

March Madness

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every month provides us with opportunities, challenges and celebrations.

Our opportunity - each teacher will vote twice online during this round of negotiations. Please take this opportunity to create an online profile and to select one free specialist council membership. If you need any help in setting up your profile, please contact me and I would be more than happy to assist.

Our challenges - how do you maintain a work - life balance? The demands of teaching can be all time consuming- lesson planning, research, assessments, the list goes on. Take care of yourself!

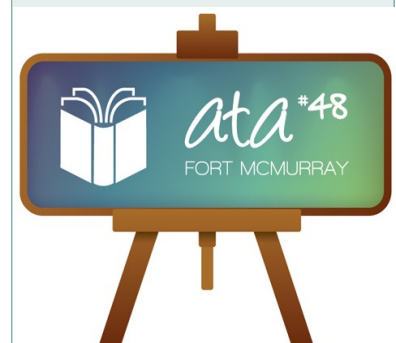
Our celebrations - we celebrate the achievements of our students who work so hard to succeed!

Now as spring break approaches, I hope you take the opportunity to celebrate all that you have achieved and are rested and ready for the challenges ahead.

Nancy Ball
President

SAVE THE DATE!!

Your local executive has been working hard on creating an event for teachers and the public to support mental health in May. On Thursday, May 12th, get ready for our 3rd annual McMurray Teachers for Mental Health: Mullets & Music with Dan Tulk!! More details to come.





LOCAL ELECTIONS COMING UP

On Wednesday, March 16, nominations open for the following positions-

Two year positions:

President
Vice President Public
Vice President Separate
Treasurer
Secretary
Local Communications Officer
Local Political Engagement Officer

One year position
Annual Representative Assembly delegates (7)

Nomination forms are available on our local website. Log onto your profile at www.teachers.ab.ca to obtain the form.

Completed nomination forms must be returned to the Returning Officers by April 8:
Line Landry, Ecole Dickinsfield-FMPSD
Kirsty MacNeil, St Paul School-FMCS

The election for these positions will take place on May 3 and 4, 2016.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR WEBMASTERS

Please login and go to the Members Only Section to access the EPC Survey and Online Application for the PD Grant from the PD Committee. As we receive more information about bargaining this is where it will be found. If you need help creating a login, please let us know.

Samantha Livingstone and James Hayward



The Alberta Teachers' Association



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Beyond our annual Institute, your PD Committee is always on the lookout for new professional learning opportunities for its members. Just a quick recap of what is currently available:

Book Clubs - There are funds available of up to \$300 per group to cover the cost of books for participants in the book study group. Simply write up a proposal and submit it to the PD Committee. Check out the ATA Library for the latest publications.

Collaboration Groups - Funds are available to cover the cost of refreshments for your first gathering of like-minded professionals. Remember, our local includes both districts with lots of experience, ideas, and desire to collaborate.

Keep your eyes open for the EdCamp coming to Fort McMurray. Information will come through a variety of sources, including email and Twitter. Thanks to Garrett Tebay and Samantha Livingstone for their enthusiasm and effort to put together this opportunity for the teachers of Fort McMurray.

GETCA

GETCA is GONECA for another year. By all accounts, this year's convention was a resounding success with a bevy of inspiring speakers helping to recharge the pedagogical batteries of educators. To help maintain this high standard and to ensure an equally successful convention next year, please start thinking about who you would like to see in 2017. Forward names, along with biographical info, to either myself or one of your GETCA reps: Kim Parr or Lana Pelletier. Moreover, we welcome any suggestions you might have to improve your convention experience.