

## THE INTERCOM

February 4, 2011

Issue No. 16

Local Ph.-780-451-1196

Local Fax-780-454-1250

### SPECIAL NOTICE

Your convention website is up and running!  
Visit [www.getca.com](http://www.getca.com) for session information. ID lanyards will be distributed by your school rep in late February.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings all

This week's faith development afforded us all the opportunity to gather as community to celebrate Eucharist and hear a common message from our guest speaker. Amidst the excitement of conversation, the re-connecting with friends and former staff members, there are always a few gems to take away as reminders of what we are really all about in this enterprise of Catholic education. Being reminded that the "Master Teacher" came to seek, be with, teach and save the outcasts of society is always unsettling as we gather in the comfort and beauty of our convention centre. I was particularly taken by the story of Jesus destroying a regional economy in order to heal one person and bring them back whole to the community! Another gem was the invitation to come back to our schools and find the "Evan" in everyone, especially the folks we don't necessarily like all that much-one way to test our resolve and commitment to our vocation of teaching. It is always good to be reminded of the dangers and the temptations that come with the power given to us by our station. One signal we need to be aware of is when we fail to have empathy and compassion for those around us. It is wise for us all, and especially those with supervisory roles, to have a critical friend who is willing to mentor us in our relational activities so that we stay on track in being just and gentle with each other.

Today (Wednesday) teams from all schools attended a session by David Edyburn. A specialist in assessment, he spoke about Universal Design for Learning and the paradigm shift needed as we dedicate ourselves to meeting the needs of kids in our classrooms today. I mention this because it was a perfect follow up to Jerry Goebel's talk yesterday. He spoke of the Justice issue in assessment of children and how meeting the needs of the 'lowest' in our class can have a powerful effect on all the kids and on us, too. He suggested working with the neediest child or the child experiencing the most failure and giving them the assistive tools they need to make the first steps to success. Look to the portal and the LSI page for great resources and very useful links.

With or without Punxsutawney Phil's shadow, we are guaranteed six weeks or more of this thing called winter.

Take care of each other, stay warm and be safe. ~Sandy

### Meetings & Events

#### Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Executive Mtg. #6, 5-7pm,  
Room 120, Barnett House

#### Wed., Feb. 9 & 16, 2011

Local Continuing Teacher PD  
2-part tech workshop "Google  
and Beyond!" -St. James School,  
4:30pm-Limited to 25.

#### Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011

Council Meeting #4-6pm,  
Auditorium, Barnett House.  
Rep from convention will be  
available for questions.

#### Wed., Feb. 16, 2011

Local Continuing Teacher PD  
2-part tech workshop "Google  
and Beyond!" -St. James School,  
4:30pm- Limited to 25.

#### Wed., Feb. 16, 2011

Maternity Leave  
Information Night, 7pm,  
Room 140, Barnett House

#### Monday, Feb. 21, 2011

Family Day Holiday-Local  
office closed.

### MATERNITY LEAVE INFORMATION NIGHT—Wednesday, February 16, 2011

If you are expecting a baby, or planning to start a family soon, we invite you and a guest to register for our Local's Maternity Leave Information Night being held Wed., February 16, 2011 at Barnett House beginning at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be served. Register by email: [jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca](mailto:jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca)

### SEARCH THE NET BETTER, FASTER: GOOGLE AND BEYOND! Limited to 25!

The Local's PD Committee, chaired by Marcel Evaristo (St. Alphonsus) has organized a two part tech session for you to learn about the exciting and surprising resources available through the ATA library website! The ATA librarian, Sandra Anderson will show you tips and tricks for getting exactly what you want out of Google. You'll see other search engines and learn why you may want to use them instead of Google. Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at St. James School at 4:30pm. Please register by email: [jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca](mailto:jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca) Refreshments will be served. Limited to 25.

### INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS WORKSHOPS-February 12 and 16

Limited spaces are available for these two workshops being offered by Host Program, Immigration and Settlement Service. Free of charge. Refreshments and lunch are provided. Registration deadline for the Feb.12 session is Feb. 7 and for the Feb. 26 session is Feb. 18. Certificates will be issued. To RSVP contact [biviana.velezperez@catholicsocialservices.ab.ca](mailto:biviana.velezperez@catholicsocialservices.ab.ca)

### ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO.....

#### 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FAITH, FITNESS & FUN WALK/RUN

Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>-10am at Rundle Park. Mark your calendars to participate in this special event. To register, to volunteer or for more information, call Lianne 780-496-1010 Ext. 2260 or visit: [events@caedm.ca](mailto:events@caedm.ca)

### WEBSITE:

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

Sandy Gillis, President  
[sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca](mailto:sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca)  
Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director  
[kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca](mailto:kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca)  
Jan Bossmmin, Office Manager  
[jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca](mailto:jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca)

### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Laughter is an  
instant vacation."

~Milton Berle