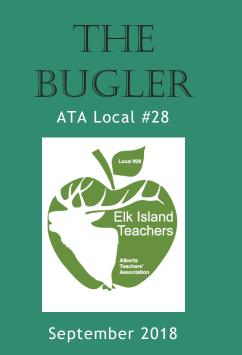
THE BUGLER ATA LOCAL #28 Volume 3 Issue #1





SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS ON PAGES 6-7

TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

# PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT – LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

by Deneen Zielke

As one school year ends, it does not take long before we are deep in preparation for the next. This not only happens in our classrooms, but also with our professional organization.

Every summer the ATA hosts a conference for the executive of each Local where we come together to discuss and plan for the 'big issues' that affect us all. Each year there seems to be a theme that permeates all course sections. Last year the focus was on celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ATA, and bargaining. It was a time for reflection,

celebration, and planning for the future. This year, unfortunately, did not deliver such an optimistic message.

We are all aware that one of the hurdles we have ahead of us is bargaining a new collective agreement. Our work has become more demanding, our expenses have increased, and our wages have not. With leaders both present and future, either indicating that there isn't any money for pay increases for public sector employees, or that cuts and rollbacks can be expected, we have a lot of work ahead of us. The (continued on page 2)



#### **Conference Season Begins!**

Check out the upcoming Specialist Council events. Pages 3-5



#### **New Website!!**

Have you signed up yet? Find out about what our new site can do for you! Pages 8-10

(From the Local President continued)

good news is that with this being an election year, they may be more motivated to listen to garner our votes.

But, our problems don't end there. Not only are our collective agreements and remuneration at risk, funding for education is too. There is a strong possibility that funding for education could be negatively impacted following the next election. This would mean cutbacks, which most of us have seen before, and definitely don't want to see again. This would mean fewer supports for our students and more work for us, which seems unfathomable, with teachers already working extremely hard as it is.

There is no doubt we are in for a tough go, but all is not lost! Our strength is in each other! We are many in number and we are connected to our families, friends, and communities. If we come together and work to make education a top election issue, if we are actively involved in bargaining, if we make our voices heard, if we show how committed we are to what's important to us, we can be successful.

I ask you all to please sign up for an account on our new website

elkislandlocal28.ca and watch for posts on the 'members only' page. We will be keeping you updated regarding bargaining and political engagement. We have a number of events planned that will help keep you informed and connected to decision makers to voice your concerns. Please read the Bugler, ask questions of your Staff Representative, check the website often and become involved. This is our chance, the time is now, and the change we see will be of our making.

I wish you all the best this year. Enjoy the new students in your classrooms and take care of yourself and each other.

READ-IN WEEK
2018

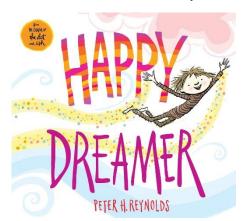
BRINGING
STORIES
TO LIFE

by Irene Deatcher

October is just around the corner and with it comes Read-In Week. This year, the event is slightly shorter than usual. Falling on October 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, we will only have 4 days of school based activities as the last day of the week is dedicated to professional learning.

This year's theme of "Bringing Stories to Life" is a great one for all of us who love to be or love to listen to storytellers. We all have memories of at least one book we read that felt real and that we could imagine that we were living within it.

The featured book this year is "Happy Dreamer" by Peter H. Reynolds (author of "The Dot" and "ish").



#### From the Read In website:

While the world tells us to sit still, to follow the rules, and to colour inside the lines, *Happy Dreamer* celebrates all those moments in between, when the mind and spirit soar and we are free to become our own true dreamer maximus! In Peter's signature voice and style, this empowering picture book reminds children of how much their dreams matter, and while life will have ups and downs, he enlists readers to stay true to who they are, to tap into their most creative inner selves, and to never ever forget to dream big!

# CONFERENCE CORNER

by Irene Deatcher

It's that time of year!
Check your calendar and mark these awesome opportunities. Remember to apply for PD funds online at our new website (go into the Members/EasyPD area of the site) BEFORE registering or paying any fees. You need approval if you want to use your PD funds for reimbursement of any costs.

Remember: All ATA members may join one specialist council per year free of charge. Being

a member of <u>a</u>

<u>specialist</u> <u>council</u>

gives you access to their conference (often at a reduced cost), publications, website, workshops, and

seminars. The councils provide members with an opportunity to share and receive information and resources with others within a specialty area.

# Outreach Education Council

**WHO:** Teachers involved with outreach education / outreach schools. Hosted by the <u>Outreach Education</u> Council.

**WHAT:** The conference theme is <u>"The Power of Connection"</u>.

WHERE: River Cree Resort Hotel in Enoch.

WHEN: September 27 -

29.

TEAMNOR

WHY: Comedian Howie Miller (from "Caution: May Contain Nuts") will be the opening keynote speaker. The closing keynote on Saturday will be Carol van Slyke, a former outreach

teacher with an honorary lifetime membership in the specialist council. There are four different slots with a

The Power of Connection four different slots with a variety of sessions during each time period including ones focusing on mental health, the new cannabis framework in Alberta, teaching students with exceptionalities, and advancing reconciliation in education.

**HOW:** Register online.

# Grounded in Truth, Soaring with Knowledge Conference

**WHO:** Teachers, support staff, administrators, school counsellors, and social workers.

WHAT: This conference is being co-hosted by three specialist councils: the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Education Council, Social Studies Council, and GEOEC (Global, Environmental, and Outdoor Education Council).

Grounded in truth

WHERE: River Cree Resort Hotel in Enoch.

**WHEN:** October 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

**WHY:** Laura Grizzlypaws is the Keynote speaker. She uses stories, songs, and dance to inform, to entertain, and to deliver her inspiring message.

**HOW:** Register online.

(continued on page 4)

(Conference Corner continued)

# Celebrating the Challenges

**WHO:** A variety of professionals including teachers, support staff, school / district administration, school counsellors, and social workers. This is for people who want to improve practices around teaching or supporting students with



special needs.

**WHAT:** This conference is organized by the <u>Council</u> <u>for Inclusive Education</u>.

This council has a focus on advancing education for students with special needs and for supporting teachers and other professionals working with students with special needs.

WHERE: Coast Canmore Hotel.

WHEN: October 11th -

13<sup>th</sup>

**WHY:** Keynote speakers include <u>Dr. Erik Carter</u>, <u>Dr. Kristopher Wells</u>, <u>Margaret Casey</u>, and <u>Sandy Taylor-Tran</u>. Check out the <u>full list</u> of sessions.

**HOW:** Register online.

# Relevant Religious Education

**WHO:** Teachers with various moral/religious viewpoints who want to enhance their professional development in this area and who wish to network with others.

what: Hosted by the Religious and Moral Education
Council. The council examines issues pertaining to the religious and moral dimensions of education.

WHERE: Banff Park Lodge.

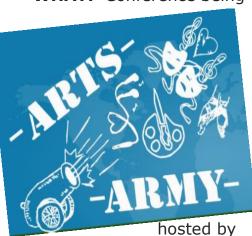
WHY: The keynote speaker is Reginald Bibby and there will be guests from The Magis Centre. who will speak on their new resource "Credible Catholic: The Seven Essential Modules".

**HOW:** Register online. Fees include a meal plan.

#### **Arts Army**

**WHO:** Teachers of music, art, drama, and dance.

WHAT: Conference being



the Fine Arts Council.

## WHERE:

<u>Fantasyland Hotel</u>, Edmonton.

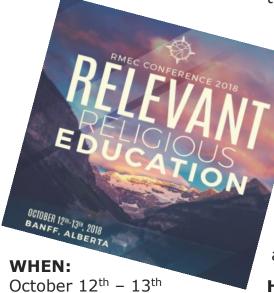
**WHEN:** October 18<sup>th</sup>

- 20<sup>th</sup>

why: There is a large variety of presenters with a large variety of sessions encompassing art, dance, drama, music, and indigenous arts.

**HOW:** Register online.

(continued on page 5)



(Conference Corner continued)

#### Geeks Unite 2.0

**WHO:** Science and math teachers.

**WHAT:** The Mathematics Council and the Science council are getting together to host a conference and a pre-conference symposium.

WHERE: Delta Hotel by Marriott and Radisson Hotel

Edmonton South.

The conference has a large selection of math and science sessions. Keynotes include Dr. Jo Boaler and Jill Heinereth plus there will be a panel discussion around the theme "Education in the Era of Fake News".

**HOW:** Register online.

**WHY:** There are a wide variety of sessions – visit the website for the complete listing.

**HOW:** Register online.
Attendees are encouraged to bring their own electronic devices

to access

reaching ...

Substitute

**Teacher Conference** 

when: The pre-conference symposium who

is on October 18<sup>th</sup> and the conference is October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

WHY: Their symposium features a morning session of chemistry demos with Lucio Gemini (aka Dr. Boom) and an afternoon nanotech tour at the University of Alberta.

**WHO:** Substitute teachers!

**WHAT:** A conference that allows substitute teachers to network, socialize, and access professional development sessions.

WHERE: Radisson Hotel

**Edmonton South** 

WHEN: October 26

(evening)-27

#### And More...

conference

materials online.

For more conferences in November and December, please visit the Provincial ATA website <u>calendar of events</u> or check your staffroom bulletin board for posters regarding upcoming events.

# WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACTION 2018 CONTEST RESULTS

by Irene Deatcher

Wow! It sure seems like a lot of people had absolutely fantastic summer breaks. We heard from people who conquered mountains, cruised the waters by Key West, hung out with iguana, made friendships with baseball mascots, and rolled incense in Vietnam. There were SO many wonderful pictures and stories – thanks so much for sending them in to us!

Your Communications Committee made the decision through voting for their 5 favourites based on theme, photographic elements and creativity.

**First place** goes to Christine Bezuko from Glen Allan for the beautiful umbrellas with such vibrant colours. **Second place** was snagged by Emily Anderson from Woodbridge Farms – such a fun shot with an incredible view! Christine and Emily will each receive a \$50 gift certificate for either Boston Pizza or Amazon. Congratulations!

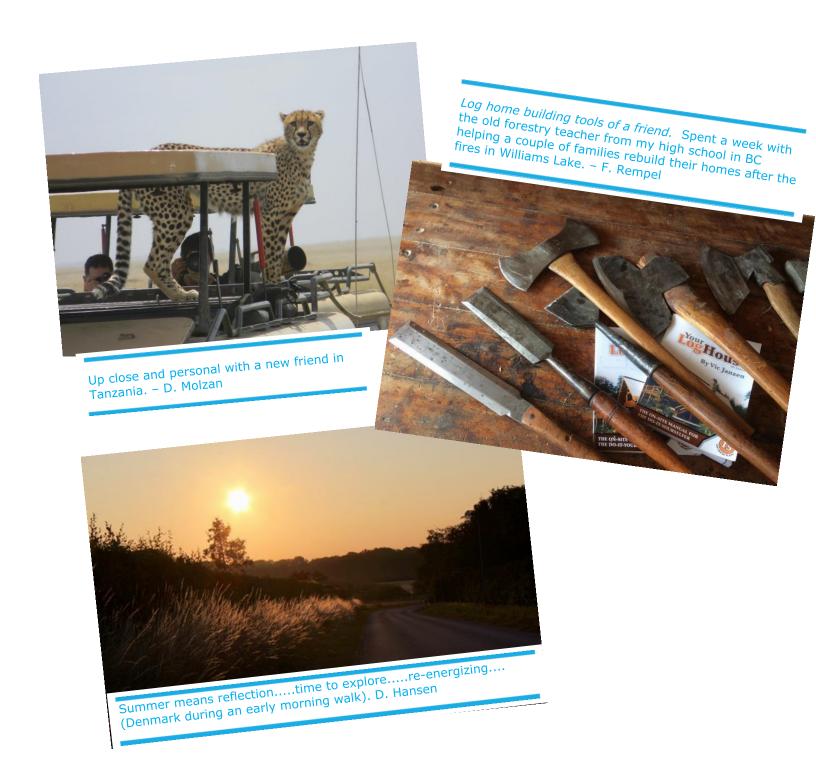


(Photo contest continued)

(continued on page 7)

**Honourable mentions** have been awarded to Dianne Molzan (Supports For Students), Fred Rempel (Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary / Supports For Students), and Diane Hansen (Supports for Students). Hmm... I think I have just noticed a theme there!

They each will receive a \$10 gift card for Tim Hortons or Starbucks. Congrats, everyone - thanks for sharing your adventures!





by Irene Deatcher

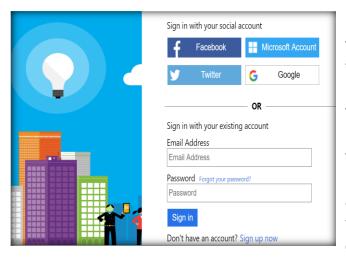
# Hey, hey!! The new website is up and active!

300 Elk Island Public teachers have already signed up and we want YOU to join, too! Lettuce show you how.

Clicking on the above banner will take you to <a href="mailto:elkislandlocal28.ca">elkislandlocal28.ca</a> which is our public landing page for the site. If you scroll down the page, there are a few blog posts for anyone to peruse. Members of our Local who haven't created an account yet will want to



check out the post to the right – <u>Member Sign-Up</u>. It will take you through the steps for creating an account. Don't forget – you MUST have your teaching certificate number handy and you MUST have a non-EIPS email address for registration. If you look at the green banner above, you will see two tabs – HOME and MEMBERS/EASYPD. Click on the Members/EasyPD tab and you will get started.



People who are not already signed in or are new to the site will see the form on the left. New visitors should click on "Sign up now" on the bottom right of the page. This will lead you to the registration form where you will add your personal, school, and contact information. The form MUST be complete in order for your registration to be approved. When it has been approved by a member of our Local Executive, you will see a different screen the next time you click on Members/EasyPd.

Turn the page to see the exclusive part of our website... it is the gateway to accessing exclusive information AND accessing your PD funds...

(NEW web site continued)



# Congratulations!! If you see the above banner, you have made it to the Members Only area!

This page is the main blog area where you will find important information and updates which will be especially critical in bargaining and election years. When here, don't forget to scroll down to see if new articles have been posted. Older articles may get deleted if no longer relevant. Here is a sampling:



# **New Email Addresses!**

Click on the right photo to access the list of people who currently form <u>your Local</u>
<u>Executive</u>. Please note that we all have (or are in the process of doing so)



changed our email addresses to reflect our role/position and the new website address. These addresses will stay the same even if new people enter the role following elections in the future. This will give continuity to our members and make it easy for you to reach the person with whom you want to communicate. For example, to contact our Local President Deneen Zielke, the updated address for her and future presidents is <a href="mailto:president@elkislandlocal28.ca">president@elkislandlocal28.ca</a>. All executive email addresses will contain the @elkislandlocal28.ca suffix. For a complete listing, you can also check towards the end of The Bugler for Executive contact information.



# The Bugler

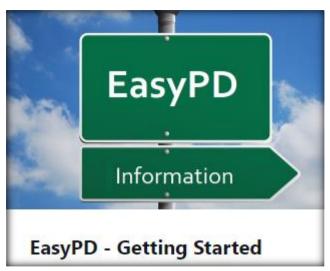
On the site, you can find links to current and archived editions of The Bugler. When accessing the issues, you will be taken to our old website hosted through the Provincial ATA. (continued on page 10)

(NEW web site continued)

# Visit the site for Bargaining 2018 Updates!

Your local website has a blog post dedicated to bargaining. The date of the latest update will always be posted. Watch this area often for upcoming opportunities to be involved and give your input during the bargaining process. Currently, we are in phase 2 of bargaining which is that central negotiations have begun (phase 1 was the establishment of items being bargained at the central table and at the local level). Check the provincial website often (especially the <a href="Bargainers' Blog">Bargainers' Blog</a>) for updates and a complete list of archived posts.





# **Hooray for EasyPD!!**

THIS is what we truly have been waiting for! You can now access information about and apply for your PD funds online... any time of day. The blog post outlines how to look at your account (click on "My PD" on the top banner of the Members Only page) and what happens when you make an application.

When you enter the My PD area, you will see a bar to the left indicating how much of the funds for

the current term have been allocated. The bar on the right indicates how much money you personally can access. Below that bar is the link for creating your application. After your application is approved, you can register for your event. When the event is over, you will be able to submit your receipts online (via photos) so that you may be reimbursed. It's THAT easy!



**Coming Soom:** We are working on updating the criteria for PD fund applications and that will be made available in a separate blog post.

# IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

September 27<sup>th</sup>
Terry Fox National School
Run Day

September 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>
Beginning Teachers'
Conference - Shaw
Conference Centre

September 28<sup>th</sup>
Orange Shirt Day

October 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Read-In Week

October 5<sup>th</sup>
World Teachers' Day

October 5<sup>th</sup>
Professional Learning Day

October 8<sup>th</sup>
<u>Thanksgiving</u> – stat holiday

October 10<sup>th</sup>
World Mental Health Day

October 12<sup>th</sup>
Last day for submission

<u>Last day for submissions</u> for the October Bugler

October 16<sup>th</sup>
Local Council meeting

October 19<sup>th</sup>

<u>Induction ceremony</u> for new members of the ATA

October 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> School Bus Safety Week

October 24<sup>th</sup>
United Nations Day

# **QUICK BITS**

by Irene Deatcher

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

**MOVIE TICKETS** 

We still have discounted movie tickets available from last year (and will most likely order more for this year). Members can purchase up to 10 tickets through the Local at \$8.50/ tickets - this is a savings of \$4.75 per ticket!

Cheques can be made payable to Elk Island Local No.28 and sent to our Administrative Assistant Karen Topma via the School Courier. You may also contact her by email to make arrangements.

## **Hidden Vegetable Contest**

Most of you know how this one works! Hidden someplace in the September edition of The Bugler is the name of a vegetable. In fact, one word or phrase is replaced by the vegetable. It's corny (**NOT the** 

**answer!**), but I'll make it worth your while!

To participate, send an email to <a href="Ico@elkislandlocal28.ca">Ico@elkislandlocal28.ca</a> titled "I found the vegetable!" In the email, include the name of the vegetable and the word or phrase that you believe it replaced. There will be ONLY one correct answer (even if people are creative) – I am the final judge! All members with correct answers will be entered in a draw (cut-off date will be October 12th).

This month the prize is a **\$50** gift card for Amazon.ca.

Happy vegetable harvesting!

# LOCAL #28 EXECUTIVE

#### **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@amail.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

jvader@shaw.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 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@elkislandlocal 28.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

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@elkislandlocal 28.ca

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 House</u>:

The Alberta Teachers' Association

780-447-9400

OR

**1-800-232-7208** 

Twitter: @ElkIslandLocal



Facebook: ATA Local #28 - Elk Island Public

