



TEACHERS
SUPPORTING
TEACHERS

Bugler

November 2019

ACCOUNT SIGN UP

Need help? Check out the Local's [YouTube](#) channel. This is the BEST way to stay up to date with breaking news and important information that affects our Local, and Education in Alberta!

CONTEST

Red for Ed
on Social Media

Post a picture of yourself on our [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) accounts sporting **Red for Ed** and you will be entered into a draw for a \$100.00 gift certificate. Deadline for entry is January 6, 2020.

MOVIE PASSES

are available for \$8.50 per ticket.

WEM PASSES

are available for \$35.00 per pass.

Contact [Karen Topma](#)

POLITICAL LANDSCAPE FOR TEACHERS

By Darryl Webb, LPEO & Maxine Holm, LCO

I'm sure you have heard of our recent struggles within our current political situation. Items such as decreased budgets, threats of a salary rollback, funding shortfalls leading to the layoff of staff, potential changes to the student funding model and curriculum reviews without ATA consultation.

As well, you have probably heard by now that Bill 22 has passed. This bill turns over investment control of your pension to AIMCo from the previous ATRF. This aggressive move was highly disapproved of by your association. Over 32 000 emails were sent from teachers and concerned citizens opposing this decision, however this opposition was ignored. Our advocacy cannot continue to be ignored so we need to keep up the effort. Please continue to channel your efforts to funding, class

size and supports. The frustrating list will continue. Here is your chance to have a voice and feel less helpless in a threatening political climate. We are seven members strong and looking for more. Your committee has its first meeting booked and we are ready to go. If you would like to add your voice, please contact me at [Political Engagement](#).



Have your say in the development
of the Choice in Education Act.

TEACHERS' VOICES
NEED TO BE HEARD.



CHOICE IN EDUCATION SURVEY

This survey was put out by the Alberta government. It was produced to go along with the government's Choice In Education Act. Some say that the survey may be designed to justify increased funding for charter and private schools thus taking potential funds away from public schools. Please take the time to investigate the survey for yourself and make your opinions heard.

SOS SURVEY

Support Our Students is a group of concerned citizens that is advocating for Public Education in Alberta. They have created a letter writing campaign where you are able to express your concerns about privatization of public education in Alberta to Premier Kenney and Minister of Education LaGrange.



An Evening at the Legislature

By Cameron Archer, Salisbury Composite High School

I went to the Legislature last night [Wednesday Nov 21], and watched from the Gallery as Opposition Members spoke on behalf of teachers and our pensions. Some of you may have been watching online. I don't think I'm exaggerating when I say that the Government Members were at best indifferent to our plight, if they didn't look at the gallery full of teachers with contempt. I'd be happy to share more about my experience about the state of democracy in Alberta if you'd like, but for right now I want to point out that any political action makes a difference. Last night, the number of emails received by MLAs came up repeatedly. I'm sure you've seen the emails: people in my circles that do not work in education, or even work in the public sector, have also been surprisingly receptive. Even if the government is able to ram this legislation through, I'm sure this won't be the last time that we need to speak up for education. I wasn't sure what difference it would make to watch from the gallery last night; apparently it was remarkable that the gallery was full on a Wednesday night, and this was pointed out in the House. While that seemed to annoy some Government MLAs, those from suburban ridings (who weren't elected by a large margin) seemed more concerned, as they should be.

**As long as politicians
are involved in
education, educators
should be involved in
politics.
Use your teacher voice!**

TBAC by [Stephen Anderson](#)

Greetings my hard-working colleagues! This has been an especially difficult fall and not due to the weather. Unfortunately, I cannot help but feel down about the current state of affairs regarding education. However, the amazing Teacher Board Advisory Committee (TBAC) has been strongly advocating to make life better for teachers and our students. TBAC meets a minimum of 4 times a year with the board to discuss any educational issues that do not fall within our collective agreement. In short, we have a lot to say. Before I first got involved with our local ATA, I must admit I wasn't as knowledgeable about how all these rules and documents have such an overwhelming effect on our day to day lives. At times, it can be very confusing as there is the [Education Act](#), board policy, our collective agreement and administrative procedures that govern both our rights and responsibilities as educators. I cannot express how important it is for us as educators to be familiar with these documents. The ones that we as the TBAC committee spend a great deal of time researching and advocating for changes in are the [Elk Island Public School's Administrative Procedures \(APs\)](#). These documents contain nearly 200 APs that govern everything from hiring practices ([AP 400](#)) to procedures in staff reduction ([AP 417](#)) to flag protocol ([AP 157](#)). These are public documents and are posted on the EIPS website. While some of these may not affect your day to day work, many of them are very significant and truly govern how schools are run. I encourage you to have a look at these and get to know them. They change often and it is one of our roles to ensure these changes are for the better. If you find that something doesn't make sense or could be better, please contact me so we can look into it and bring up concerns to the board. Although APs are important, it is not the only thing we do as a committee. We, quite literally, bring up any concerns teachers have. One exception are concerns related to the collective agreement which are handled by our amazing Teacher Welfare Committee (TWC) led by [Jen Fredeen](#).

The more teachers who speak out and get involved, the better! We are always looking for new members on the committee. Not only do we have a lot of laughs, but I also bring snacks! If you have any concerns you would like us to discuss, or would like to get involved, please feel free to contact me, Stephen Anderson, at tbacchair@elkislandlocal28.ca.

Spotlight On Teachers

Kristian Basaraba, Salisbury Composite High School has received a grant from the Aspen Foundation this year! He is planning to use the grant to plan a program called Exploring Colonialism, Creativity, and Reconciliation through Skateboards. He has a creative plan to organize a workshop, work with Cree artists, and other community members to bring the issue of Colonialism to life.

Want to nominate an outstanding teacher who contributes to our communities?

Email: [Maxine Holm, LCO](mailto:Maxine.Holm.LCO)

WEBSITE

LOCAL OFFICE

Call: 587-988-3663

Email: [Karen Topma](mailto:Karen.Topma)

847-33 Blackfoot Road,
Sherwood Park, T8A 5W6

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 8:30-15:00

Wednesday: 10:30-17:00

Thursday: 8:30-15:00

[President, Deenen Zielke](#)

[Vice President- Political
Engagement & ARA- Darryl
Webb](#)

[Treasurer, John Murphy](#)

[Local Communciations
Officer, Maxine Holm](#)

[Professional Development,
Janet Vader](#)

[Secretary, Kim Zapesocki](#)

[Teacher Board Advisory
Committee \(TBAC\),
Stephen Anderson](#)

[Teacher Welfare, Jennifer
Fredeen](#)

[District Reperesentative,
Paul Froese](#)

BARNETT HOUSE

For professional conduct issues, contract concerns and employment issues contact the

[The Alberta Teachers'
Association](#)

780-447-9400 OR
1-800-232-7208

I ♥ PUBLIC EDUCATION

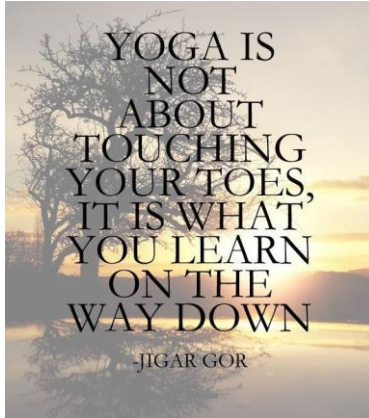
Climate and Environment Student Action Challenge

Applications are now open for 2019-2020. Student groups are invited to apply for up to \$1,000 in funding to support environmental action projects. Deadline: December 6, 2019 at 4:30 PM

To apply: Refer to the attached documents for all of the information requested in the application.

Apply online

All publicly funded students from K-12 in Alberta are welcome to apply. Up to two projects from each school may be funded yearly.



SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, January 9th

Yoga Event
LCO, Maxine Holm,
Certified Yoga
Teacher has partnered
with [Yoga for Today](#) to
offer a 75 minute
class.

More information will
be posted on the
[Special Events](#) section
of the website.

Upcoming Events

Staff GSA Meeting
Thursday November
28, 2019 @ 4:30

Local Office



vitality

VITAMINS · SPORTS · NUTRITION



Vitamins & Minerals
Protein Powders
Essential Oils
Collagen & Greens
Cleanses
BCAA & Pre Workout
Giftware
Eco-Friendly Products

120-8005 Emerald Drive, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 0P1
PH: 587.269.1919
@vitalitysherwood
@Vitality Health Sherwood Park
vitalitysherwoodpark.com

We have partnered
with local business,
Vitality Health to offer
teachers a

25% discount
(regular priced items)
on

Saturday, December
7th.

@ 120, 8005 Emerald
Dr, Sherwood Park

Please make sure you
have ID that shows
you are an EIPS
teacher!

Calling all members of the Alberta Teachers' Association

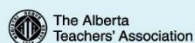
CODE and the ATA are excited to give you a chance to win some great prizes while promoting the love of reading through social media. Entering the contest is easy. Simply create a short video (up to 60 seconds long) sharing the name of the book you most love reading to/with your students and why. You can make the video as creative as you wish. It's all #forthe loveofreading. Books make us laugh and cry; they spark our imaginations; and open new worlds to us. Great books are one of the most powerful tools of any child's educational journey, no matter where they live. We can't wait to hear about favorite books for your classrooms!

FOR THE ♥ OF READING!

Video Contest

What book do you love reading with your students the most and why?

Share it in a short, quirky, creative and thought-provoking video to have a chance at winning a \$1700 VIA Rail gift card or a Jasper ski package!



www.code.ngo/contest