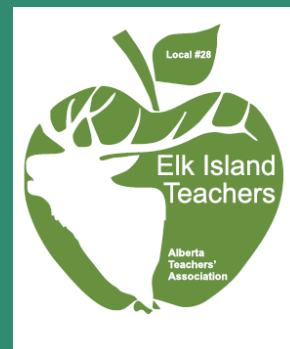




SPRING BREAK IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER....

THE BUGLER

ATA Local #28



March 2017

TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

From the Local President

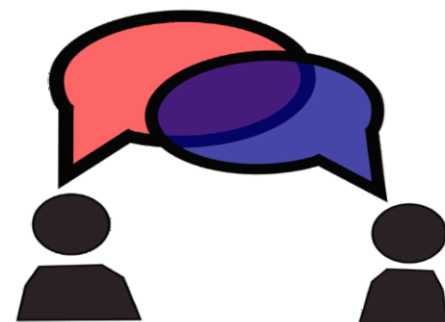
by Lynn Johnston

March Bugler

Welcome to Spring! This is one of my favorite seasons (next to summer, fall and winter). Like our students, each season brings something special and unique. The spring season brings increased daylight hours (which makes us totally different people), the promise of warmer temperatures and the courage to slog through wayward snowstorms, knowing that the snow really won't last. We know that after Spring Break, we head into the final month of school (AprilMayJune). Spring brings forth new life, a rejuvenation of spirit

and a hopefulness which sometimes goes missing in the early January mornings.

We are also bringing new life to the [Provincial Executive Council](#). By the time you read this, we will have a new president, two new vice presidents and a host of new District Representatives serving us at Barnett House. These elected officials are our voices. They represent us at the government level and on a national level. They are the advocates for public education, the voices for classroom conditions
(continued on page 2)



Candidates

Meet the two members who have announced their candidacy for president of Elk Island Local #28.
Page 3 and 4



Facebook Contest

Find out how to enter for a chance to win a \$100 gift card for Amazon.
Page 6

(From the Local President continued)

and the leaders for change. We have high expectations for this group and they work tirelessly on our behalf. I hope you took the time to familiarize yourself with each candidate's platform and exercised your right to democracy by casting your vote.

In the next few months our local will be having our own elections. Please take the time to read the presidential candidates platforms in the Bugler. We have two very skilled people who have put their names forward and you will cast your vote in May. At the AGM being held on May 16th, we will also be looking to fill other positions, both on exec and on the various committees. Take some time to find out what the committees are about and consider becoming involved in an area that interest you. Many hands make light work.

As we head into Spring Break, I wish you all a time of rewiring, rest and rejuvenation. I would like to thank each and every one of you for the tireless work you do every day on behalf of our students. Your efforts are enormous, your actions are inspiring and your dedication makes me so proud.

Lynn

CONVENTION 2017 REVIEW – ACTION ITEM!

by Lynn Johnston and Irene Deatcher

The ATA is currently collecting feedback on conventions to determine if the current structure still works to meet the professional learning needs of its members. The last time such a survey was completed was in 2005.

After gathering the information, a committee will be struck to review the data and come up with recommendations. Please take the time to fill out the Convention Review. This survey remains active until Friday March 31. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConventionReview>

For more information on the survey process and background [visit this link](#).

This is also a good time to recognize the many people from our local who contributed to the success of the event. **Doug Zook** has been the chairperson of our local convention committee and has been our representative on the convention board for about 10 years. Doug recently announced that he will be stepping down from this

position. He has done an amazing job representing us and we appreciate all of his hard work – thank you, Doug!

This year we had several presenters who are teachers within our district. We would like to recognize the following members for their valuable contributions:

Shaun Smith
Tyler Buchan
Jamie Davis
Kristian Basaraba
Kim Sharp
Laurie Dirs
Andy Funke
Sherri Johnston
David Hay
Danielle Nelson



LOCAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

by Karen Atkinson

This year there are two candidates for Local President: Maj-Britt Bigotti and Deneen Zielke. Both candidates will speak at the April Local Council meeting (April 18th at Bev Facey at 4:30) and all members are invited to hear them speak. If you are unable to attend, your school rep can share details of the speeches. Voting will be done by ballot in the first week of May at your school; your school rep will distribute, collect and return the ballots. For most schools, this will happen at the May staff meeting.

For further information, contact the returning officer, Karen Atkinson at ka88@telus.net

MAJ-BRITT BIGOTTI - MEET THE CANDIDATE!

Maj-Britt Bigotti - Candidate for Local President

It would be my privilege to serve you as your new Local President. I want to help support your needs as a teacher. Our jobs are becoming increasingly difficult and that is why I was a member of the C2 committee. This committee, which ended last year because of the legislated framework agreement, focused on teacher workload and teacher efficacy. Even though it ended, I believe we still have a lot of work to do to improve our working conditions. We know we could all do a better job if there was less focus on unnecessary paperwork, more prep time, and smaller classes.

While many of these issues are being addressed at the Provincial Central Bargaining Table, I want to advocate for some of the issues specific to our district.

This profession demands a lot of us and often we don't have the time or energy to stand up for better classroom conditions.

That is what your ATA is for and I want to be the one to voice your concerns and help to make improvements for all teachers and ultimately our students.

Teachers' working conditions are students' learning conditions!

Maj-Britt Bigotti

Maj-britt@shaw.ca

[780-695-2053](tel:780-695-2053)



DENEEN ZIELKE - MEET THE CANDIDATE!

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to announce my candidacy for Local President and would very much like the opportunity to represent you. My experience is extensive having served for more than thirteen years in many roles within our local association. I have represented teachers as a School Representative, member of the Annual Representatives Assembly (ARA) and



member of the Economic Policy Committee (EPC). As well, I have been the chair of the Negotiations Sub-committee (NSC) and represented teachers at the bargaining table. Currently I am the Chair of the Teacher Board Advisory Committee (TBAC) which represents your interests at meetings with the School Board and Superintendent.

There have been many changes in education, and our district, with more guaranteed to come. I feel it is very important that you are represented by a president that is knowledgeable and responsive with teacher welfare at the forefront.

As president, my goals would be to maintain and improve teacher autonomy, promote and represent teachers in matters that allow them to do their best work and improve communication and engagement in our local.

I recognize that to achieve this, significant work will be required, but I believe I have the experience, knowledge and ability to communicate effectively and lead your local teacher association. I would greatly appreciate your support.

Thank you,

Deneen Zielke

(school) 780-467-2246

dkzielke@shaw.ca

The ATA has 2 major publications that you will see on a regular basis through the year: The ATA News and The ATA Magazine.



SCHOOL REPS' CORNER: THE ATA NEWS AND THE ATA MAGAZINE

By Irene Deatcher

By now, you are VERY used to distributing a number of items sent to you by the ATA. Along with the [ATA website](#), 2 publications (The ATA News and The ATA Magazine) are main components of how our provincial association communicates with its members.

[The ATA News](#) is the publication you will receive most often. It is published bi-weekly – copies are sent to your school but each issue and its articles can

also be accessed online. [The ATA Magazine](#) is published on a quarterly schedule and can also be found on the ATA website.

How can you encourage members to read these awesome resources (instead of putting them directly into the recycle bin at school)? One school rep said that an effective method is to distribute it at a staff meeting while people are waiting for it to start (if you receive it close to that day). It was observed that members were perusing/reading during that transition time.

When I was a school rep, I would read the issues and note a few timely articles. I would then craft an email to members with links to the articles on the ATA website. Sometimes, when people know that something that relates to them is inside a particular issue, they will take a closer look.

It is important to deliver both publications in a timely manner. Some articles (especially in The ATA News) are time sensitive and will lose effect if there is a delay in

the information being shared.

If you are sharing or if members are accessing online versions of the publications, some features will be missing. Although all pertinent articles will be present, notices, commercial advertisements, announcements and classifieds are not included in the online versions. This may or may not be appealing to your members.

You should be receiving at least 2 hard copies of each issue but usually will get one for each member at your school. Often you may receive extras to leave out in the staffroom so that substitute teachers may also be aware of the current events that affect our profession.

If you feel you are receiving too many or too few copies, this can be adjusted. Just send an email with your request for a change in amounts to newsandmagazine@ata.ab.ca.

SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS – A NEW APPROACH

by Jessica Smith (Assistant Principal
at F.R. Haythorne Junior High
School)

We have been trying something new this year with our Educational Assistants at FRH. Usually, we have 15 minutes of paid time at the end of each day which was historically used for supervision. Now, we are re-purposing that time to enhance communication, support, awareness and professional development.

This year we are have weekly meetings as a whole group on Mondays to talk about any issues that have arisen or things that need discussing. Anyone is welcome to bring up issues or ideas and encouraged to share, ask questions or seek help from their colleagues.

On Wednesdays we meet for 30 minutes; this time is used to allow each Educational Assistant to take on a leadership role and share something they have learned, lead a book study, or talk about their

role in the school. Since FRH is such a large school, with many different programs, this opportunity to see what everyone does has given the Educational Assistants time to ask questions, as well as share what they do, who they work with and perhaps a little something about their individual program or child. This process has really helped in creating awareness and has opened people up to the possibility of trying out new positions within our school.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays we have self-directed professional learning time. The staff are encouraged to find areas of interest that will help support their PGP or current job assignment. They have been encouraged to take webinars, weekend sessions, evening sessions, on-line classes, and book studies as well as meet with colleagues in our own or other buildings. This time has been banked some weeks, used before school, after school, or on the weekends. Truly, the sky is the limit as they direct their own learning and report back what they are doing!



FACEBOOK CONTEST!

by Irene Deatcher

This month's contest will take you to the [Facebook page for Local #28](#).

To enter, there are 2 requirements: 1. "Like" the page (if you haven't already – if you have, then step 1 is already done!). 2. Post a headline, fact, phrase or piece of information from THIS issue of the Bugler which you found interesting. That's all it takes!!

Completed entries will be eligible for a draw for one of 2 \$50 gift certificates for Amazon or Chapters. Contest closes on April 12th. Names of the winners will be posted on the Facebook page on April 14th.

Good luck!!



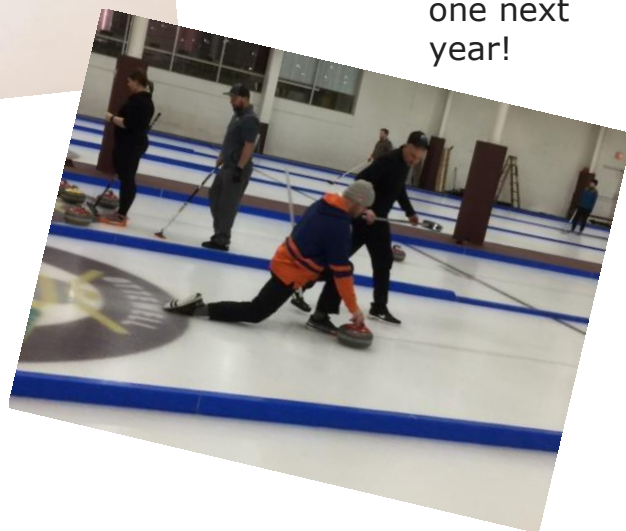
FUN, FUN, FUN AT THE FUNSPIEL

by Deneen Zielke

A great time was had by all at the ATA Local #28 Funspiel. There didn't seem to be a lot of Math teachers in attendance as some of the scores seemed to be a bit off. After hours of fun, falls, and time spent with friends, a mixed team from FRH and BF came out victorious. Congrats to : Kyle Samuratanga, Tanner Stephens, Craig Ursuliak, Alex Stonelake and Hal Souster.



Thanks to Kyle for organizing a great event (and stacking his team)! The people at the Ottewell Curling Club were awesome hosts. It was great to see so many people out laughing and having a great time. Start putting your team together as Kyle has offered to plan another one next year!



QUICK BITS

by Irene Deatcher, Maj-Britt Bigotti and EIPS

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

MINISTIK SCHOOL

The Elk Island Public School Board voted to initiate the closure of Ministik School. Closure will take effect on June 30th, 2017. Students from Ministik will be re-designated to Fultonvale Elementary Junior High School. For more information, check the [Statement on the Closure of Ministik School](#) on the EIPS website.

DEHR JOINS THE PRIDE PARADE



Pride Parade
Whyte Avenue
June 10
11am - 2pm

Have you always wanted to participate in the Pride Parade? Your Local DEHR

(Diversity, Equity, Human Rights) committee has registered this year and we

can take up to 50 people. If you are interested in joining us please send your name to Maj-Britt Bigotti maj-britt@shaw.ca

CONTEST RESULTS!

We have had 2 contests in the past month (which isn't a bad thing!). It is time to share the results.

The February winner of the Lucky Charms Contest was Summer Hill from Ardrossan Elementary School. She will receive a \$100 Amazon gift certificate.

A quick ('flash') contest was held on the Facebook page to encourage voting in the recent PEC election. Members who voted entered the contest by typing "Done!" and sharing the post. The event was only active for 2 days. Terry Olson (Sal Comp) won a \$50 gift certificate from Amazon. Congratulations!

JOB POSTING AND APPLICANT TRACKING SOFTWARE CHANGE

The following was taken directly from our EIPS weekly updates:

Human Resources is excited to announce a major change to our job posting and applicant tracking software. Apply To Education is an industry leader and currently

provides support to more than 80 per cent of school divisions across Alberta. The new posting and tracking platform will dramatically increase functionality for principals and hiring managers, making it easier to post positions and monitor recruitment activities.

*The transition to Apply To Education is taking place during the spring staffing season. To ensure you continue to receive employment notifications, you must register as an internal employee by **March 24, 2017**. All staff, including temporary and substitutes currently working with EIPS are considered internal employees. Each advertised competition will include information on who is eligible to apply, and delays in registering may result in missing advertised opportunities within the division. [Register](#)*

Contact: **1-877-900-5627**

CLAUSE 9.5 FUNDING

Term 2 funding covers professional development occurring between February 1, 2017 and August 31, 2017. At this time, there is a balance of \$34 000 available to be accessed by members.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

March 24th

No school – day in lieu of parent teacher interviews

March 25th - April 2nd

Spring break – classes resume April 3rd.

March 31st

Last day to complete the [convention review survey](#).

April 14th

Good Friday

April 17th

Easter Monday

April 20th

EIPS and ATB Young Speakers Invitational – 4-8 pm at the Strathcona County Community Centre Agora

April 23rd - 29th

National Volunteer Week

April 24th

[Edmonton Catholic Local #54 is holding a GSA](#) meeting at Barnett House from 4:15 to 6:00. All members from ANY ATA local are welcome.

April 28th

Professional Learning Day

May 1st - 5th

Education Week

May 4th

[Hats On! For Mental Health Day](#)

May 7th - 13th

[Emergency Preparedness Week](#)

May 18th - 19th

School closure days

May 22nd

Victoria Day

APRIL LINKS AND IDEAS



April Resources

by Irene Deatcher

[2Learn.ca](#) continues to publish links to great sites and resources! They have something for EVERYONE!!

Elementary Teachers may want to look at the resources for the following topics: [Easter](#), [Spring](#) and

[National Poetry Month](#). As you visit each, you will find tabs for crafts, interactive sites, and language arts connections. If you are looking for interactive sites, you may also want to visit [Interactive Sites for Education](#). Please be aware that many websites with interactive games require the use of Flash – this means they will NOT be supported on iPads.

Do you think 2Learn is JUST for elementary schools? Think again! Their special edition section has topics of interest for junior and senior high schools: "[Planets: Known and Unknown](#)", "[Your Digital Presence](#)", and "[Truth and Reconciliation](#)". Check them out!

LOCAL EXECUTIVE

President:

Lynn Johnston
(school) 780-467-0044
cell: 780-920-2131
lynndale08@gmail.com

Vice President/Local Communications Officer:

Irene Deatcher
cell: 780-937-4915
deatcher.ata@gmail.com

Vice President/Annual Representatives Assembly:

Maj-Britt Bigotti
(school) 780-998-2216
cell: 780-695-2053
Maj-britt@shaw.ca

Vice President/Political Engagement:

Jordan Smith
(school) 780-467-5591

Economic Policy Committee:

Linda Butler Dunn
780-281-0850
butlerdunn@gmail.com

Jennifer Fredeen EPC
780-217-3197

jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com

Treasurer:

John Murphy
(school) 780-416-9018
John.c.murphy@hotmail.com

Negotiating Subcommittee Chair:

Karen Atkinson
cell: 780-915-6168
ka88@telus.net

Professional Development Chair:

Janet Vader
(school) 780-449-2787

Teacher Board Advisory Committee Chair:

Deneen Zielke
(school) 780-467-2246
dkzielke@shaw.ca

Secretary:

Tyson Parker
(school) 780-416-9018
tysonbparker@gmail.com

District Representative:

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

The Bugler ATA Local #28

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):

Deneen Zielke
(school) 780-467-2246
dkzielke@shaw.ca

For questions about ARTA (Alberta Retired Teachers' Association) that are not answered on [the website](#) or for questions about SCRTA ([Strathcona County Teachers' Association](#)):

Inge Coates
scrta@shaw.ca

For pay issues, leaves and anything related to the [collective agreement](#), contact the Economic Policy Committee (EPC) or the Negotiating Sub-Committee (NSC):

Jennifer Fredeen EPC
780-217-3197
jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com

Linda Butler Dunn –EPC
780-281-0850
butlerdunn@gmail.com

Karen Atkinson (NSC)
cell: 780-915-6168
ka88@telus.net

For professional conduct issues, contract concerns and employment issues, contact the [ATA at Barnett House](#):

The Alberta Teachers' Association
780-447-9400
OR
1-800-232-7208

Twitter: [@ElkIslandLocal](#)



Facebook: [ATA Local #28 – Elk Island Public](#)

