

THE INTERCOM

February 11, 2011
Issue No. 17
Local Ph.-780-451-1196
Local Fax-780-454-1250

SPECIAL NOTICE

Next Council Meeting of School
Representatives will be held on Tuesday,
February 15, 2011 starting at 6pm.
Sandwiches at 5:15pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings everyone

The second week of February! The shortest month brings some relief from bone chilling days of bus supervision, cancelled ski trips and outdoor recess! We began the month with our day last week as we gathered in faith. In two weeks we have a day off to celebrate the joys of family and then join thousands of peers in two days of professional development and the many opportunities to connect with folks we haven't seen for awhile at Teachers' Convention. We humans seem to be always looking ahead (the aisles in Rona and Home Depot have lawn seed displayed☺) but as teachers, the planning becomes urgent and drives everything we do. In the past couple of years we have been bombarded with information on how we have to adapt curriculum and teaching practices that keep pace with technology. Good luck with that! The upside is that it has always been an exciting time to be in education and the challenges while huge, can and will be overcome. Collectively we have to realize the limitations in this endeavour and simply keep our communities strong so that we can meet the challenges together and assist each other in every way possible. We do this by sharing freely the gifts we all bring to the table. It is up for us as admin to take care of our staffs and as staffs to take care of each other. As Valentine's Day and Random Acts of Kindness Week approaches, let's resolve that there will be nothing random about the way we show our affection for each other. Stay warm and check out the gardening sections!

Sandy

MASSES/FLOWERS

If a colleague has celebrated the birth of a child, has suffered illness or a death in the family, please email jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca so that the Local can send flowers or offer a Mass on your behalf.

MATERNITY LEAVE INFORMATION NIGHT—Wed., Feb. 16th

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, in Room 140. Register by email: jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

FEB 15th COUNCIL MEETING OF SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

We look forward to seeing all the council representatives at the February 15 Council Meeting. The informational binders with ATA and Local updates including the Collective Agreement, Constitution, Local Admin Guidelines and other data will be available for pick up at this meeting. As well, we are delighted that a rep from the Teachers' Convention Association will be available for Q & A.

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). 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.

YOUR LOCAL SUPPORTS TEACHER FAITH FORMATION AND GRADUATE COURSES!

Teachers! Are you taking courses in Catholic faith formation? Graduate studies or other post-secondary courses? The Local is pleased to announce that you may be eligible for a bursary in an amount up to \$1000 towards the cost of the course, conference, or seminar you are registered in. Please submit the application form on the back of Intercom #15 to the Local office by March 18th when a draw will be made for 12 bursaries. For more information, contact Kathy MacIsaac (780-451-1196).

Meetings & Events

Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011

Council Meeting #4: 6-8pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Rep from Convention will be
available for questions.

Wed., Feb. 16, 2011

Local Continuing Teacher PD
tech workshop Part 2 "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.

Monday, Feb. 28, 2011

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

March 3 & 4, 2011

Teachers' Convention

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Sandy Gillis, President

sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director

kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

Jan Bossmmin, Office Manager

jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Burn brightly
without burning
out."

~Richard Biggs