HERE'S TO A NEW YEAR FOR TEACHERS...

May your pencils stay sharpened, May you always have a cap for each glue stick, May your technology work when you need it, May your candy drawer stay filled, May your expo markers never disappear, May your black, red, and white crayons be plentiful, May you always remember attendance, May you have fewer meetings and more plan time, May you have less stress and more joy!

The TEACHER next Door

WISHING ALL THE BEST FOR EVERYONE IN THE NEW YEAR!!

TWO NEW YEARS FOR TEACHERS

by Deneen Zielke

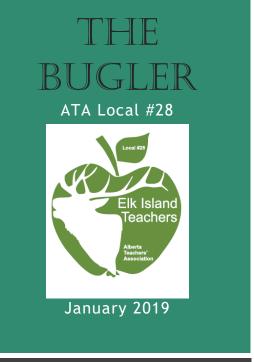
Unlike other professionals, those who teach have two occasions in the year to give thanks, celebrate past achievements, and make plans for the future. If you are like me, you separate your academic new year from the chronological New Year.

Each June we look upon our students with pride in their sense of accomplishment, and a sense of loss as they move on to new endeavors. In September we start our new year with anticipation, apprehension, as well as a renewed energy and desire to improve our practice. While this is a testament to professionalism it also reflects the human hunger for selfimprovement.

Even when you have taught for decades you continue to spend

the final weeks of your summer vacation searching Teachers Pay Teachers, Pinterest, and other sources for new ideas to make your classroom more inviting, your lessons more interesting, and the learning for your students more relevant. The summer months provide time for reflection and time to act on those discoveries.

Although our Christmas break is often filled with family, friends, and focused on reconnecting, there is also time for reflection as we think about the New Year. This is most often the time when we focus on self-improvement and how we will be better versions of ourselves in the year ahead. Will we diet, exercise more, break bad habits, or pursue activities that bring us joy? There is no end to the suggestions. We often find ourselves thinking of what we



TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

did well in the previous year and what we wish we could do better. Unlike our August musings that most often focus on our work, this New Year should be a time of rejuvenation and focus on our personal well-being.

We are caregivers and our profession demands so much from us, both physically and mentally, that we get run down. Our bodies and minds need rejuvenation to do the best we can not only for those that depend on us, but for ourselves as well. I hope that during your second New Year you have found time for yourself, to take care and enjoy all those in your life that you cherish!

Teachers are like candles that bring light by burning themselves. I hope you continue to spread the fire of knowledge and wisdom through your teaching in 2019.....and find time to care for yourself.

CONFERENCE CORNER

by Irene Deatcher

Here are more professional development activities and specialist council conferences which are on the horizon! If you want information on the Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Workshop detailed last month, please refer to the <u>November/December edition of</u>

<u>The Bugler</u>.

Solstice Series Part II

WHO: University students, ATA members and Non-ATA members who are interested in outdoor education and outdoor pursuits.



WHERE: Vincent Massey

<u>School</u>, 939 45 St SW, Calgary. **WHEN:** January 25th-27th **WHY:** There will be two keynote speakers – the first is <u>Dr. Doug Gleddie</u> who is an Associate Professor at the University of Alberta and the creator of the blog site <u>"Purposeful Movement"</u>. Also presenting will be <u>Colin Harris</u>, Director of Outdoor Education at YMCA Wanakita in Haliburton, Ontario and founder of <u>Take Me Outside</u>.

As well, attendees may choose to attend an overnight/winter module training course (\$200 course fee applies) – location will be emailed to registered participants. There will also be workshops/sessions focusing on social media / technology in outdoor education, the "Forest School" ethos, and "Project Wild" training. Check out <u>more</u> <u>detailed information</u> about the schedule and the sessions.

On Friday night, attendees are invited to a social event at Richmond's Pub.

HOW: Register online.

Registration is \$10 for GEOEC specialist council members, \$20 for non-members, and \$5 for university students.

EMPOWER 19 Conference



WHO: Educators from around the world.

WHAT: This conference is hosted by <u>ASCD</u> and this year's theme is "Synthesizing Education".

WHERE: McCormick Place

<u>Convention Center</u>, Chicago Illinois

WHEN: March 16th- 18th

WHY: General session keynote speakers include <u>Ron Clark</u> (known as "America's Educator"), <u>Doris Kearns</u> <u>Goodwin</u> (historian, Pulitzer-Prize winning author), and Ashton Kutcher (actor, philanthropist, co-founder of

Thorn: Digital Defenders of Children).

There are a <u>wide variety of</u> <u>sessions organized into the</u> <u>following themes:</u> The Whole Child, Transformational Leadership, Global Engagement, Poverty and Equity, Teaching and Learning,

CUPID CONTEST



by Irene Deatcher

Congratulations go out to Amanda Sheridan at Lakeland Ridge! She won a \$150 gift card for Amazon by finding "Santa". Thanks go out to everyone else who played along and submitted correct answers!

This month, you must find "Cupid" but... it won't be so easy! He is hiding in a phrase just like CAT is hiding in the beginning letters of "Calling All Teachers!" If you find him, <u>email the phrase to me</u> – please put "Cupid Contest" as

your email heading.

This month we will offer TWO prizes of \$100 gift cards for either Amazon or Chapters. Correct entries received by February 9th will be entered into a draw. The two winners will be notified on February 10th and will be offered their choice of gift card. Good luck!!

and Redefining Student Success. They are also offering <u>pre-conference institutes</u> at an extra cost.

HOW: You can <u>register online</u> but early-bird pricing ends on February 1st. Check the website for <u>detailed hotel and travel</u> <u>information</u>.

LARRY BOOI SPEAKS!!

by Darryl Webb, Political Engagement Officer



Please mark your calendar for Thursday January 24th to **hear Larry Booi speak** about our public education message for the upcoming election. <u>Larry Booi</u> has long worked to strengthen education and support the public good. He is a former president of the ATA and is instrumental in persuading the government to pay attention to classroom conditions.

This event will take place at the <u>Sherwood Park Log</u> <u>Cabin</u> (*50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park*) at 4:30 P.M. Food and beverages will be supplied.

GET POLITICALLY ACTIVE – LET'S MEET SOME PROVINCIAL PARTY REPRESENTATIVES!

by Darryl Webb, Political Engagement Officer

Another very important calendar item is our **political party meet and greet**. This is your chance to raise important educational issues to the political parties running in the next election. This event will take place Tuesday, February 12th, at <u>Hunters Social Grill</u> (#42 - 975 Broadmoor Blvd) from 4:30 to 6:30. A complimentary drink and food will be provided. Please bring teacher ID for your drink. Examples include: ATA card, School ID, ASEBP card, Pay stub etc. This is your chance to make a difference! **The time is NOW for becoming politically active!!!!**



JOIN THE LOCAL 28 FUNSPIEL

THE ANNUAL LOCAL 28 "FUNSPIEL" is fast approaching!!

Our upcoming ATA Bonspiel will be held Saturday, March 2 at Ottewell Curling Club. The cost will be \$180 per team or \$45 per player. Your registration fee includes a meal and prizes. Snacks and drinks are available for purchase.

You are not required to have curling experience to attend. Teams will be matched based on skill level. Often those with the least skill have the most fun! Spouses/partners are welcome! If you cannot fill a team of 4 please let us know as we can often put some people together and accommodate those interested.

Chantel Werner will be coordinating the bonspiel this year.

Please enter your team with her along with your payment. She will accept etransfer, cash or cheque. Her email is <u>wernersx4@gmail.com</u>. The cutoff for payments will be February 14. We are looking forward to a great time together!



LOCAL PRESIDENT ELECTION COMING UP

by Irene Deatcher

The position of president for Elk Island Public Local #28 is coming open.

Nomination forms will be available at the January Local Council Meeting or on the Elk Island Local 28 website. Interested members can also request a form from the Local office or from the Chief Returning Officer (Darryl Webb) <u>via</u> <u>email</u>.

Nomination forms must be acquired by January 31st and must be completed and submitted by Tuesday, February 19th, at the beginning of the Local Council meeting (4:30 at

Bev Facey) to be validated by the Chief Returning

Officer. If nominees choose, they may also have their forms validated by the CRO by dropping them off on selected dates (to be announced soon; these will be no less than three days before the Local Council meeting) at the Local 28 office. If the nominee cannot personally deliver their forms, their primary nominator may submit the forms on their behalf.

Should there be more than one candidate, an opportunity to meet them and hear them speak will be given at the Local Council meeting in March. *Currently, we have* received one nomination for the role of Local President – Deneen Zielke (incumbent). For the election, ballots will be distributed to staff reps at the March Local Council meeting. Voting this year will open April 4th and close April 7th. It is recommended that the voting be done at the April staff meeting. All ballots are to be collected by the school's staff representative and sent via courier to the CRO. They need to be in the hands of the returning officer no later than April 15. Votes will be counted by the returning officer and at least one scrutineer. Candidates may request a personally selected scrutineer also be in attendance. The results will be reported at the Annual General Meeting in April. Any questions should be directed to the returning officer (Darryl Webb).



OPPORTUNITY TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN ATA LOCAL #28

by Irene Deatcher

Are you interested in becoming more involved with your ATA Local? The upcoming election at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April means that your opportunity is fast approaching! Please consider putting your name forward for either an executive position or for a role on a committee.

The following Local Executive positions are open to interested members. All of these positions are for a one-year term beginning July 1st, 2019. During the months of May and June any NEWLY elected members of the Executive will be mentored by the outgoing member they are replacing. For this work they will receive 2/10 of the annual honorarium upon completion of the mentorship program (as per our <u>Election</u> <u>Guidelines</u>).

* **Treasurer:** Currently 1 nominee - *John Murphy (incumbent)*

* Local Communications Officer -

Currently 1 nominee - *Maxine Holm* (Secretary) - the incumbent (Irene Deatcher) will not seek nomination due to other commitments

* **Secretary** - Currently 0 nominees - *the incumbent (Maxine Holm) has been nominated for another position*

* Vice President / Local Political Engagement Officer - Currently 1 nominee - Darryl Webb (incumbent) Although some of these positions currently have nominees, ALL four are open to ANY members interested in putting their names forward. <u>Nomination forms</u> (requiring the signature of one nominator who is a member in good standing of Local 28) of interested members can be sent to the <u>Local President</u>. Forms can also be acquired and completed at the AGM in April.

We have room on all committees for new members.

This includes the following:

- * Professional Development
- * Teacher Welfare
- * Teacher Board Advisory
- * Communications
- * Diversity, Equity, Human Rights
- * Political Engagement (new!)

If you are interested in submitting your name to join a committee ultimately, please inform directly (by email) our Chief Returning Officer (<u>Darryl Webb</u>) to ensure that your name is added to the elections slate. You can also submit your name while in attendance at the AGM.



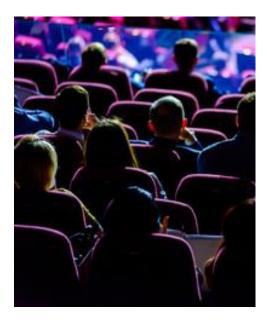


HERE COMES CONVENTION TIME!

FEBRUARY 7-8 2019

by Irene Deatcher

Every year we publish an article with Convention tips and reminders, but it doesn't hurt to have a `refresher'!



1. Plan ahead by <u>looking at</u> the sessions being offered.

The 'SCHED' program can help you keep track of options so that you can make other choices if the session you want is full. I make a hard copy of my 'wish list' to refer to throughout the day. There is a <u>video about using SCHED</u> which may be helpful (it is from 2017 but still has valid info – scroll to the bottom of the page to find it).

2. At this point, many <u>pre-registered sessions</u> are filled but you can still check online – <u>use the password</u> 'north' and then click on 'tickets' to see what is still available. The registrations close on January 25th at 12 pm.

3. Meet friends for lunch! One great idea for this is attending the <u>Partners in</u> <u>Education Luncheon</u> (February 8^{th)} featuring <u>Kurtis Hewison</u> as the guest speaker. Tickets are \$45 – use 'north' as the password when you <u>follow the link</u>. The event is from 11 am to 1 pm.

4. If you were interested in an alternate PD activity for the day but did not submit your application, that window is now closed. Requests had to be approved by January 17th. 5. Familiarize yourself with your <u>professional</u> <u>responsibilities</u> regarding attending convention – attendance IS your <u>professional obligation</u>.

6. If you have any questions (Can subs attend? What if I'm on leave? What happens if I get sick that day? Do I attend if I teach part time?), please <u>check</u> <u>out the FAQ on the ATA</u> <u>website.</u>

7. Make sure you have a <u>copy of your ATA</u> <u>membership card.</u> You can even download one to keep on your phone. There may be times (i.e. over-filled sessions) that you need to prove that you are an ATA member.

8. Connect to NCTCA through <u>Facebook</u> or through <u>Twitter</u>. This can keep you aware of updates and session changes / cancellations.

9. Visit the vendors to check their displays and enter contests.

Browse through these 'bits' for fast facts and information for our local.

QUICK BITS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will now be held in April (instead of May) due to changes in our constitution and election procedures. ALL MEMBERS are invited and encouraged to attend the AGM on April 16th to vote on elected positions, hear the budget proposal for next year, join committees, and have a chance to win door prizes.

LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Local Council Meeting dates for the rest of the year are as follows:

- Tuesday, January 22
- Tuesday, February 19
- Monday, March 18
- Tuesday, April 16 -AGM / elections
- Tuesday, May 21.

MOVIE TICKETS and WEM PASSES

Discounted movie passes are still available for certificated staff. Up to 10 passes may be purchased per member for \$8.50 per ticket. West Edmonton Mall passes (for the Waterpark or Galaxyland) are also still available for purchase by members for \$29.00 each.

Contact our Administrative Assistant, <u>Karen Topma</u> with your request. Make cheques payable to Elk Island Local #28.

PEC ELECTIONS

Nominations for all elected positions on the Provincial Executive Council are now open. Any active and associate members of the ATA are eligible to run and to vote in the 2019 election.

Nominations will close on January 18th and candidate information and campaign materials will be distributed to schools starting January 25th. Online voting will take place between March 14th and 18th, 2019, with results being announced on March 19th. To be able to vote, members <u>MUST have an</u> <u>online account</u>.

For more information about nominations, PEC, and the election, check out the article in the ATA News.

TEACHERS' CONVENTION - HOW TO PRE-REGISTER FOR SESSIONS

The <u>North Central Teachers'</u> <u>Convention Association</u> has published the event schedule and, on December 3rd, they opened <u>some</u> <u>sessions for pre-registration</u>. Many of these sessions fill quickly and the ability to pre-register will end on January 25th at 12 pm. <u>Tickets must be purchased</u> (costs vary) online. The password for ticket purchases is "North".

ALTERNATE PD FOR CONVENTION

The 2019 North Central Teachers' Convention will be taking place on February 7th and 8th. If you were planning to attend alternate professional development activities on those dates, you MUST have submitted an application for approval at least 20 days before the event (January 17th was this year's deadline).

As you look forward to next year, keep in mind that alternate PD will only be approved IF 1) it is relevant to professional practice and is NOT already included at convention, 2) it is an extraordinary opportunity that cannot be accessed at another time, and 3) it is an organized pd event that exceeds ones provided at convention.

CLAUSE 9.5 FUNDING

Term 2 applications are now being accepted. Funding for term 2 applies to professional development activities which occur between February 1st, 2019, and August 31st, 2019. Currently, there are also still funds available for Term 1 opportunities (events which take place up to and including January 31st, 2019).

POEMS EXPLORE PERSPECTIVE OF A CHILD REFUGEE: DEHR COMMITTEE BOOK REVIEW

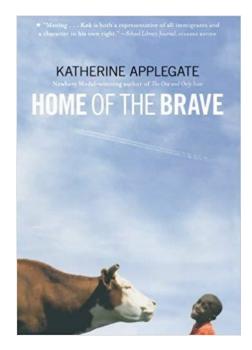
by Sarah Choo

This is the first instalment in a series of monthly book reviews by your Diversity, Equity, Human Rights Committee (DEHR). We hope to share a selection of texts which may prove useful for teaching diversity to students and may enhance ideas around inclusion that educators may want to reflect upon.

Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate is the moving story of Kek, a child refugee from Sudan who finds himself relocated in mid-winter Minnesota. Alone and confused, Kek needs to navigate obstacles like trauma, language barriers and racism in order to find his way through his new life. Written as a book of poems, the reader sees everyday situations through the eyes of a child and learn what it really means to hold on to hope in the face of adversity.

As educators, we often touch the lives of children who have experienced some, or all of the barriers that Kek must overcome to succeed in his world. Kek's story helps to remind us that the world looks different through the eyes of a child and teaches us to consider another's perspective before we come to our own conclusions.

Home of the Brave is a recommended book in the Lucy Calkins Reader's Workshop series for grades five and six but could be adapted to nearly any grade as a teaching tool. If you are interested in using this book in your classroom, there are many detailed lesson plans and activities available through Lucy Calkin's online resources to support your teaching adventure.



INPUT WANTED REGARDING STUDENT TEACHERS

Do you have a STUDENT TEACHER from any university in the greater Edmonton area (University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan, King's College, Concordia)?

<u>Dianne Molzan</u> is looking for feedback about how field experiences for mentor teachers and student teachers can be improved.

As a member on the ATA Field Experiences' Committee, her role is to provide feedback on behalf of EIPS teachers (Local 28). The committee has representatives from the four universities and from other teacher locals within the greater Edmonton area.

January 14th-30th <u>Diploma exams</u> for Grade 12 students

January 24th Larry Booi event at the Log Cabin.

January 24-25th <u>Teacher Growth</u> <u>Supervision and Evaluation</u> workshop for administrators

January 25th

Pre-registration closes for <u>Teachers'</u> <u>Convention</u>.

January 26th

Retirement Session 8:30 - 3:30pm @ SAL. Registration deadline January 18th.

January 25-27th Solstice Series II -

Environmental and Outdoor Education Experience (Vincent Massey School, Medicine Hat)

January 28 Edmonton Catholic Local #54 is holding a GSA meeting at Barnett House starting at 4:30 until 6:30

January 31 Semester 2 Begins

January 31

Deadline to acquire nomination form to run for president of Elk Island Public Local #28

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

February 7-8th NCTCA Edmonton (Shaw, Westin, other offsite locations) See convention article on

p. 4

Feb 12th Caregiver Series: Sleeping Your Way to Better Health ABJ, 6-7:30pm

February 14th Valentine's Day

February 14th

Deadline to Register for Curling Funspiel. Register your team with <u>Chantel</u> <u>Werner</u>. \$180 for a team of 4; Single Registration \$45. A meal and prizes are included with registration, snacks and drinks available for purchase.

> February 17th Random Acts of Kindness Day February 18th Family Day

February 19th Local ATA meeting BFH Library, 4:30pm

February 19th Deadline to submit nominations for Local President

February 23rd Young Authors Conference FRH, 8:30 - 3:30pm

February 25-26th Provincial Executive Council Barnett House

February 27th Pink Shirt Day

March 2nd

Curling Funspiel! (Ottewell Curling Club)

LOCAL #28 EXECUTIVE

President:

Deneen Zielke cell: 780-940-5525 President@elkislandlocal28.ca

Local Communications Officer: Irene Deatcher cell: 780-937-4915 Ico@elkislandlocal28.ca

Teacher Welfare Committee:

Jennifer Fredeen TWC Chair cell: 780-217-3197 twcchair@elkislandlocal28.ca

Linda Butler Dunn (NSC Chair) cell: 780-281-0850

butlerdunn@gmail.com

Political Engagement Officer / Annual Representatives Assembly Chair:

Darryl Webb politicalengagement@elkislandlocal 28.ca

Treasurer:

John Murphy (school) 780-992-1272 treasurer@elkislandlocal28.ca

Professional Development Chair: Janet Vader (school) 780-449-2787 pdchair@elkislandlocal28.ca

Secretary: Maxine Holm secretary@elkislandlocal28.ca

District Representative: Paul Froese

cell: 780-951-2461 Paul.Froese@teachers.ab.ca

Teacher Board Advisory Committee Chair: Stephen Anderson cell: 780-267-2419 tbacchair@elkislandlocal28.ca

LOCAL #28 OFFICE

Administrative Assistant: Karen Topma Office number: 587-988-3663 elkislandpublicata@gmail.com

Address: #847- 33 Blackfoot Road Sherwood Park T8A 4W5

Office Hours: Tuesday 08:30 - 15:00 Wednesday 11:30 - 17:00 Thursday 08:30 - 15:00 The

ATA

Local

#28

Bugler

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL?



For policy concerns, working conditions and issues related to how things operate in EIPS contact the Teacher Board Advisory Committee (TBAC):

Stephen Anderson TBAC <u>tbacchair@elkislandlocal</u> <u>28.ca</u>

For questions about ARTA (Alberta Retired Teachers' Association) that are not answered on <u>the website</u> or for questions about EIRTA (Elk Island Retired Teachers' Association):

Karen Atkinson (President) <u>Elk.Island.RTA@shaw.ca</u>

Twitter: @ElkIslandLocal



For pay issues, leaves and anything related to the <u>collective agreement</u>,

contact the Teacher Welfare Committee (TWC) or the Negotiating Sub-Committee (NSC):

Jennifer Fredeen TWC 780-217-3197

<u>twcchair@elkislandlocal</u> <u>28.ca</u>

Linda Butler Dunn NSC cell: 780-281-0850 butlerdunn@gmail.com For professional conduct issues, contract concerns and employment issues, contact the <u>ATA at Barnett</u> <u>House</u>:

The Alberta Teachers' Association 780-447-9400

OR 1-800-232-7208

Facebook: ATA Local #28 - Elk Island Public

