



PARK PLAINS EAST LOCAL 31 NEWS

Vol. 1 Issue, September 2011

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WELCOME TO THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR!

Your local ATA group has welcomed the new school year with some exciting changes! This year I will be sending out a newsletter which outlines what the local committees are up to and what events the ATA has planned. Newsletters will arrive at your inbox, or your staff room table depending on how you fill in the short survey below! There may be other publications sent out as needed throughout the year as issues arise.

If you have anything newsworthy that you would like to share with our local members through this newsletter, please email your submissions to me at ppelco@telus.net where they will be reviewed and placed in an appropriate section.

I am hoping to also set up some great sharing links such as “garage sale,” “check us out” and “local learners” that will help keep us in touch, informed and excited about education as well as the socialization aspect of our profession on the new Park Plains East Local Website (<http://local31.teachers.ab.ca/Pages/Home.aspx>) ... check often to see new additions!

Please remember that login is easy at www.teachers.ab.ca by entering your username – firstname.lastname@teachers.ab.ca and then your password. If you forgot your password, click on the link that will reset your password immediately by following a few easy steps. Please take the time to update your profile and choose your FREE specialist council membership while you are there! When you are logged in, you can choose the *access your sites* option, which will link you to your specialist pages as well as the local site and more!

I wish you all a healthy and successful year,

Rebecca McCullough
Park Plains East Local 31 Communications Officer

President's Corner

Welcome to another school year! This will be an exciting and interesting year for teachers in Alberta; we will have a new premier and new government, and we will enter negotiations for a new collective agreement. Teachers are encouraged to buy a membership in a political party of their choice to ensure we have a voice in the future of education in Alberta. Park Plains East will be active in the community and communicating to the public about the kind of education system we want for students and teachers. I hope you all have a great school year!

Lorne Maier, Local President

Park Plains East Local 31
Executive 2011-2012



President-Lorne Maier maier25@hotmail.com
Vice-President-Blaine Woodall
Past President-Maureen Meyer
Chair of Finance-Elaine Willette-Larsen elaine.willette-larson@ecacs16.ab.ca
Local Communications Officer-Rebecca McCullough ppelco@telus.net
Political Engagement - Koreyan Peterson koreyan.peterson@gmail.com
Administrative Secretary - Margaret Wolters elmar@telus.net

Park Plains East Local 31
Committee Chairpersons

Economic Policy (BTPS)-TBA
Economic Policy (ECAC)-Blaine Woodall
Convention – Linda Rathwell
Mentorship (BTPS) –Rebecca McCullough
Mentorship (ECAC)-Michelle Nanias
Field Experience – Darrel Teeter
Professional Development- Alysha Grosky

Park Plains East Local 31
School Representatives

Amisk - Sylvia Axley
Blessed Sacrament - Michelle Nanais
Christ the King - Erin Sturtevant
Clandonald - Janice Jackson
Delnorte - Michael Plouffe
Dewberry - Kyla Christensen
Dr. Folkins - Heather Seim
Edgerton School - Angela Golinowski
E. H Walter - Beverly Haydu
Hughenden Public - Vince Artmko
Colony Schools - Heather Vandevoorde
Irma - Donna Smallwood
J. R. Robson - Jesse Atkinson
Kitscoty Elementary -Linda Rathwell
Kitscoty Jr.\Sr - Martina Ruston-Carter
Mannville -Joel Bowtell
Marwayne - Stan Fox
Mother Teresa - Veronica Pinkoski
Provost Public - Christopher Tuckey
School of Hope - Blaine Woodall
St. Jerome's School - Kevin Sommer
St. Thomas Aquinas - Elaine Willette-Larsen
Theresetta – Amber Miller
Vermilion Elementary - Rebecca McCullough
Wainwright Elementary - Marlene Caron
Wainwright High - Mary Frank

Park Plains East Local Meeting Dates:

September 29-Oct 1 Beginning Teachers' Conference
September 30 Deadline for Scholarship Application
October 19 -Induction (Wainwright)
November 9 -Local Council
December 14 -Local Council
February 15 - Local Council
March 1 -Deadline for Special Projects Application
April 25 -Local Council
May 29 -Annual General Meeting (Wainwright)
June 9 - Retirement Brunch (Wainwright)
June 13 -Local Council

All Local Meetings are held at the Wainwright
Communiplex at 5:30. Supper is served from 5:00-5:30.

Dollars and Deadlines

There are many opportunities to apply for grants
and bursaries. A few include:

Specialist Council Conference Grants - \$400 to
aid in attending a specialist conference in 2011-
2012. **Deadline: September 30**

Park Plains East Project Grant – contact your ATA
School Rep for more info. **Deadline: March 1**

Educational bursary & Project Grants through the
Educational Trust visit www.teachers.ab.ca for
more info. **Deadline: May 1**



2011-2012 Committee Welcome Reports...

Mentorship

The Mentorship committee would like to welcome all new teachers to BTPS and ECAC. We are very excited to work alongside the members of this team to help make your new teaching experience effective and engaging. We would also like to thank the mentors who have so generously volunteered their time and expertise to help encourage and provide resources and support to our beginning teachers. Please remember to stay in contact with each other and offer support where needed.

Political Engagement

This could be a very interesting year for us as teachers. Provincial elections are on the horizon, this is the last year of our five year collective agreement and we are in a position to create a partnership between all of the stakeholders in education. How do we do this? By becoming informed and getting involved in activities within the local and provincial political landscape. Leadership races are on. Have you bought all the memberships you can so that you can choose our next premier? Check out www.teachers.ab.ca for a synopsis of the leadership candidates and look closely to see who is going to do the best they can for education in our province.

Local Communication

See box on page 1...

Professional Development

Thank-you all for attending the Park Plains East 31 annual Professional Development Day. I truly hope you enjoyed yourselves and were able to take away practical ideas and strategies which you can use in your classrooms on Monday. Thank-you to all of the committee members who helped make this day a success. Our next Professional Development Day is scheduled for September 21, 2012 at J R Robson in Vermilion. See you then.

Convention

This year's convention will be held on March 8th and 9th, 2012. To book rooms at the Westin, call 1-800-937-8461 and state that you are with CEATCA. You need to do this before January 31, 2012. The traditional rooms are \$145.00 + tax, and deluxe rooms are \$180.00. Parking is extra; it is not included or guaranteed at the Westin. We have a three year contract with the Westin. Our convention will be exclusively housed at the Shaw.



Breaking Down the Borders!

For the first time in a long time, our local is aiming for some major ATA recognition in the area of community and public relations! We are attempting to break some records and break down some “borders” within our local communities, and we want to do so with a game or two of BALL!

First border breakdown...

This event will see the staff and their significant others from ECACS take on the staff and significant others from BTPS. There will be games set up in Vermilion as well as Wainwright in order to decrease travel distances. These slow-pitch games will take place on October 15th, 2011. So gather some friends and make a mixed team and send your information (team name and whether you wish to play in Vermilion or Wainwright) to Rebecca at ppelco@telus.net before October 7, 2011. The fee to play is \$2/player and all proceeds will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Second border breakdown...

This event will see the North versus the South. Staff and significant others are encouraged to form teams that mix ECACS with BTPS and battle it out in a Snow-pitch style game to see which side of the Yellowhead can handle the heat (or in this case the cold!). This event will be held in Vermilion in early March when there is still some snow, but not the -50°C weather! The exact date will be announced in the next newsletter, but if you are interested in playing, please email Rebecca at ppelco@telus.net with your team name and if you are in the North or the South. Again, the fee to play is \$2/player and funds will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Third and final border breakdown for 2011-2012...

This final ball game will return to slow-pitch style and will attempt to break down the Alberta/Saskatchewan border! Staff members are encouraged to create a team or two which can take on some teams from the Saskatchewan community. These games will once again be held in Vermilion and will foster some camaraderie between the two provinces! Again, fees are \$2/player which will be donated to Habitat for Humanity. If you are interested in playing this game in May, please contact Rebecca at ppelco@telus.net.

Remember...even if you aren't a ball player, come out and support your fellow colleagues and friends!!! Get your staff, students, parents and communities involved by having them come out and cheer!



I am attempting to collect all member email addresses in which our local can communicate. Please provide us with your email address in order to best reach you. Your email will not be given to any outside sources. Please also circle your preference in receiving communications from Park Plains East.

Rebecca McCullough

Name: _____

School: _____

Email address: _____

I wish to receive the PPE Local newsletter via email or School Rep (please circle your choice)



PLEASE RIP THIS SHEET OFF AND PLACE IT IN THE LABELLED BOX WHEN YOU EXIT THE GYM TODAY!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!