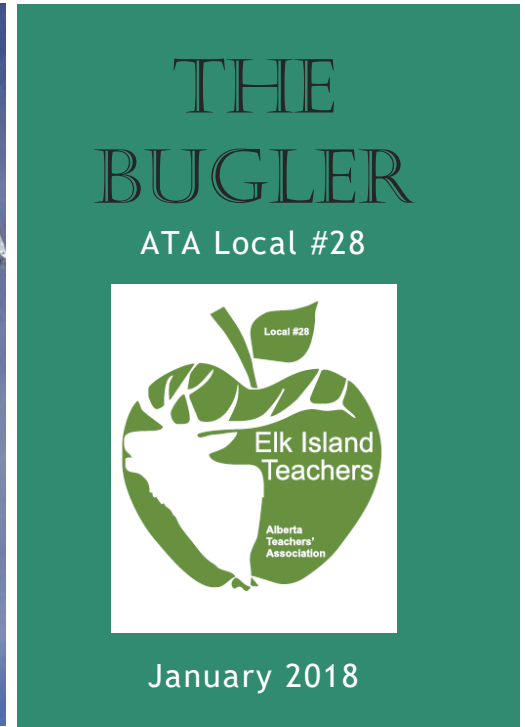




CAPTION THIS PICTURE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A GIFT CARD – SEE PAGE 8



TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

EXCITING CHANGES COMING FOR ELK ISLAND LOCAL #28...

by Deneen Zielke

NEW OFFICE!!

We are so excited to announce that we have signed a lease on our first stand alone office. It is located at #847- 33 Blackfoot Road and will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Lana Bilodeau, our Executive Assistant, will be working from this space starting February 1st.

All locals have been directed by Barnett House to comply with secure document storage guidelines that will soon be enforced. Through considerable discussion,

and after finding a suitable space, the Executive determined that moving to an office would solve our document storage concerns and allow us to provide better service to our members. Teachers will be able to drop off/pick-up forms/materials if needed (the use of the district courier will remain the same), we can hold all executive and committee meetings in our own facility, the Executive and Committee Chairs have a space to work, we can look at expanding our service to include groups such as a GSA should teachers wish to start one, and we have

(continued on page 2)



Out of the Office

What you should know while Lana is on vacation. Page 3



Clause 9.5 Changes

Check out these important changes to 9.5 claims and procedures! Pages 5 and 6

(Exciting Changes... continued)

access to documents and space whenever we need it. We hope that everyone will check it out!

ONLINE PD FUNDS SUBMISSION!

At our November Local Council meeting we presented a plan to update the Local website and include a very sophisticated tool for teachers to check their PD fund eligibility, apply, obtain approval, upload receipts and required documents, and submit for reimbursement. In addition, features would be included that would allow us to track utilization totals and report (as per our collective agreement), develop an email list, allow us to post bargaining information behind a firewall, as well as other potential services we may find valuable in the future. As mentioned we are in the planning stages. Local Council approved funds for us to begin the discovery process with [Devfacto](#), the company behind our elementary report cards and the ASEBP website.

Once the discovery phase is complete we will bring Devfacto in to present a mock up to illustrate and explain the site capabilities. At this point Local Council will decide whether to release funds to complete the project. We are so

eager to bring a site to our members that provides immediate access to valuable information, a much more efficient process, and the framework to develop further as needs arise.



Convention Checklist

by Irene Deatcher

- Plan ahead by [looking at the sessions being offered](#).
- Build a schedule / wish list. There is a [video about using SCHED](#) which may be helpful. Print a hard copy or keep track at Convention by using your phone.
- Take another look at the [pre-registered sessions](#). You MUST complete payment before your registration is valid. **Registrations close on January 26th**.
- Plan to meet friends at the President's Social Mixer. It will be held at the Craft Beer Market (10013 101A Ave – across from the

Westin) from 8-11pm on Wednesday, February 7th.

- Make a lunch date! Purchase tickets for the [Partners in Education Luncheon](#) (February 9th - featuring Dr. Alex Russell as the guest speaker). Tickets are \$45. Doors open at 11 am.
- Know your [professional responsibilities](#) – attendance IS your [professional obligation](#).
- Get answers to your burning questions - [check out the FAQ on the ATA website](#).
- Bring your ATA membership card! [Print it from the website](#) if you cannot find yours.
- Be ready for updates / changes – follow NCTCA using [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).
- Save some time to visit the vendors.
- [Consider chairing a session](#) which you want to attend. Check the [list of duties](#) to see if this is something you would like to do.



FEB. 6TH TO MARCH 9TH – LANA WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE (VACATION TIME!)

ALTERNATE CONTACTS DURING UPCOMING VACATION

by Irene Deatcher

Our wonderful executive assistant, Lana Bilodeau, will be taking her vacation time from February 6th until March 9th (inclusive).

During this time, all questions regarding Clause 9.5 and PD funds should be directed to Jennifer Fredeen (our EPC chair). Funds balances will only be discussed via email. The Local will not approve professional development without a completed form. Send Jennifer an email at jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com.

If you have other emergent issues which need assistance during this time frame, please contact our Local President Deneen Zielke (email: dkzielke@shaw.ca, phone: 780-940-5525).

TEACHER BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TBAC)

by Stephen Anderson

Hello my teacher friends,
I hope you all had a wonderful break and had some time to sit back and enjoy time with family and friends this holiday season. We had our first Teacher Board Consultation Committee (TBCC) meeting with our new co-chair, Annette Hubick, shortly before the break on December 14. I would like to take this moment to welcome Trustee Hubick to EIPS; we look forward to continuing to work with her. We addressed many issues and the meeting was very productive. I know speaking to other teachers in many other locals throughout our great province, that they are a bit envious that we have the opportunity to directly address concerns with our Superintendent and [Trustees](#) as well as other employees in central office. We discussed at great length the school calendar and spent a great deal of

time advocating to keep the fall break. It seems, from what we continue to hear from the majority of EIPS Teachers, that the fall break has many benefits for students and teachers alike. It was great to have our voices and reasons heard and we were very happy that the board was able to continue to accommodate the fall break while at the same time having students return after Labour Day. We overwhelmingly heard from the majority of teachers that they believe students as well as teachers benefit greatly, especially with their mental health, by having this time in November to rejuvenate. We also greatly appreciate the transparency demonstrated by the board in releasing the results of the survey put forth to teachers/students/and parents.

Another area we spent a great deal of time discussing was how onerous booking field trips has become and if there were any ways we could make this process easier for teachers so that students do not lose out on these fantastic learning opportunities. A while back we received a very well

worded, eloquent letter from one of our teachers about the differences and difficulties of booking a field trip now compared to when they had first started teaching decades ago, which we shared with all in attendance. It was great to hear that many in central office are currently working on this and it seems that PowerSchool may have the ability to manage all of

the required forms online, they are working toward a single form and the form/payment done through the parent portal. We look forward to seeing these changes implemented.

There were many other important issues we brought up and continue to bring up on behalf of teachers in order to make EIPS the best it can possibly be. Our next Teacher Board Advisory Committee (TBAC) meeting is on February 5 and the Teacher Board Consultation Committee (TBCC) meeting is on February 22. If you have any concerns or want to get involved please contact me:

stephenanderson.ata@gmail.com.



CLAUSE 9.5 CHANGES:

A LETTER FROM THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Dear Colleagues,

In November, Local Council approved new changes to the Professional Development Fund Committee Frame of Reference.

We would like to share the major changes with you.

First, there are new maximums for applications. Keep this handy “**CLIP AND SAVE**” chart for your reference. This letter will also be made accessible on [our website](#).

Clause 9.5 Claims:

- 1. You can now claim up to \$1600 over 2 years**
- 2. Hotel maximum is \$200/day**
- 3. Car Allowance is \$0.45/Km**
- 4. Subsistence is \$60/day**
- 5. Sub costs - \$129 / half day, \$234 / full day**

****Costs for subs will continue to be the FIRST item paid in a claim.**

The above changes will NOT be made on the form because we are in the process of designing an online application process. You will receive the allotted maximums without having to adjust the form.

(Clause 9.5 Changes - continued)

The second major change for Clause 9.5 involves the approval process.

The PD Funds committee has been advised that we need a hard copy signature from an executive member on the committee, rather than verbal assent for approving your PD activities.

THEREFORE... please follow this new procedure. Keep this handy "**CLIP AND SAVE**" chart for your reference.

Clause 9.5 Application Procedure:

- 1. Fill out the request form. (Prior approval will not be given over phone or email unless there are extenuating circumstances.)**
 - 2. Send the form to:**
CASTLE SCHOOL
ATTN: Jennifer Fredeen
 - 3. Your activity will be approved or denied. Denial will be communicated via email.**
 - 4. Your form will be returned with the approval amounts via the Local Office.**
-

This new procedure will take extra time. We encourage all members to make applications as soon as possible.

You must gain approval **prior** to attending any activity or paying for a course.

If you do not submit receipts within **21 days** of your activity, you will **NOT** be reimbursed as per our Frame of Reference.

You may appeal any decision in writing to the PD Funds committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Deneen Zielke dkzielke@shaw.ca (president) or Jennifer Fredeen jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com (Economic Policy Committee Chair).

QUICK BITS

by Irene Deatcher

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

LOCAL #28 ANNUAL CURLING FUNSPIEL

It is that time of year again! Grab your broom and grab a friend – let's get ready to go curling!

This year, the Funspiel will be held on March 3rd at the [Ottewell Curling Club](#). All

interested members looking to participate are asked to email Kyle Saramatunga at kyle.saramatunga@me.com. Please register as soon as possible!

The cost will be \$40.00/curler (\$160 for a team of 4). The registration fee includes food, prizes and at least 16 ends of curling for each team. Who will get the coveted trophy this year???

CLAUSE 9.5 FUNDING

Term 1 of funding finishes on January 31, 2017. This term, \$88,619 of Clause 9.5 funds have been

(balance is \$22,381). Term Two applications are being accepted now.

**Please refer to the PD article in this issue for updated claim amounts and for the updated process!!

NEED YOUR TEACHING CERTIFICATE?

If you are still working on creating your account for the [Provincial ATA website](#), you need your teaching



certificate number. Teachers who do not have access to this number should contact Angie Nikolaj (Human Resources Administrative Assistant) at Central Office (ph: 780-417-8130).

NEED YOUR ATA MEMBERSHIP CARD?

ATA membership cards WILL be required at Teachers' Convention this year. They will be used during full sessions to determine that ONLY members of the North Central school divisions are in attendance – people without proof may be asked to leave.

[Membership cards](#) can be accessed and printed from the [Provincial ATA website](#). As an alternative to printing the card, it is acceptable to save a copy to your phone or other device.

Teachers who wish to get their membership cards but do NOT yet have an account on the ATA site, need to read the article above about teaching certificate numbers. ☺

[You may then follow these steps for creating your account.](#)

HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNT – SPEND IT!!

Your Health Spending Account (HSA) will NOT carry over once ASEBP takes it over from Manulife. Our EPC chair, [Jennifer Fredeen](#), is working with Barnett House to arrange and host a session on how to spend your HSA.

Must be spent by August 2018 and submitted prior to the submission deadline. Although the deadline is usually in November, we recommend submitting your claims as early as possible (by the end of August) to avoid possible complications. Any funds NOT spent before the switch will NOT roll-over or be transferred to your new HSA.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

This month, instead of a separate article on themed resources, please follow links with an asterisk – each of those will lead you to lessons, videos, ideas, articles and other links you may want to use in your classroom.

January 25-26th
[Teacher Growth Supervision and Evaluation](#)
 workshop for administrators

January 27th
[Family Literacy Day](#)**

January 29th
[Edmonton Catholic Local #54 is holding a GSA meeting at Barnett House from 4:30 to 6:00. January 31st](#)

Social Justice Book Club meeting – 4:00 at [Common Ground Community Café](#).

February 6th
[Safer Internet Day](#)**

February 8th and 9th
[North Central Teachers' Convention](#)

February 14th
[Valentine's Day](#)**

February 15th
[National Flag Day](#)**

February 16th
 School closure Day

February 19th
 Family Day (Stat Holiday)

March 3rd
 Local #28 Funspiel –at the Ottewell Curling Club

CONTEST UPDATES

CAPTION CONTEST / WHERE'S SANTA-WINNER

by Irene Deatcher

November brought the return of our "Where's Santa?" contest. This time, the jolly old dude was hiding in the article "Teacher's Convention: Tips and Reminders". Tip #3 started with the words "**S**ign-up **A**nd **N**ote **T**he **A**dvantage...". He was found by 21 members.

The winner (selected by a random number generator) was Andrea Malina from Fultonvale Elementary Junior High School. She is the lucky recipient of a \$100 Amazon gift card!

We are trying something new this month! We invite you to get creative and caption a winter photo for us.



Check out the photo above and think of a witty or poignant phrase. Send an email (title: "Caption Contest") to me at deatcher.ata@gmail.com. Contest closes on February 16th and the winner of a \$50 Amazon gift card will be announced in the February edition of The Bugler. Two honorable mentions will also be selected and will receive \$10 gift cards for Starbucks. Good Luck!

LOCAL #28 EXECUTIVE

President:

Deneen Zielke
cell: 780-940-5525
dkzielke@shaw.ca

Local Communications Officer:

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

Teacher Board Advisory Committee Chair:

Stephen Anderson
stephenanderson.ata@gmail.com

Economic Policy Committee:

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

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

Treasurer:

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

Professional Development Chair:

Janet Vader
(school) 780-449-2787

Past President:

Lynn Johnston
cell: 780-920-2131
lynndale08@gmail.com

Secretary:

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

District Representative:

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

LOCAL #28 OFFICE

Executive Assistant:

Lana Bilodeau
Office number: 587-988-3663
elkislandpublicata@gmail.com
Address: #847- 33 Blackfoot Road
Sherwood Park
T8A 5W6

(address effective Feb. 1, 2018)

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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
stephenanderson.ata@gmail.com

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](#)):

Inge Coates
Elk.Island.RTA@shaw.ca

Twitter: [@ElkIslandLocal](https://twitter.com/ElkIslandLocal)



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

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



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