

School reps have been asked to collect the personal email addresses of the teachers in their schools so that we are able to communicate with you regarding issues related to contract negotiations. If you provide your email address (not ecds.net), you will be eligible for one of many exciting prizes including a 42" plasma TV and WestJet travel certificates.

DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING-Mark your calendars!

Our Council meeting on December 14th begins at 6pm. Each rep is encouraged to bring a staff member to this annual event. A Christmas social will FOLLOW Council (sandwiches will not be available before the meeting). Local scholarships will be awarded; cheques will be presented to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and to the Spiritan Fathers in memory of Father Michael Troy, and draws will be made from all the personal emails submitted to the Local and prizes awarded.

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

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LIFE'S HANDBOOK OF WISDOM:

"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value."

~ Albert Einstein