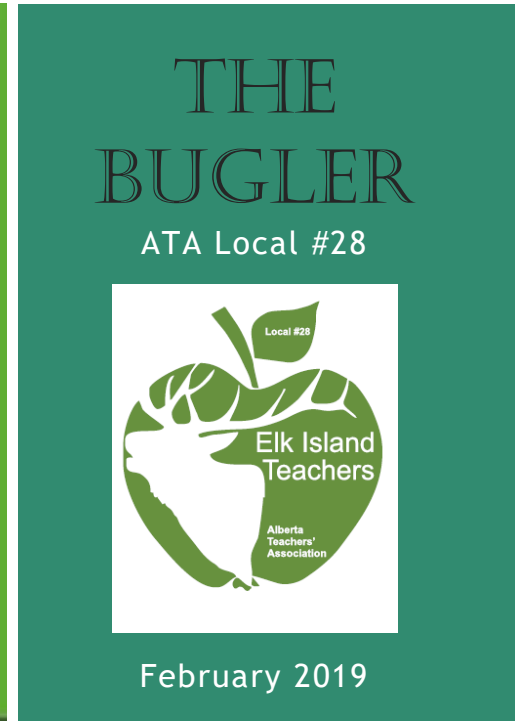




MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE UPCOMING PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL...PG 5...



TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

GATEKEEPERS OF OUR PROFESSION

by Deneen Zielke, Local Council President

Being recognized as a professional comes with both benefits and responsibilities. When recognized as a professional association you are involved in the determination of the requirements of individuals to become members, you oversee member conduct, and promote the profession in a positive light, to name a few. As a member you benefit from the work of the association through the promotion of your profession, the work done with government on issues that affect our working conditions, the protection of a collective agreement, and support when our actions have been questioned.

As members we also have obligations to our profession and colleagues. We must always act in a professional manner and follow the [Code of Professional Conduct](#), but have you thought about the role we play in the admittance of new members? This is a huge responsibility and it is one that has been entrusted to all of us as members of our profession.

(continued on Page 2...)



It's that time of the year again...tax time. Make the most of the deductions available to teachers...on Page 3.

Changes to the TQS will significantly impact teachers in the province. A special event is coming up for teachers in Local #28. Find out more...on Page 4.

MENTOR TEACHERS HAVE A SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY

(continued from page 1, Local Council President)

I have heard from several teachers that are very concerned about changes made to some university practicum programs and problems they have encountered.

Specifically, concerns were raised regarding a decrease in the amount of planning the universities are requiring from student teachers. As well, changes in facilitator supports have resulted in teachers not seeing a facilitator engaged in all classrooms as they have been previously – they attend only when requested by the cooperating teacher. Both changes are concerning.

The time to prepare teachers for the classroom is before they step through the door and the load of responsibilities that they weren't even aware of have been thrust upon them. It seems unrealistic and a disservice to student teachers to not prepare them as much as possible when time is available to do so. As well, the support of a faculty facilitator who reinforces the requirements and the need to learn as much as possible during a practicum to be best prepared for the demands ahead, is very valuable. Sometimes students need greater levels of support and a facilitator should work with the teacher to provide support. In some instances, students are not able to successfully complete the practicum and the facilitator should be available to work through this process with the teacher as well.

"We are the gatekeepers of our profession and it is our decision, not the universities, who should be granted admittance."

As well, colleagues have expressed concern that they are facing increased pressure from some facilitators to accept inadequate work and 'pass' student teachers when they feel the individual has not shown adequate growth and would not be successful in a classroom of their own. It's true that we are care givers and want our students to succeed, including student teachers, but this is when we must remember our *responsibilities*. What many teachers don't realize is that students in the Faculty of Education can graduate with a degree without successfully completing their practicum. **We** determine whether they have demonstrated they are competent teachers and should be granted a teaching certificate. Without a teaching certificate they cannot teach. As professionals this is a privilege and responsibility that we have earned. **We** are the gatekeepers of our profession and it is our decision, not the universities, who should be granted admittance.

If you have concerns regarding practicums, please [forward them to me](#). I have discussed this issue with the Coordinator of Professional Development at Barnett House, Dr. Mark Swanson, and would appreciate your feedback to provide more insight and a range of opinions.

TAX TIME FOR TEACHERS

By Irene Deatcher

Yes, it is that time of the year again and everyone is busy gathering up and organizing their pertinent documents. Do you know how to access your necessary forms and information?

T4 SLIPS

Since our district no longer sends paper copies of T4s, you will need to get it online. Visit Employee Self Service (ESS) by following the link (under 'Staff Quick Links') on the [main EIPS page](#).

If you are doing this from home, you will be directed to a system login page. Your username is the same as your usual one for when you login at school (firstname.lastname) but with EDUC/ in front. As well, you will use your main EIPS password.

When you get to the ESS site, you will have to login to your account – for this you will need your

employee ID number. There is a 'forgot password' option if needed.

Once you have accessed your account, the side bar will display a 'T4 Reprint' option. Clicking that allows you to select your previous and current T4 information.

SCHOOL SUPPLY TAX CREDIT



Did you save your receipts for classroom purchases so that you could make a claim for the [School Supply Tax Credit](#)?

That was only the FIRST step. Now you have some paperwork to do before you submit your tax information.

Everything is available on [Staff Connect](#), but I wasn't able to create any hyperlinks for these in the rest of this article. Once you have logged into the site, you can visit the Division Documents tab and search for the forms by name (document names are in italics and underlined). The information below comes from the [EIPS Eligible](#)

[Educator School Supply Tax Credit Process document](#) on Staff Connect:

You will need to complete 2 separate forms (both available on Staff Connect): the [Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template](#) AND the [Eligible Expense Summary Report](#) (in spreadsheet format).

The [Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template](#) must be filled in by your principal. The principal's role is to ensure that the purchases qualify, that the transactions were in the correct time frame, and that the purchases were not already reimbursed through the school or fundraising. It would be helpful to give your principal a copy of the [EIPS Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Process document](#) when having the letter (certification) completed.

In order to complete the letter, your principal will also need your completed [Eligible Expense Summary Report](#) along with a copy of the receipts. ***Note: keep the original receipts YOURSELF!

When filling in the [Eligible](#)
(continued page 4)

(continued from page 3, Tax Time)
Expense Summary Report, you will have to separate the item costs from the GST for each purchase.

Employees must keep the receipts, letter (certification) and summary report on file.

Elk Island Public Schools will NOT provide another copy.

Although you will keep the original signed Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template, Eligible Expense Summary Report, and receipts, your school is also required to keep a copy of each of these items.

Remember: **This is a Tax Credit and therefore could be subjected to an investigation or audit by the Canada Revenue Agency.**

Cupid Contest Results

Congratulations go out to Joe Reimer at Ardrossan Junior Senior High School and to Jenn O'Neill at SouthPointe! They each won a \$100 gift card for Amazon by finding "Cupid". He was hiding in the phrase **Committee Ultimately, Please Inform Directly..** in the article called "Opportunity to Get More Involved" on page 5 of the January Bugler. Thanks go out to everyone else who played along and submitted correct answers!



*Wild Animal Contest

This month, you are on a quest to find a wild animal! Hidden someplace in this Bugler issue is the name of an animal. In fact, **one regular word is replaced** by the animal. Don't have a cow (NOT the answer), but I'll make it worth your while! Also "Elk" used in the phrase "Elk Island" will not be the right answer! Neither is "Deer" in Red Deer!

To participate, send an email to lco@elkislandlocal28.ca with the title "I found the wild animal!" In the email, include the name of the animal **and the word that you believe it replaced**. There will be ONLY one correct answer (even if people are creative) – I am the final judge!

All Local members who reply with the correct answer will have their names put in a draw (cut-off date will be March 8th). This month the prize is a \$100 gift card for Amazon!

Special Event: Tasting the TQS

What is the TQS? Well, it is the [Teaching Quality Standard](#) and it has been changing! Your Professional Development Committee wants to help you stay up to date with this document which provides the framework for preparation, professional growth, supervision and evaluation of all teachers.

"Tasting the TQS" will be a session presented by Nancy Luyckfassel from Barnett House, Professional Development. She will guide members through the key parts of the TQS 'menu'. Come and enjoy some snacks and learn more about your professional responsibilities as the new Teacher Quality Standard comes in effect in September. Location TBD.

CANDIDATES FOR PEC PRESIDENT



Greg Jeffery (incumbent)

"In these uncertain times, what matters to Alberta teachers? Strong leadership matters. Strategic vision matters. Statesmanship matters. Proven experience matters. Protecting our profession matters. I know what matters to Alberta teachers because first and foremost I am an Alberta teacher. As your president for the past two years, it has been my privilege as I travelled across the province from High Level to Medicine Hat listening to your concerns. You have told me what matters. We need to defend the autonomy of classroom teachers and our profession. We need to advance the ATA as

the authoritative voice in education. We need to advocate economic certainty and productive classroom conditions for teachers. We need to protect public education as the first choice for Albertans.

Throughout my career, I have been telling the positive story of public education. I have been there and have experience with defining moments that matter to teachers including the five per cent rollback by the Ralph Klein administration in 1994, the historical rally for public education at the Alberta legislature in 1997, the massive job action in 2002, the resolution of the unfunded liability of the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund in 2007 and the teacher pension cap removal in 2018. These milestones were events that mattered to Alberta teachers.

We are on the threshold of another defining moment, not just for Alberta teachers, but all of public education. We need to be unified,

supporting each other and continuing the important work of our Association. The ATA must have leadership that is passionate, experienced and committed in order to realize our goals. I believe that my track record is exemplary, and I ask for your vote so that we can continue our work together. Thank you."

Rob Duiker



Excerpt from his brochure:

"Let me introduce myself. My name is Rob Duiker (pronunciations vary but we say Doo-ker), and I am seeking your support to become the President of your Alberta Teachers' Association. I live near Rocky Mountain House where I work in the Wild Rose School Division.

My goal is to steer a more non-partisan course where respect for a diversity of views is promoted. Ever one of us in the Association has political views. We ought to treasure the diversity of views that exists and expect to flourish as a result of the conversations that diversity inspires. My goal will never be to make the Association more conservative or socialist or anything in between. Rather, I desire an Association which is a model of civil and respectful discourse among scholarly people, as varied as the legislative assembly itself. It is time to move the ATA beyond polarity, and beyond any perception of political partisanship.

It has long been my contention that disagreement makes us better people. But we need to disagree well. I don't believe that unity should ever be found in uniformity. The membership of the ATA is beautifully diverse. That is a strength. More than anything else, this campaign is motivated by a desire to capitalize on that strength." – *Rob Duiker*

Jason Schilling

"It is my hope to continue the work I have done as Vice President, and before that District Representative for the South West. Time has gone by quickly and it's hard to believe I have had the privilege to serve teachers for almost ten years on Provincial Executive Council.

I believe strongly in the ATA and the work the Association does for teachers. It would be my goal as president to further build capacity in the organization for all teachers and our students.



This begins with listening to members, working hard on their behalf, and expressing the profession's values.

It would be my intention to host focus groups with teachers regarding member engagement in

the Association, and what it means to teachers to be a member of the ATA. I would also resolve to working with stakeholders in a manner that seems less divisive, but still entrenches the professionalism of teachers. For instance, the voices of teachers must be better heard around the issues of curriculum renewal and assessment." – *Jason Schilling*

The Alberta Teachers' Association is the organization that represents the teaching profession in Alberta. Members of Provincial Executive Council (PEC) make decisions about the business of the ATA, which influences the professional lives of teachers. Voting in the 2019 PEC Election provides the opportunity for teachers to have a say in who speaks for them with key education stakeholders at the provincial and national levels. An example of such a stakeholder is the Government of Alberta, with whom the ATA is currently participating as a full partner in the development of new K-12 curriculum. Your vote is your voice.

***Voting online
opens on March
14 – 18.***

HYPERLINKS TO INFORMATION SOURCES ABOUT ATA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



GREG JEFFERY

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Website](#)

[Email](#)

Please read Mr. Jeffery's "Meet the Candidate" article above.



ROB DUIKER

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Website](#)

[Email](#)

Please read Mr. Duiker's "Meet the Candidate" article above.



JASON SCHILLING

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Website](#)

[Email](#)

Please read Mr. Schilling's "Meet the Candidate" article above.



by Irene Deatcher

The following information and advice for school reps has been adapted from the article '[Five things school representatives should know about the 2019 PEC election](#)' published in the January 15, 2019 edition of the ATA News (written by the ATA News Staff). I have kept their headings but summarized some helpful information.

SCHOOL REPS' CORNER

PEC Election

School reps have a vital role in engaging our membership with information about the election and with encouraging voting!

1. **Your assistance with promoting the election is invaluable.**

Not only do you ensure that our members are aware of the election, you also remind them that their votes count and are important part of our democratic process. Voting has an impact on keeping our profession strong.

2. **There will be a campaign booth at all teacher conventions.**

Our convention has passed and hopefully you and others on your staff had a chance to stop by to get information and meet the candidates. You may know some members that will be attending an alternate convention this year; encourage them to check out the booth.

3. **Online voting instructions will be emailed to you on or about February 25^h.**

The package will contain copies of voting instructions which you can give to each member at your school. Members on leave and associate members will have voting instructions mailed to their home addresses.

4. **Election resources are available on the Association website at www.teachers.ab.ca.**

There is [general information](#) about the election process, [lists with profile/platform links](#) for each candidate, and [information about voting](#).

5. **Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.**

This is something I should shout from the rooftop! Our school reps are our voice and connection to ALL members within the Elk Island Public School District. Although our Local does have various ways to communicate with members, our STAFF REPS are our MOST effective way to connect with the largest number of teachers.

YOU are all awesome and we TRULY value all that you do!

Here I will add one last piece of advice:

6. **Keep offering to help members set up or access their ATA website accounts.**

There are still members in our district who do not have accounts and will not be able to vote. Substitute teachers should be encouraged to sign up as well. [This page gives step by step instructions](#) for people wishing to register for an account. Please remind members that they will need their teaching certificate number in order to create their account. Teachers who do not have access to their teaching certificate number may [need extra assistance](#).

CONFERENCE CORNER

by Irene Deatcher

Now that most of the Alberta teacher conventions have wrapped up, specialist council conferences and other opportunities are starting again. Here is a sampling of what will be happening in the monkey of May.



Council for School Leadership Conference - ULead 2019

WHO: Teachers, administrators, district leaders – individuals who are interested in the promotion / advancement of excellent practices in educational leadership. It is accessible through

the [Council for School Leadership](#).

WHAT: [ULead](#) is a summit of educational leaders. This year's theme is "Reimagining School Leadership". Check out the [video from ULead](#).

WHERE: [Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel](#).

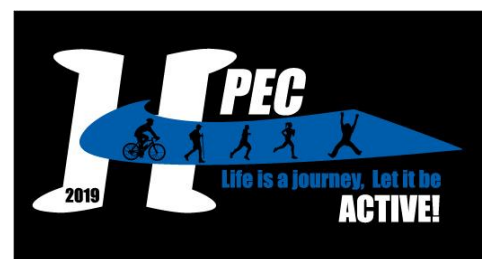
Don't forget you will need a park pass.

WHEN: May 12-14

WHY: [Three main reasons:](#) 1) Invaluable professional development. 2) An amazing experience held at a world heritage site. 3) An outstanding international learning event.

Check out the [full list of presenters](#) online.

HOW: [Register online](#).



Health and Physical Education Council Conference: Life is a Journey, Let it be Active!

WHO: For all teachers and professionals interested in health and physical education in **schools**.

WHAT: [Life is a Journey](#) is a conference organized by the [Health and Physical Education Council](#).

WHERE: [Red Deer College](#)

WHEN: May 9-11

WHY: Check out the [promotional video](#). Check out the [program of events](#) and the [pre-conference opportunities](#).

HOW: [Register online](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 23rd

[Young Authors
Conference](#)

FRH, 8:30 - 3:30pm

February 25-26th

Provincial Executive
Council
Barnett House

February 25th

[GSA Meeting](#) - Sponsored
by Edmonton Catholic
Schools

February 27th

[Pink Shirt Day](#)

March 2nd

Curling Funspiel!

March 8th

Wild Animal
Contest Deadline
[International
Women's Day](#)

March 9th

Bugler
Submissions Deadline

March 10th

Daylight Saving Time
begins

March 11th

Tasting the TQS - PD
Opportunity: RSVP Janet
Vader,
[pdchair@elkislandlocal28
.ca](mailto:pdchair@elkislandlocal28.ca)

March 11th - 15th

Substitute Appreciation
Week

March 14th - 18th

PEC Voting Open

March 16th - 18th

[ASCD Conference:
Chicago, IL](#)



March 18th

Local Council Meeting,
BFH 4:30pm

March 19th

PEC Election Voting
Results Announced

March 21st

[World Poetry Day](#)

March 25th - 29th

Spring Break!

April 1st - 9th

[Diploma Exams](#)

April 7th

[World Health Day](#)

April 11th - 12th

DEHR Conference,
Barnett House

April 16th

Local Council AGM
& Elections, BFH,
4:30pm

April 17th

[Caregiver Series -
Test Anxiety:
Strategies for
Success - SAL](#)

April 19th

Good Friday

April 22nd

Easter Monday
[Earth Day](#)

April 25th - 27th

Middle Years Conference,
Banff, AB

QUICK BITS

by Irene Deatcher

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

LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

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

- 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) have sold out. If you were still interested in purchasing

some at the discounted rate (\$29 each), please let us know. If there is sufficient interest/demand, we may look into making more available to members.

Contact our Administrative Assistant, [Karen Topma](#) with your request. Make cheques payable to Elk Island Local #28.

PEC ELECTIONS

Nominations have closed and candidates have begun their campaigns. Online voting will take place between March 14th and 18th, 2019, with results being announced on March 19th. To be able to vote, members **MUST** [have an online account](#).

For more information about nominations, PEC, and the election, check out the [article in the ATA News](#).

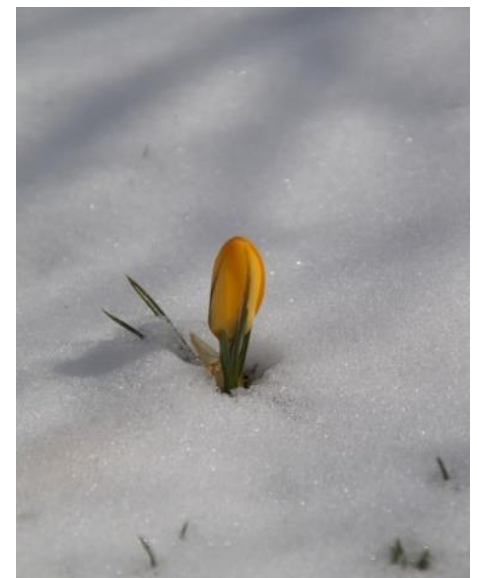
DR BT KEELER CONTINUING EDUCATION BURSARIES

Through the [ATA Trust](#), members can access bursaries and scholarships to support their professional

development. One such bursary is the Dr. B. T. Keeler Continuing Education bursary worth \$700.

To be eligible for this bursary you must be planning to take a course (with a tuition cost) this summer or in the upcoming school year, must provide a mark of course completion (before receiving the bursary), and must not have received a grant/bursary from the Trust within the past 3 years.

[Applications](#) must be completed and submitted no later than May 1, 2019 at 4pm.



President:

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

Local Communications Officer:

Irene Deatcher
 cell: 780-937-4915
lco@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@elkislandlocal28.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 EXECUTIVE

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 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):

Stephen Anderson TBAC
tbacchair@elkislandlocal28.ca

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

Karen Atkinson (President)
Elk.Island.RTA@shaw.ca

For pay issues, leaves and anything related to the [collective agreement](#), contact the Teacher

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

Jennifer Fredeen TWC
780-217-3197

twcchair@elkislandlocal28.ca

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

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](https://twitter.com/ElkIslandLocal)



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



