



Park Plains East Local 31

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Holiday Wishes!

Park Plains East Local 31, would like to take this time to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday break! Please remember to take time for yourself this holiday to re-energize and relax.

Should you have any ATA needs over the holiday, please remember that Barnett House staff officers are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can be reached at 1-800-232-7208.



Local Communications ... Upcoming Events!

Please remember that it is not too late to get a team together to play some ball! We have opened up the guidelines to better suit the geographical and scheduling needs of various participants. There are currently schools eager to play! Some are awaiting a volleyball match, while others are looking forward to basketball or spring slow-pitch. Currently Vermilion Elementary and Wainwright High School are awaiting a challenger for volleyball. Please contact me for more info!

Note that the deadlines for our local grants are coming up in the new year. Should you require more information, please ask your school representative.

Due to needing time to have some technological issues fixed, our local webpage will not be completed to full capacity until sometime in January. I will let you know when it is ready!.

Have a joyful break!
Rebecca McCullough
Local Communications Officer





Mentorship

Each Mentorship pairing has been meeting as their needs have dictated since their initial welcome day in September. Informally they have been able to meet on various Divisional or PD Days. Our next group get together will be held on February 25th. More details will be given to the group in the new year. The day will cover the needs of the group as previously determined by a needs assessment that they completed this year.

On behalf of the Mentorship program, have a wonderful holiday break!
Rebecca McCullough
Mentorship Chair (BTPS)

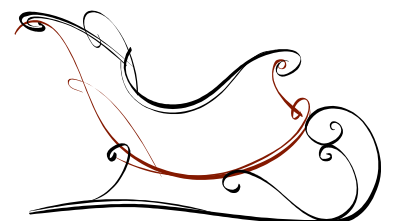
DR Report

- 600+ new teachers took part in the Beginning Teachers Conference September 22 – 24 in Edmonton. (493 were preregistered by PEC)
- Money is coming from the Department of Education for more School Boards to join the “Inclusion Pilot Program”.
- \$34 051.79 has been donated by Locals et al to aid the teachers of Slave Lake.
- The first Practice Review case is on our books. The case centers on the competency of the teacher in the classroom.
- Tripartite discussions will start shortly after the Minister of Education is named.
- Cycle 5 of AISI has been announced. There is a new emphasis on the role of the teacher in planning and guiding the project.
- JC Couture has been selected as the new “Assistant Co-ordinator of Research” and Jonathan Tegtmeyer has been selected as the new “Assistant Co-ordinator of Communications”
- 422 teachers attended Summer Conference this year.
- Some groups are using TNET to do online registrations this year including credit card payments
- Resolutions have to be into Barnett House by 5:00 PM December 15 to be on this year’s ARA schedule.

Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school my teacher was in the same grade for 5 years!

Welcome Back for another year!!!

Randy Proskiw
District Representative

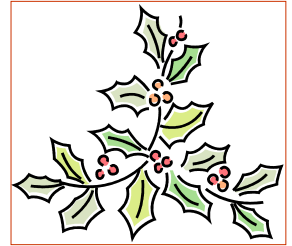


Professional Development

The next ATA PD Day will be held on September 21, 2012 at JR Robson in Vermilion. The format will be changing to sessions in the morning and the Keynote speaker in the afternoon. More information to follow in early spring.

The Next Committee Meeting: February 15, 2012 at Wainwright High School in the library.

Happy Holidays & Take Care,
Alysha D. Grosky
P.D. Chair



Economic Policy Committee

The Economic Policy Committee has been quite busy in preparation for the coming negotiations, as our contract ends at the end of this year. We have set up a survey to get your feedback on what you would like changed or kept in the coming round of negotiations. We are also having a general meeting for all ATA members on February 15, 2011 at the Wainwright Communityplex. This meeting is very important for all members to attend because we will be seeking a mandate to negotiate our new contract. At the meeting you will be able to inform the Negotiating Subcommittee on the areas we need to focus on. Remember this is your contract and it has a direct effect on your work conditions and wages. Please participate in the survey and the meeting so we can negotiate knowing all members are heard.

The Survey is located at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/253LQN5>

Kevin Elliott
EPC Chair (BTPS)

East Central is working on a survey. We will be meeting in January to formulate an opening proposal.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

Blaine Woodall
East Central EPC chair.

**"They may forget what you said but they will never forget
how you made them feel." - Carol Buchner**



Convention

Convention At A Glance will be emailed December 14, 2011. If teachers at your school do not receive one, contact Deb.venance@btps.ca . Here is the Westin info for this year as it stands:

Traditional Room: \$145 +taxes Deluxe Room: \$180 + taxes Junior Suite: \$230 + taxes
The cut-off date for reservations in this block is January 31, 2012 before 5:00 pm.

Phone: 1-800-WESTIN (937-8461) or 426-3636 or <http://www.thewestinedmonton.com/>

Make sure to identify as booking with Central East Alberta Teachers' Convention Association.

Limited parking available at Westin and is not included in the price of the guest room, nor is it guaranteed that you get a stall if you book a room.

Opening Keynote: Wavelength: Communications Through Comedy

Closing Keynote: Alec Couros

Alec is an experienced presenter on various topics related to educational technology, critical media literacy, digital citizenship, cyber bullying, social networks, online communities, learning environments, and social media. He has given hundreds of presentations and keynotes across North America, and in Europe & Asia.

Political Engagement

This fall a combined LPEO and LCO meeting was held at Barnett House. A review of politics in Alberta highlighted the many challenges facing all Albertans at this time. During the meeting, it was strongly emphasized that teachers become involved in local politics as much as they can. This can be as simple as following the news, keeping tabs on candidates in your area, and informing others about issues that are important to stakeholders in education. Public Interest Alberta also made a presentation about how various groups can work together to create positive change. One of the more interesting items was the Public Wage Bills, which are fake paper currency of \$9.40 featuring Mr. Lukasuk's profile. These bills are used to "spread the word about the need for a living wage in Alberta." For more information, please visit www.pialberta.org or www.facebook.com/NotaLivingWage.

Koreyan Peterson
Local Political Engagement Officer

*"Treat people
as if they were
what they ought
to be and you
help them
become what
they are
capable of
becoming." –
Goethe*

Happy Holidays!

