



SPECIAL EVENTS:

The New Teacher Induction will be hosted on
Thursday, October 20 at 7pm, at
Barnett House, 11010-142 Street.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Greetings everyone

Today we have a new Minister of Education, a new cabinet and perhaps the beginning of a new era for our province. Much talk has taken place over the past year about sustainable funding for education. My question about this is "What is the dollar amount that could be tagged to this statement"? I believe that the number can be identified and it will make the one hundred plus million that was taken away from the province's schools last year look like a drop in the bucket! Sustainable funding for us has to account for everything from the building and maintenance of our sites, utility costs, transportation, special needs funding, class size initiatives, technology, and the ever expanding list of things that schools take on in our quest for the best educational opportunities for our children.

As transformational talks continue around the province, we have a responsibility to let our leaders know that investment in education pays dividends down the road that will mean savings that are almost unimaginable. Children who are at risk are the most obvious target for more funding and we all know the lifelong cost to the departments of health, social services and justice. These are our children who fall into our poor and marginalized and, as a Catholic local, we might consider raising our collective voice on their behalf. Have some great conversations!

Take care of each other as you continue to build community.

Sandy

Meetings & Events

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Council Mtg. #02, 6pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House
followed by 'An Evening of
Conversation with our
Trustees' at 7pm.

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

An evening with Dr. Dennis
Shirley, 6-9:30pm, Auditorium,
Barnett House. For tickets
visit: www.learningourway.ca

Thursday, October 20, 2011

New Teacher Induction, 7pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.

Wednesday, November 2

Executive Mtg. #3, 4:30pm,
Room 431, Barnett House

Friday, November 11, 2011

Remembrance Day Holiday

AN EVENING OF CONVERSATION WITH OUR SCHOOL TRUSTEES-PART 2

Once again we will be hosting an evening with our trustees at which they will speak and participate in a Q & A session on Tuesday, October 18th from 7 – 8pm in the auditorium at Barnett House. Bring a friend! The Local's regular Council meeting will take place from 6-7pm.

REIMAGINEERING OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS THROUGH WELCOME, WITNESS, AND WONDER

October 26 – 28, 2011 Jasper Park Lodge

Are you interested in attending? The Local will pay the \$395 registration fee for 2 lucky teachers. Please email kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca by October 18th if you would like your name in the draw. Winners will be notified on October 19th.

ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE – Two available positions, one for substitute teachers, the other for an administrator, will be filled by an election at the October 18th Council meeting. For information, please email kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

"HOW DO WE KNOW OUR CHILDREN ARE LEARNING?" A dialogue with DR. DENNIS SHIRLEY

(Prof. of Ed. -Lynch School of Education/Boston College)

Wednesday, October 19, from 6-9:30pm at Barnett House. Limited tickets are still available by visiting www.learningourway.ca Cost is \$10 each or 6 for \$50. Be part of the conversation aimed at advancing Alberta's future as a creative and vibrant society.

DON'T FORGET!

The New Teacher Induction Ceremony on Thursday, October 20th, 7pm, Auditorium, Barnett House. Teachers new to the profession are invited to bring guests. Reception to follow.

OPPORTUNITY FOR NEWLY APPOINTED PRINCIPALS OR ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS!

Leadership Essentials for Administrators (November 14-15 at the Sheraton Cavalier in Calgary) is a conference designed for admin in the first 2 years of their appointment. No registration fee! The Local will offer \$250 each to four principals or assistant principals to help with hotel and meal costs. If you would like to attend, email: kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca by October 21st.

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

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Quote of the day:

"He who receives a
benefit should
never forget it; he
who bestows one
should never
remember it."

Pierre Charron (1541-1603)

ADVICE TO TEACHERS ON BUS INSPECTIONS

On several occasions over the past few months, representatives from your Edmonton Catholic Teachers' Local have met with individuals from the District to discuss the School Bus Daily Trip Inspection checklist. This type of document has become an Alberta Transportation requirement and **must** be completed before District-owned buses/vans can be driven.

By taking on extra duties--- such as vehicle inspections--- which are not responsibilities of teaching, teachers expose themselves to increased risks that may affect their employment records. With additional duties come obligations; with obligations come increased legal and employment risks.

The Alberta Teachers' Association reminds you **that, as teachers, you are not qualified to do vehicle inspections.**