

Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association

NEWSLETTER

(306) 764-0299 phone

(306) 764-1430 fax Box 2213 Prince Albert, SK S6V 6Z1

www.stf.sk.ca/local_assoc/paata/paata.html

February 2004

... from the President's desk

Greetings! I trust that you all survived the bitterly cold weather we experienced at the end of January in true Saskatchewan fashion. Here's hoping that spring is on its way!

Please take some time over your February break to review the workshop sessions (listed in this newsletter) that will be offered at the second day of Convention on March 16th. Jan Olesko from W.F.A. Turgeon School (Ph: 953-7558 Fax: 922-7558) is working on recruiting people to host each of these sessions. If you would be willing to introduce and thank the presenter(s) at a particular session, please give Jan a call. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Have a restful break or at least get caught up on all that marking!

- Andrea Gareau

Local Association Leadership Development Weekend March 5-6, 2004, Marlboro Inn, Prince Albert

Tentative Agenda:

Friday: 7:30 p.m. "The Role of Locals within a Professional Organization"
- Social to follow

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
"Capacity Building within the Local Association"

Skillbuilding Sessions Will Include:

- * Conflict Resolution
- * Relationship Building
- * Benefits, Contracts, Collective Agreements, Pensions
- * Professionalism: Code of Ethics
- * Collective Bargaining
- * Communications

If you require a hotel reservation for this event, please phone the following hotels directly and quote "STF Meeting" when making your reservation.

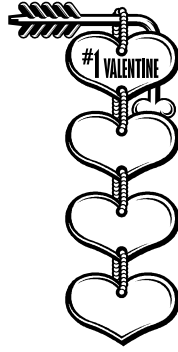
Marlboro Inn --1-800-661-7666 Prince Albert Inn -- 1-800-922-5855 Marquis Inn - 1-877-922-9595

***** Fax Andrea at 764-1430 or leave a message at 764-0299 by Wednesday, February 11th if you wish to attend. Also please indicate if you have booked a hotel room. The STF will sponsor up to 10 people from our association. Andrea will send in a group registration.*****



Teacher As Artist

Are you, or a teacher you know, an artist? We are looking for performers and artists to exhibit their art the evening of Monday, March 15 (after the first day of convention). Teacher as Artist will be held at the Exhibition Center from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and will be followed by a social. If you are interested, please see your Staff Ref for a registration form. Encourage your coworkers to participate! The registration deadline is Friday, February 13th. Fax completed forms to Linda Bates (982-2557 - Christopher Lake).



House for Sale

1261 Cook Drive
Ideal Location - Close to schools
Totally Renovated
Huge 2 Car Heated Garage
\$126,900
Call: 764-5442

Financing The Future

The STF is requesting interested parties to respond to several questions around financing education. Response sheets are available from your PAATA staff representative. Feedback is requested by February 13, 2004.

Resolutions Passed at the January 21st Association Meeting

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation collaborate with the Government of Saskatchewan to investigate the use of a different Dental Insurance Provider.

Background:

The Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement states that: 11.2 "The Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation shall mutually agree upon a carrier to provide administrative services" for our dental plan.

Since the purchase of Clarica by Sunlife, many teachers are experiencing difficulty getting satisfaction with major claims, and the time frame for reimbursement is substantially longer.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF make a request to the Teachers' Superannuation Commission to establish direct billing for the Teachers' Dental Plan.
3. **BE IT RESOLVED** that to be elected, the STF President and Vice-President must receive at least 50% of the vote.
4. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF urge the Department of Learning to identify the following core modules from the Practical and Applied Arts Curriculum be taught at the Middle Years Level:
 - A. Parenting
 - B. Money Management
 - C. Home Management

Background:

The PAA courses are intended to acquaint students with the day to day aspects of adult life, including employment,

family responsibilities and leisure. The need of the students and the community should and must be the key in determining the implementation of the PAA courses (Practical and Applied Arts Handbook)

Although these topics MAY be presented in various secondary level courses, these courses are not all compulsory and/or available in any particular school setting. This resolution would require ALL students to have some basic understanding of these essential life skills before leaving the K-12 school setting without adding these requirements to the already full secondary level credit system.

5. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF invite the Department of Learning to collaborate in the investigation of the feasibility of students after completing grade 10 enrolling in options that could include:
 - a. an academic program meeting university entrance requirements
 - b. a technical program that would involve apprenticeship programs and cooperative programs especially geared towards the trades
 - c. a practical program that would introduce students to the world of work and place them in suitable work situations.

Background:

Currently in Alberta, high schools are providing a Provincially Sponsored Registered Apprenticeship Program, which allows high school students about to complete their grade 10 to spend half their time working in industry and the other half going to school.

6. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws section 4.4 Substitute Teachers subsection 4.4.4.(3) be amended to read:

(3) A substitute teacher shall be a member of the local association related to any employing school division for which the substitute teacher served at least one day of teaching in the current academic year **and where the substitute teacher has paid the prescribed association fee.**

7. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws section 4.4 Substitute Teachers subsection 4.4.4(5) be amended to read:

(5) A substitute teacher shall be entitled to vote on a tentative local collective bargaining agreement **when one or more clauses in the local agreement pertain to substitute teachers and when a substitute teacher is a member of the body covered by the local agreement as defined in 4.4.4(3) above**

Convention 2004 - "Learn Together - Make a Difference"

March 15 & 16, 2004 - Carlton Comprehensive High School

Session Synopsis

Monday March 15th -- Richard Dufour (Organized By Sask. Rivers Ed. Center)

Tuesday March 16th—9:00-10:15

Blackboard Web-Based Course Management System—Jerry Scheirer—Gr. 4-12

'Blackboard' is a web-based course management tool that teachers may use to communicate with their students. 'Blackboard' allows teachers to make announcements, set-up threaded discussions, keep an on-line gradebook (accessible by parents), link to files and URLs, keep a calendar, set-up group pages, post assignments, and have assignments submitted electronically.

Digital Photography for the Classroom Teacher—Bob Pannell—Any Grade

Teachers will learn how to take, edit, and incorporate digital photographs into Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, etc. This presentation will attempt to meet the needs of beginner to intermediate computer users. Participants will learn how to export their work for Internet uses.

"It's O.K. To Have This Book in Your Public School Library"—Kim Tadei—Gr. K-12

Sexual orientation is a sensitive and controversial topic in schools. This Dr. Stirling McDowell project provides teachers, administrators, and teacher-librarians with support to embark on this journey of inclusion. The project also provides an annotated bibliography of books available in Canada.

Questions & Answers with Your Local Pharmacist—Roses Stewart—Any Grade

Questions and topics: Women Issues, Men Issues, Complementing Medicine, ADHD, and Autism.

Beginner Badminton Clinic—Rob Tomin—Tentative

This session will focus on beginning skills and techniques used in badminton. Coaches will get ideas on drills used to improve clear, smash, and drop technique. Other areas of emphasis will include grip and footwork.

Grandfather Rock: Using Traditional Knowledge in the Classroom—Bente Huntley—Elementary

Bente is currently teaching the science methods class at SUNTEP Prince Albert. This workshop will utilize a storytelling approach to teaching science. As an Aboriginal woman, Bente wants to help the students she teaches to create their own maps: to teach from the soul and to trust their Cultural Heritage. Some of her students will assist and be available to answer questions.

Exploring Statistics Canada's Learning Resources for Your Math Class-Danielle Rondeau-Gr. 5-12

Teachers across Canada are finding out how valuable it is to incorporate Canadian statistics into their classrooms using Statistics Canada's learning resources (www.statcan.ca/english/edu/index.htm). On the site, they are uncovering dozens of ideas on how to broaden students' understanding of mathematics as it relates to managing information.

Participants will get a tour of the Statistics Canadaweb site to learn how to gain free access to the latest Canadian data. The focus will be on Statistics Canada lesson plans, *Statistics: Power from Data* publication and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's dynamic and interactive learning toll. They will also learn how to participate in *Census at School*, an international online project that can be used to teach students about handling and interpreting data.

Exploring Issues (FASD, RAD PTSD) in Some Transracial Adoptions—Dr. Mavis Olesen—All Grades

This presentation traces the journey of 11 trans-racial adoptive families and discusses issues and implications at all ages and in all areas of life including the education of the children. This session is meant for all teachers and parents of trans-racial adopted children as well as their siblings and of course the adoptees themselves. It is meant for any family care service providers. As teachers you already may have worked with FAS/RAD/PTSD children and parents with FASD who parent both FASDs and non-alcohol affected children. Two of the 11 families experienced great successes—what made the difference? Come and learn why!

Tuesday March 16th—9:00-11:45

Functional Behaviour Assessments—Michelle Mougéot & Maureen Melnyk—Gr. K-12

Functional Behaviour Assessment is a team-based, in-depth approach to understanding a student's problem behaviour. This involves looking into multiple factors affecting why students behave the way they do. It is based on the premise that all behaviour serves a purpose, or function. FBA uses a number of different tools to collect data and observe behaviour in order to assess the function of the problem behaviour. Once the function of the behaviour has been determined, a positive behaviour intervention plan can be developed. If the function of the behaviour is not addressed, the student will often find other inappropriate ways to meet his/her goal or need.

This presentation will explore the function of behaviour and provide practical information and tools to carry out a Functional Behaviour Assessment. This multi-media session will be of interest to special educators, administrators, and classroom teachers.

Historical Bus Tour—T.B.A.—All Grades

A member of the P.A. Historical Society will host tour. The tour will feature a commentary on local history throughout the city and stops at notable sites.

Lies in Disguise—John Edwards—All Grades

This presentation explores the motives and methods of the act of deception, and illustrates the conscious and unconscious behaviours of liars that can be readily recognized. Focusing on elementary application of these recognition skills, the presentation will also briefly explore how the 'editing' phenomenon provides real truth.

3-D Concept Mapping with 'Smart Ideas'—Sheri Gunville—Gr. K-12

Every school has software that can be used to create visually stimulating concept maps. 'Smart Ideas' can incorporate pictures, web-links, and real-time play back into your maps. It can print outlines, make web pages, and more. Come learn how to use it! Absolutely no computer experience necessary.

School Plus In Action—Linda Nosbush—All Grades

When government agencies, community-based organizations, local citizens, and First Nations groups come together to understand how they can work together more effectively to improve the developmental outcomes of children, a synergy is created that mobilizes the human resources and creative problem-solving capacity within communities. This session will describe what is beginning to take shape in Prince Albert. It will also describe a three-month community and clinical integrated practicum in Prince Albert offered to fourth year nursing students from the University of Saskatchewan which involves placements in all human service sectors including schools, acute care in health, addictions, social services within a number of schools and community-based organizations, the police service, mental health, as well as a forensic placement at Pine Grove Correctional Centre for Women. This is the beginning of a vision for a joint Human Services Practicum for Health, Education, Social Services, and Justice—an opportunity to grow and learn together about how to support our communities during our professional formation. To date Nursing and Educational Psychology and Special Education are participating. Come join us and hear how we've discovered that 'we are better together'!

Teaching Children How to Learn—Cognitive Enrichment Advantage (CEA)—Bea Fisher—Gr.1-8

This is a highly interactive workshop that demonstrates the basis of this approach to teaching. The goals of CEA are to assist children to:

- Take responsibility for learning
- Discuss learning with you using a shared vocabulary of learning
- Use these discussions as a basis for building their own personal learning strategies
- Become more effective independent and independent life-long learners.

Drugs "The Truth"—Cst. Jeff Rowden & Cpl. Keith Van Steelandt—All Grades

This presentation will include basic drug identification and effects, symptoms of use, dangers of use, etc. Questions are welcome.

Explore Little Red Backcountry by Cross-Country Skis—Don Laing—All Grades

Tour the River and West Trails, or an introduction to outdoor enthusiasts wanting to explore cross-country Skiing. There is a maximum of 12 participants and cost of the ski rental is the responsibility of the participant.

Tuesday March 16th—10:30-11:45

Ranch Ehrlo Society: A Community-Based Residential Treatment Program for Youth—Cory Teeter, Jeff Krafchuk, and Susan Luedtke—Gr. 6-12

An overview of Ranch Ehrlo's programs, our mandate, what types of youth we serve, their needs, and how we address these needs through our educational, clinical, and residential programs. The presentation will include a discussion of the importance of establishing a working relationship with the community school systems.

Bereavement, Yourself, and Your Students—Brian Clarke—All Grades

This session will discuss how bereavement issues have touched our lives and the feelings and emotions we discover as we go through the stages of bereavement.

Youth Substance Abuse-Crystal Meth and Marijuana—Glenis Clarke—All Grades

An overview of the process of abuse and addiction will be presented. Information on the effects of Crystal Meth And marijuana will be provided as will options for resources.

Building Partnerships for the Effective Development of Saskatchewan's Labour Force—Conrad E. Pura—All Grades

Monday March 15th is the 10th anniversary of the Saskatchewan Labour Force Development Board's first meeting. What have we accomplished in the last 10 years? What difference have we made in Saskatchewan development? "Celebrating the past, looking to the future."

The Essential Parts of Story—R.P. MacIntyre—Gr. 9-12

A practical template that a writer uses to determine whether a story is "working or not." Includes the concepts of "where stories come from", character, plot, setting, and situation/climax. This session gives a classroom-friendly perspective from a working writer.

Teaching Students with Autism & Asperger's Syndrome—Sharon Mitchell—All Grades

Strengths and challenges of Autism spectrum disorders
Sensory issues
Behaviour strategies

Following the Voyageur's Highway across Saskatchewan by Canoe—Dave Dice—All Grades

In the summer of 2003, David and Graeme Dice paddled the Churchill and Sturgeon Weir Rivers across Saskatchewan, following the historic fur trade route. This will be a slide and narrative look at their 41 days in the beautiful Saskatchewan wilderness.

Occupational Therapy—Ian McLean—All Grades

TBA-O/T for classroom teachers and Resource Room teachers.

Beginner Volleyball Clinic—Brian Gavlas—All Grades

This session will focus on beginning skills and techniques used in volleyball. This will include basic drills that all coaches could use.

Exploring Statistics Canada's Learning Resources for your Social Studies Class—Danielle Rondeau—Gr.5-12

Teachers across Canada are finding out how valuable it is to incorporate Canadian statistics into their classrooms using Statistics Canada's learning resources (www.statcan.ca/english/edu/index.htm). On the site, they are uncovering dozens of ideas on how to involve students' in the issues and concerns facing their country.

Participants will get a tour of the Statistics Canada web site. They will learn how to gain free access to the latest Canadian data, Statistics Canada lesson plans, on-line *Canadian Social Trends* magazine and *E-STAT* for use in their Social Studies courses.

Elementary Art: Ready, Sketch, Draw (Part I)—Karen Hitchcock—Gr. 2-7

Can't draw a stickman but want to get your students drawing? This "hands-on" session is designed specifically for those with no or very little drawing experience and will provide you with drawing lessons to use in your elementary classroom. You will return back to your fine arts lesson prepared to sketch, draw, and create! Lesson plans are included. Go home with your very own package of drawing materials-\$5 fee.

Tuesday March 16th—1:15-2:15

Fact or Folly: Authenticating On-Line Information—Sheri Gunville-Gr. 5-12

Learn how to evaluate websites for credibility, discourage plagiarism, and learn the five W's of cyberspace so that your students can be better judges of 'What's what and what's not' on the internet.

Bereavement, Yourself, and Your Students—Brian Clarke—All Grades

This session will discuss how bereavement issues have touched our lives and the feelings and emotions we discover as we go through the stages of bereavement.

Polynomial Functions—Burt Thiessen—Gr. 10-12

Polynomial functions have interesting characteristics and make their appearance in unusual places. Attend this session if you wish to broaden your understanding of these functions and thus be better equipped to teach Math 20, 30A, and 30B.

Basketball: An Overview of Offensive Fundamentals—Derek Birkham—Gr.5-10

This presentation will include the key teaching points, drills, and demonstrations related to offensive fundamentals. Topics will include passing, dribbling, shooting, spacing, footwork, and post play. Experienced coaches will find this session to be a review. Beginning coaches will find some new drills and teaching points.

'A Crash Course in Genomics'-Travelling Suitcase for Educators—Amber Didow—Gr.6-12

Discover the world of the Human Genome in this 1-hour session. "Innovators in the Schools" will introduce a free travelling "Genome Suitcase", sponsored by Genome Prairie, for educators to utilize in their classroom. The suitcase contains innovative, multi-dimension educational activities for grades 6-12. It will educate your students about genomics, as well as, the relevance of genomic discoveries to nature and human life. The suitcase is a portion of "THE GEEE! IN GENOME—A NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION PROJECT" developed by the Canadian Museum of Nature, presented nationally by Genome Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health and research.

Diamonds: A Canadian Success Story & Bulk Sampling the Saskatchewan Star Kimberlite—Kirsten Y. Marcia—Gr. 4-12

The presentation will give an overview of the global production of diamonds over the last 100 years and the boom of diamond mining in Canada in the last 15 years. It will also explain how a project will develop from early exploration to discovery and then on to production. The presentation will also include an update on the 25,000 tonne bulk sample underway at the Saskatchewan Star Diamond Project.

Advance Volleyball Clinic—Brian Gavlas—All Grades

This session will focus on advanced techniques and strategies used at higher levels of volleyball. The session will also focus on questions that individual coaches may have relating to techniques, strategies, or coaching in general.

Respectful Workplaces—John Edwards—All Grades

What happens when power goes sour? This presentation examines various forms of harassment, redress, and restorative options from legal, policy, and practical perspectives.

Elementary Art: Ready, Sketch, Draw (Part 2)—Karen Hitchcock—Gr. 2-7

This is a continuation of the 10:30 session.

Yoga—Lisa Walker—All Grades

Local Yoga Instructor teaches basic Yoga techniques. Limit 100.

Global Education on the Internet--Jim Olesen—Gr. 4-12

The Saskatchewan Council for International Co-operation (SCIC) is sponsoring a workshop on Global education. SCIC has developed an electronic magazine that provides information to classrooms on global topics. Some of the topics already prepared are *Peace and Conflict Resolution*; *Democracy and Governance*; and *Globalization and International Indigenous Issues*. Other issues will follow. All of these issues are cross-referenced with Saskatchewan Learning so those teachers can easily find curriculum connections. The workshop will be 'hands-on' allowing teachers to explore this web-site and others for classroom materials. The purpose of the workshop is to provide teachers with easily accessible information on global education. The workshop will also provide teachers with information on other web-sites of interest as well as providing strategies on using the Internet in the classroom. It will be very helpful to teachers who have limited experience in using the Internet in the classroom.

Tuesday March 16th—Full Day

Drumming—Richard Dube—All Grades

NCCP Introduction to Coaching-Part A—Rob Tomynt—Tentative

This course replaces Level I Theory. The course covers topics such as setting the scene, ethical coaching, planning a practice, and nutrition. The course will be on Monday night 7-10pm and Tuesday 8:30-2pm. Certification will be granted upon completion. Advance registration is required by February 25th. Register with Rob Tomynt at PACI phone 763-6485 fax 922-5636. Cost is \$55, cheques payable to Zone 8 Sports Council. Teachers can access their PD funds to cover costs. Minimum number of participants is 10.

Several STF sessions will also be available. The details will be included with the March Newsletter.